St John's Primary School

La Rue De La Mare Ballam,
St John, Jersey, JE3 4EJ
Telephone: 01534 861692 Email: admin@stjohn.sch.je

Friday 2nd October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move further into the Autumn term, our children continue to embrace a wide range of exciting opportunities. From inspiring visits to the Jersey Festival of Words and creative workshops with Bokraworld, to supporting important charitable causes through Tinathon and the Mustard Seed Shoebox Appeal, there has been much to celebrate across our school community.

School Council Elections 2026



Democracy was once again at the heart of school life as pupils took part in our annual School Council Elections. Candidates spent time preparing their campaign messages and sharing their ideas with classmates before election day arrived. We were delighted to return to the Parish Hall, where pupils had the opportunity to experience the voting process in an authentic setting. The morning began with a whole-school gathering, supported by local politicians, during which children explored the importance of representation, participation and making informed choices. Discussions focused on how every individual can contribute to positive change and why it is important that everyone's voice is heard. Throughout the voting process, pupils demonstrated maturity, responsibility and respect. They approached the ballot boxes thoughtfully and embraced the occasion with great enthusiasm. Once the votes had been counted, successful candidates were understandably excited to learn they had been elected, while those who were not elected showed excellent sportsmanship and congratulated their peers. I would like to thank the Parish Hall and our local representatives for their continued support in helping to make this such a meaningful experience for the children. The exemplary conduct of our pupils was once again noted by our guests and reflected positively on the values we strive to promote at St John's. Congratulations to all members of the newly elected School Council. I look forward to working with them over the coming year as they represent their classmates and help shape future developments across our school.

Year 6 Visit to the Jersey Festival of Words



Year 6 recently enjoyed an exciting visit to the Jersey Festival of Words, where they met bestselling author Steve Cole, creator of the hugely popular Astrosaurs series. Steve introduced pupils to his latest book, The Wild Ones, an action-packed adventure following Scamp the dog and his animal friends as they navigate a dangerous world where people have mysteriously disappeared. Through a lively reading and fascinating insights into the writing process, Steve inspired pupils to use their imaginations and discover the thrill of storytelling. The children thoroughly enjoyed the session and left feeling motivated to read, write and create their own adventures.

Bokraworld Workshops with Year 5 and Year 6

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Year 5 recently enjoyed a fantastic art workshop with local artists Ben and Will from Bokraworld. Taking inspiration from the natural environment around our school, the children explored the school field, drawing around plant shadows and using charcoal to capture a variety of textures and patterns. Even more excitingly, the artwork created during the session will help inspire a new mural that Ben and Will shall create in our school hall over the Christmas break. The children were incredibly engaged and creative throughout the day, and we are looking forward to seeing how their ideas are incorporated into the finished piece. A huge thank you to Ben and Will for such an inspiring and memorable experience!





Reading Ambassador Update

Our Reading Ambassadors met this week to progress several exciting initiatives aimed at promoting a love of reading across the school. The team organised a range of texts that will soon be available in our sensory garden, helping to encourage reading in different environments and make books even more accessible to pupils. The ambassadors also discussed plans for welcoming new members to the team and began preparations for this year's whole-school reading challenge. We look forward to sharing more details with pupils and families in the coming weeks.

Tinathon & Mustard Seed Shoebox Appeal Reminder

A huge thank you to everyone who has already supported our autumn charity initiatives. There is still time to donate! Tinathon donations of tinned food can be brought into school until Thursday 8th October to support The Shelter Trust in providing meals and food parcels to those in need across our Island. We are also collecting for the Mustard Seed Christmas Shoebox Appeal, supporting underprivileged children in Romania and Ukraine. Shoeboxes should be returned to school by Friday 23rd October. Thank you for helping our children demonstrate kindness, generosity and care for others in our local and global communities.

PTA AGM

On Monday after school, we held our Annual PTA AGM, providing an opportunity to reflect on another successful year of fundraising and community events. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents and volunteers who continue to give their time and support to the PTA. We are delighted to welcome Carly Crenan as our new PTA Chair and congratulate all the elected officers who have taken on roles for the coming year. We look

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forward to working together to continue providing enriching opportunities and resources for our pupils and school community. A huge thank you to the PTA team for their ongoing commitment and dedication to our school.

Jersey Sport Cycle Clinic



Jersey Sport will be doing free cycle safety checks at school on Friday 9th September after school, from 15:00 through to 16:00. You can bring your family's cycles along to the school playground where the team will check brakes, tyres, frame, saddle, chain and all the important parts of your cycles. They'll make any minor adjustments there and then and can give advice and answer your questions related to cycling.

Online Safety



For this newsletter, Miss Clavel has asked me to share the National Online Safety Poster "**Discord**" with you. The National Online Safety posters are designed for parents to keep you up to date with current protocols and suggestions to follow to keep your child safe online.

Dates for your diaries for <u>this half term</u> (Monday 21st September to Friday 23rd October)

Wednesday 7th October- Cardwell Individual Photos

Thursday 8th October- Deadline for Tinathon Contributions

Friday 9th October- Jersey Sport Cycle Clinic @3pm

Monday 12th October to Friday 16th October- Wellbeing Week

Thursday 15th October- Wellbeing Mix Up Day

Wednesday 14th October- Parent Consultations- 3:20pm- 5:50pm

Friday 16th October- Reception and Key Stage 1 PTA Disco (4:45pm- 5:45pm)

Friday 16th October- Key Stage 2 PTA Disco (6pm- 7pm)

Wednesday 21st October- Parent Consultations- 4:30pm- 7:00pm

Friday 23rd October- Deadline for Shoebox Contributions

Friday 23rd October- Go Orange Day- in support of the Love Beth Fund from Bone Cancer Research Trust

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October- Half Term

As always, our door is open should you have any questions, queries or concerns.

Kind regards

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Mr Jamie Hazley
Headteacher