

THE SCHOOL BELL

INSET DAYS

Friday 23rd October 2026
Monday 22nd February 2027
Friday 2nd July 2027
Wednesday 21st July 2027

Autumn Term
16.10.26

KEY DATES

22nd October - Half Term begins.
4th December - Christmas Fair @ 5-7pm
9th & 10th December - Infant Nativity Performances
16th December - Church Service @2.15pm - all welcome

As we come to the end of a busy half term, it was wonderful to see so many families joining us for our Harvest Festival this week. Thank you for your generous donations for the food bank and for helping to make the service such a special occasion. We are also very grateful to Reverend Stewart for hosting us in church and leading our worship. The children gave some fantastic performances and it was lovely to bring our school community together to celebrate and give thanks.

We are eagerly awaiting confirmation of the total weight of our donations. We have been comparing our donations to weight of animals....what animal will we match this year?

If you are passing by the church, do take a moment to admire the beautiful display of 'thanksgiving' pumpkins in the churchyard. It looks wonderful and is well worth a visit.

Thank you for donations to our Rotary Shoebox Appeal - please try to get your donations in on Monday 19th October so the school council can make up some boxes.

Next week's Celebration Worship will take place on **Thursday at the usual time of 9.00am**. Parents and carers are warmly welcome to join us.

Finally, please note that Friday 23rd October is an INSET Day, and school will be closed to children on this day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and we wish everyone a lovely weekend.

End of Day Collection Reminder

A reminder that school finishes at 3.10pm for Infants and 3.15pm for Juniors. Please ensure your child is collected promptly.

Being collected late can be upsetting for children and can also impact staff who have meetings and other responsibilities after school. If unforeseen circumstances mean you will be delayed, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

If regular collection at the end of the school day is difficult, please consider one of our after-school clubs.

Thank you for your support.

A Message from Mrs Clarke

Please be aware that my first SENDCo surgery of the year will be taking place on Wednesday 11th November. SENDCo surgery days provide an opportunity for you to book an appointment with me to discuss any concerns you may have about your child's progress. This includes concerns about their mental health and wellbeing as well as worries about their learning. Whilst we always encourage you to approach your child's teacher as the first port of call should you have any concerns, these sessions provide a further option for you to talk things through should your concerns remain. SENDCo surgery appointments are open to all parents, not just those with recognised SEND, and can be booked by emailing me directly at s.clarke@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk.

Thank you.

Kind regards

Mrs Clarke

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo)

Parents' Partnership Forum

We are keen to strengthen opportunities for parents to contribute to the strategic development of our school and are therefore establishing a Parents' Partnership Forum.

The forum will meet once each term and will provide an opportunity for parents to share their views, discuss key aspects of school life and contribute to discussions about the school's future direction. Meetings will have an agreed agenda so that discussions remain focused and productive.

If you are interested in joining the forum, please complete the form linked below. As well as registering your interest, we ask that you indicate your availability so that we can identify a meeting time that works for as many parents as possible throughout the year.

Our first meeting this term will focus on our Vision and Values. This is an important area of work that staff and governors will also be exploring during our upcoming INSET day, and we would welcome parent perspectives as we shape this together.

We look forward to working in partnership with you.

[Register of Interest.](#)

Become a School Governor at Sherborne St John CofE Primary School

Would you like to make a positive difference to the education of local children? We are currently seeking both Parent Governors and Non-Parent Governors to join our friendly and dedicated Governing Body.

School governors play a vital role in supporting and challenging school leaders, helping to shape the future direction of the school and ensuring every child receives the very best education and opportunities to thrive.

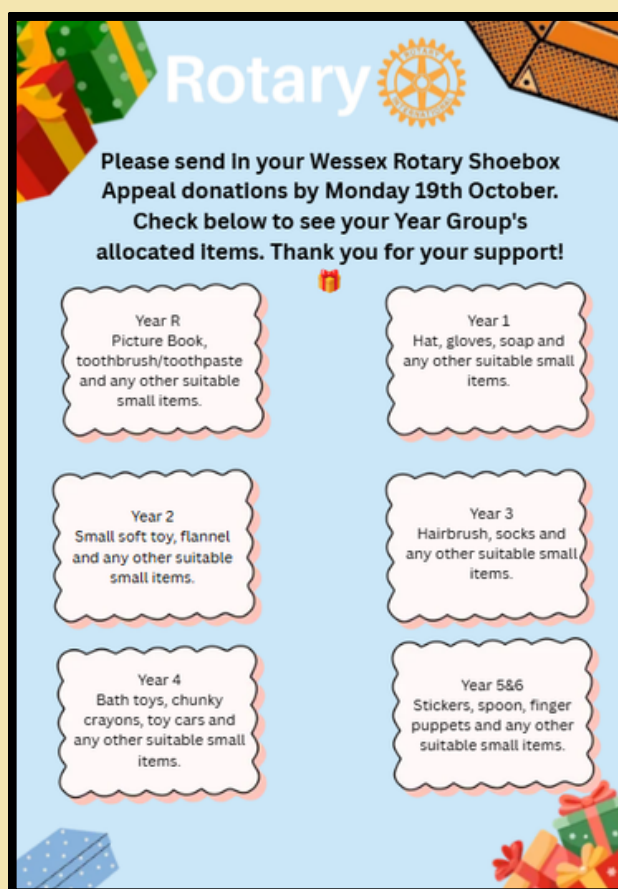
We are looking for people who are passionate about our school and community, can attend approximately two meetings per term, and are willing to share their skills, experience and perspective. We welcome interest from people with a wide range of backgrounds and, in particular, would be keen to hear from anyone with financial or business experience.

No previous experience of governance is required, as training and support are provided.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a governor, please contact the school office: adminoffice@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk. We'd be delighted to hear from you.

Collective Worship

This week, our collective worship focused on Harvest and thanksgiving. The children explored what it means to be thankful and reflected on the many things we often take for granted, including food, our families, friends, good health, education and the natural world around us. We also considered how harvest is a time not only to give thanks for what we have, but also to think about those who may need extra support. Through our worship, the children were encouraged to show gratitude through their words and actions and to recognise the importance of kindness, generosity and helping others within our community and beyond.



The School View!



Planning is already underway for this year's School Association Christmas Fair, which will take place on Friday 4th December from 5.00pm to 7.00pm.

Our School Association works incredibly hard throughout the year to raise funds that directly benefit the children. Thanks to their efforts, they have helped fund travelling pantomime performances, contributed towards class trips and enrichment activities, and are now looking at ways to further enhance our outdoor learning and play areas.

As preparations begin, the School Association will soon be looking for volunteers to help before and during the event, as well as donations for our Christmas hampers and raffle prizes. If you are able to offer your time, donate an item, or support the event in any way, please do get in touch with the School Association.

The Christmas Fair is always a wonderful community event and we are very grateful for the support our families provide. More information will be shared soon, but for now, please save the date and keep an eye out for opportunities to get involved.

Friday 4th December, 5.00pm to 7.00pm - we hope to see you there! 🎄 ✨

OPEN DAYS

Looking for a Reception place for September 2027?

Come and visit our caring, ambitious and inclusive school

AUTUMN OPEN DAYS
Thursday 8th October
Wednesday 14th October
Monday 9th November

*"Pupils are justifiably
happy and proud to
be at this school."
Ofsted 2026.*

*Play with purpose: developing confident learners and
secure academic foundations.*

**SHERBORNE ST. JOHN CofE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Contact: adminoffice@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk or call: 01256 850180

TRUTH

TRUST

FORGIVENESS