



ST. JOHN'S PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

17 JULY 2026

Dear Parents,

As the school year comes to a close, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership throughout the year.

Together, we have celebrated many successes, overcome challenges, and watched our children grow in confidence, knowledge, and character. None of this would be possible without the invaluable role that you play in your child's education.

I am incredibly proud of all that our pupils have achieved this year. They have demonstrated resilience, kindness, determination, and enthusiasm, making our school community a wonderful place to learn and grow.

On behalf of all the staff, thank you for your trust and support. We have greatly appreciated your involvement in school life and your commitment to helping your children thrive.

To our Year 6 leavers: we send you off with pride and best wishes for the exciting journey ahead and to families moving on to new schools or new adventures, we wish you every success and happiness for the future. You will always remain part of our school family.

I hope you and your families enjoy a well-deserved summer break filled with rest, fun, and special memories. We look forward to welcoming many of you back on 2 September, refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities ahead.

With warmest wishes, Kirsten Buist

1 September INSET Day - school is CLOSED to pupils



**Next week, we say
goodbye to our Yr6's as
they move on to the next
chapter of their
education journey!
We wish them Good Luck
starting at their new
schools in September.
Don't forget us year 6!**

Staffing Update

As we reach the end of another successful school year, we also say a fond farewell to several valued members of our staff team who are moving on to new opportunities:

Miss Everett, Miss Carter, Mrs Salisbury and Mrs Gupta

We would like to thank them all for their dedication, care, and commitment to our children and school community. They have made a lasting difference to the lives of so many pupils, and we wish them every happiness and success in the future. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome new members of staff who will be joining us from September:

'Mr Burke, Miss Emmett, Miss Bessey, Mr Truluck and Mrs Boddington'

We know they will bring fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and expertise to our school, and we look forward to them becoming part of our wonderful school family.

News From Nursery

We hope you have been able to make it to Central library to see our nursery children's beautiful artwork they created this half-term. It was all inspired by our learning on Vincent Van Gogh and his paintings of sunflowers.

Fiona from the library has shared with us the following message: 'I just wanted to say how much we've enjoyed having all the beautiful artwork brightening up our library. I've met some families who came to see it, which was lovely. They were very impressed!'



Visit From Chompy Wompy



Yesterday, we had a visit from Chompy Wompy the food waste truck that one of our pupils Marley, successfully named in the recent council competition.

The Lord Mayor of Southampton also came to give Marley his certificate and prize!



Well Done Marley! We look forward to seeing Chompy Wompy on the streets of Southampton and it will always remind us of you!!!



Yr2 Seacity Visit



Recently, Yr2 children visited the Seacity Museum to support their learning about the Titanic. They took part in a workshop and toured the museum to learn lots of interesting facts!



MESSAGE FROM MARVIS

We are almost at the end of the school year, and it is essential to start thinking about how to support your child with their transition from their current year groups and to secondary school.

School transitions are a big part of school life. The end and beginning of the academic year are times that can bring stress and worry for your children. They wonder who their new teacher will be, whether they will be together (in the same class with their friends) and whether they feel ready and able to take on more challenging academic work. Please check out this link that gives you some tips on how to support your children at this important time:

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/school-life/school-behaviour-wellbeing/school-anxiety-transitions-changes/>

Wishing you all a wonderful summer holiday. See you in September!



ST JOHN'S ATTENDANCE

School attendance will continue to be a key priority for our school in the new academic year. Regular attendance plays a vital role in children's learning, helping them to make the most of every lesson, build strong friendships, and develop positive routines and habits. Every day in school counts, and we will continue to work closely with families to ensure that all pupils have the best possible opportunity to achieve their full potential.

We would also like to congratulate all of the children who achieved 100% attendance this year. Your commitment and dedication are truly commendable.

Excellent attendance makes a real difference, allowing children to make consistent progress, take part in all aspects of school life, and enjoy the full range of learning opportunities available. Thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support in helping children attend school regularly and on time. Together, we can ensure every child gets the very best start to the new school year.

THE CLASS WITH THE BEST ATTENDANCE IS :



RW



90% or less	90.1% - 94.9%	95—95.9%	96% or above	100%
Persistent Absence	Poor Attendance	OK Attendance	Good Attendance	Perfect Attendance

LATE ARRIVALS

*children arriving after 8.45am

July 7 - 10

Monday: **INSET Day-school CLOSED**

Tuesday: **20**

Wednesday: **17**

Thursday: **15**

Friday: **7**

July 13 - 17

Monday: **16**

Tuesday: **12**

Wednesday: **14**

Thursday: **27**

Friday: **10**

Upcoming Events

July:

22 Last Day of Term

September:

1 INSET Day -School CLOSED

2 Return to School

WHAT I NEED IN SCHOOL EVERYDAY



We want to say a huge Well Done to our Reception Teacher Miss Womack!

You can read all about her special achievement further down our Newsletter!

REMINDER

- If you pay for your child's hot school lunch, please make sure any outstanding lunch money is paid for by the end of term when we need to make sure there are no debts on accounts.
- If you have credit, it will remain on the account ready for September.



Miss Womack
at Guiding.
Celebrates
2026

Miss Womack

is a

QUEEN'S GUIDE

Award completed

04.10.2023 - 04.10.2026

Award Celebrated

06.06.2026



What I Did

For my Queen's Guide Award, I completed 5 challenges: Personal Development, Community Action, Lead the Way, Social Experience, and Guiding. My favourite part was volunteering at the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla! I also completed a L3 diploma in crochet, did my L2 walking training in Swaledale, created a mental health and well-being support resource for young members, volunteered at a dog rescue centre, went adventuring in the New Forest, and so much more! I did so much and had the best time throughout the Award - one of the highlights of my life!

Queen's Guide Award

The Queen's Guide award is the highest award you can work towards in guiding. It gives you the chance to develop your skills, give back to guiding and support your local community.



Miss Womack at
the Coronation

Miss Womack's
Coronation medal



GARDENING NEWSLETTER

We might think we are nurturing the garden,
but it is our garden that is actually nurturing us.

Summer has definitely arrived and the hot, sunny days have been keeping us busy in the garden.

We have harvested broad beans, radishes, potatoes, strawberries and currants. Thank you to all of the pupils who have helped to care for our garden this year.

Highlight of the term



This week, we harvested our potatoes. We washed the potatoes and then took them to the kitchen to cook for our lunch on Thursday. The kitchen staff did a great job cooking them - they were delicious!



Over the last 4-5 weeks, most classes have had an outdoor session in our garden. All children have had the opportunity to plant a seed and take part in creative activities such as nest building, leaf decorating, petal/leaf printing and making their favourite characters out of natural resources.



Donations

As we expand our outdoor learning provision, we are looking for donations. If you have any unwanted wellies, waterproof trousers/suits and sunhats, please give them to class teachers or the school office. Thank you for your support.



Outdoor classroom update

Thanks for Mr Bradley and Mr Hough, our outdoor classroom is nearly ready to officially open!

We held a school-wide competition to name our outdoor classroom. Our pupil researchers discussed entries and decided on a winner. Our new outdoor classroom will be called '**The nest**'. Thanks to a pupil in 5C for coming up with such an appropriate name. She said, "The cabin is near trees and nature, like nests are. Also, people will come and go like birds leaving and returning to their nests."



Summer Holiday ACTIVITIES



AT SOUTHAMPTON MUSEUMS AND GALLERY

From £6 per activity
ART FOR ALL

Fri 24 Jul | **Print a Pangolin and More** (6+)
Tue 28 Jul | **Paint with Palette Knives** (7+)
Mon 27 Jul | **Fossil Plaster Casting** (5+)
Tue 28 Jul | **Shrinkable Tudor Portraits** (6+)
Wed 29 Jul | **Gruffalo Clay** (4+)
Thu 30 Jul | **Summer Sun Prints** (all ages)
Fri 31 Jul | **Fossil Plaster Casting** (5+)
Tue 4, Wed 5 Aug | **Brilliant Beach Bags**
Mon 10 Aug | **Clay Capybaras** (5+)
Tue 11 Aug | **Surrealism Starts Here** (6+)
Wed 12 Aug | **Animal Magic Monoprinting**

(5+)

Mon 17 Aug | **Bugs in Boxes** (4+)
Tue 18 Aug | **Impressionism Starts Here** (6+)
Wed 19 Aug | **Greek Pottery Pots** (6+)
Mon 24 Aug | **Summer Sun Prints** (all ages)
Tue 25 Aug | **Highland Cows in Clay** (5+)
Wed 26 Aug | **Pencil Case Printing** (5+)
Thu 27 Aug | **Pet Portrait Printing** (6+)
Fri 28 Aug | **Dino Drawing and Printing** (6+)

HANDS ON HISTORY

Thu 23 Jul | **PottyPrehistory** (7+)
Mon 27 Jul | **Knight School** (6+)
Mon 3 Aug | **Shiver Me Timbers** (6+)
Tue 4 Aug | **The Hidden History of Harry Potter** (6+)
Fri 7 Aug | **Discover Titanic** (6+)
Fri 14 Aug | **Soaring Spitfires** (7+)
Thu 20 Aug | **Great Fire of London** (6+)
Fri 21 Aug | **Awesome Egyptians** (7+)

TOURS FOR ALL

Thu 6 Aug | **Secrets of Southampton Castle** (6+)
Thu 13 Aug | **Titanic Walking Tour** (6+)
Tue 18 Aug | **Roman Southampton Walking Tour** (6+)

TODDLER TIME

Thu 30 Jul | **Delightful Dinosaurs** (under 4s & friends)
Thu 20 Aug | **Gorgeous Birds** (under 4s & friends)

BOOK YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURE TODAY

For times, prices and locations visit our venue websites

seacitymuseum.co.uk | southamptoncityartgallery.com |

tudorhouseandgarden.com





Summer Holiday FAMILY DAYS OUT

TUDOR HOUSE & GARDEN

SUMMER FETE

SATURDAY 25 JULY 2026 | FREE ENTRY 10am–5pm

Join us for a day of family fun celebrating 114 years since Tudor House opened as a museum. Crafts, games and activities throughout the day*

*small charges will apply



LOOKING FOR ALL DAY DROP-OFF ACTIVITIES?

Create cool things,
learn new stuff and make
friends at our regular clubs

From £26 a day

CULTURE CLUB

6 1/2 - 12 years old

Monday to
Wednesdays

3 – 26 Aug

JUNIOR ART SCHOOL

7 - 11 years old

Fridays

31 Jul – 28 Aug

ART SCHOOL PLUS

11 - 16 years old

Thursdays

30 Jul – 27 Aug