



St John's Church of England Academy

I Will Shine

Issue 23:
Friday 28th
March
2025

Our week at St John's has been packed full of learning and fun as usual this week. Reception have been practising their artistic and observational skills, using watercolours to paint daffodils, and the results were stunning! Year 1 showcased their musical talents on Monday during Mousike Ensemble. We welcomed Year 1 and 2 classes from Good Shepherd, Holy Family and St Osburg's schools into the hall to sing and play instruments together. Year 1 shone so brightly and everyone was thrilled to make new friends during the playtime. Year 2 started a sunflower growing competition by planting seeds during outdoor learning. We can't wait to find out who's sunflower will grow the tallest! Year 3 have been super scientists learning about light and experimenting by using different materials to test their effects on shadows. Year 4 showed bravery, teamwork and resilience during their trip overnight to Viney Hill. Well done to all of you for challenging yourselves and working together brilliantly. Huge thanks to the wonderful staff for taking the children and sacrificing family time (and sleep!). Year 5 reflected on the school value of Excellence during learning forum and it is great to see children volunteering to lead these sessions with the class and developing leadership skills. Finally, Year 6 worked hard to edit their independent writing, ensuring they are using all their writing and grammar knowledge to make their writing the best it can be.

Congratulations to our Star of the Week, Maths and Reading award winners!



Congratulations to Esther, Rosie, Sophie, Elias, Harper, Caleb, Jessica, Jaxon, Mary, Oliver, Akua, Ben, Ted, Rory, Esme, Halima, Rishik, Joshua, and Imogen. We are so proud of you!

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Headteacher: Mrs Laura Stevenson



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Growth Mindset

This week's growth mindset video was the third in the series about perseverance, called 'The Big Show'. Please take a few minutes to watch this with your child or ask them about it and have a look at the discussion questions.

<https://ideas.classdojo.com/i/perseverance-the-dip-3>



Safeguarding

Remember that our school car park is for staff and visitor parking only, unless you have a disabled badge or there is a safeguarding or temporary medical need which you have discussed with school leaders. If you are using the school car park, please be mindful of visitors and staff entering and exiting and avoid blocking spaces. Pedestrians must not be walking through the car park; please continue to walk down Winsford Avenue and enter through the pedestrian gate. The safety of all children is the priority. Please also avoid unsafe parking when bringing children to and from school and remember that Operation Snap is available if you need to report any unsafe road users. The link for reporting to West Midlands police is here: [Operation Snap](#).

Smartphone Free Childhood

We are currently 14th in the West Midlands of schools with families who have signed the Parental Pact for a Smartphone Free Childhood. They advocate for the use of smartphones to be delayed until children reach 14 years old. The dangers of social media, smartphone addiction and access to unsafe content on the internet are well-researched and publicised and we encourage you to have a look at the resources and ideas on their website. <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Series 2, Ep 3: Take-home questions

We're watching a video series about how students can develop a growth mindset! Watch it at: www.classdojo.com/BigIdeas, and ask your child these questions tonight.

1. Often we use the word "best" as our goal. How else can we phrase our goal to allow for a growth mindset?
2. How can you "learn new ways to improve?" Give an example from your week.
3. What kind of attitude should we have when we see others who are rockstars and we aren't rockstars yet?



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Dates for your diaries

Monday 31 st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning logs handed in
Tuesday 1 st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 6 trip to Holdenby House
Wednesday 2 nd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.50 – 6.30: Teaching and Learning Conferences
Thursday 3 rd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reception local area walk (am)• 3.50 – 6.30: Teaching and Learning Conferences
Friday 4 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together
Monday 7 th April	
Tuesday 8 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Girls' football match at home vs Holbrook
Wednesday 9 th April	
Thursday 10 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9.30: Easter Service at St Christopher's Church led by Year 4 – all welcome
Friday 11 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together
Easter Holidays – Happy Easter everyone! See you in the Summer Term!	
Monday 28 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome to Mrs Parry who will be teaching Year 1 to cover Mrs Wright's maternity leave
Tuesday 29 th April	
Wednesday 30 th April	
Thursday 1 st May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book Fair arrives• 3.45 – 5.30: SEND and wellbeing drop-in discussions with Mrs Henderson
Friday 2 nd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together
Monday 5 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bank Holiday Monday
Tuesday 6 th May	
Wednesday 7 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book Fair final day
Thursday 8 th May	
Friday 9 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together

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Free activities and food this Easter



12 April - 27 April 2025



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What is HAF?

HAF is a national Department for Education funded programme that enables eligible children and young people to attend free activities and experiences with free nutritional food provided. HAF activities and experiences take place in the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.

HAF Objectives

There are many benefits for children who attend the HAF programme. We encourage all HAF providers to ensure a high-quality experience that will result in children:

- Receiving healthy and nutritious meals
- Maintaining a healthy level of physical activity
- Being happy, having fun and meeting new friends
- Developing a greater understanding of food, nutrition and other health related issues
- Taking part in fun and engaging activities that support their development and well-being
- Feeling safe and secure
- Getting access to the right support services
- Returning to school feeling engaged and ready to learn.

Who is eligible?

Children and young people need to be school-aged children (reception to year 11 inclusive) and meet one or more of the following criteria:

- In receipt of benefits-related free school meals. The Council's website has more information on this: [Coventry.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](https://coventry.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)
- Assessed (through a Children and Families assessment, undertaken by Children's Services) as a "child in need"
- On a child protection plan
- A child in care
- A young carer
- Assessed (through an early help assessment) to be in financial hardship
- Part of the Ukrainian Family Scheme or the Home for Ukraine programme
- Receiving Free School Meals through having No Recourse to Public Funds.

Children and young people in years 12-13 are eligible if they are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals and either have an EHCP or are receiving SEN support at their place of education.

Scan the QR code to go to the HAF homepage. Please speak to us if you need advice about applying for free school meals.

