



St James and St John Church of England Primary School

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1
2026



"We unite together to enable all to prosper in every aspect of their life."

A message from Mrs Woods

As this half term draws to a close, it's time to celebrate what a fantastic start we've had to 2026 at St James and St John Church of England Primary School.

The last few weeks have been incredibly rewarding, filled with great experiences, amazing accomplishments, and plenty of learning.

All our pupils enjoyed their Beyond Bounce session, jumping to colourful lights and music. We've also enjoyed some fantastic PTFA events, including our popular disco, which had everyone dancing, and the favourite Comfy Day! Our chefs continue to inspire creativity in the kitchen, with round 2 of the cooking competition bringing even more impressive dishes! These are just a few of the many highlights from the term.

Throughout the half term, our pupils have shown great enthusiasm and commitment to their learning, and we are incredibly proud of all their hard work.

As we look ahead, we are excited for even more opportunities, activities, and achievements to celebrate next half term.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 23rd February..

Louise Woods



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's business.

If you have concerns about a child at our school it is paramount you voice this to a member of our safeguarding team:



Mrs Louise Woods
Headteacher,
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Rebecca Bailey
Year 3 Teacher, KS2 Lead,
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Mr James Peppiatt
Safeguarding Governor

School reopens on:



Monday 23rd
February 2026.



Social Media

Please review us! We would be extremely grateful to receive more Facebook reviews if you have a spare few minutes.



[Click here for Facebook!](#)



[Click here for Instagram!](#)

Friendly reminders

School Dinners

If you would like to order meals for Spring 2, please log into your online account to submit your choices. Remember to order before 10am on the Thursday before the following week.

School timings

Please can we remind parents of the timings of the school day. We do appreciate it is difficult when you have siblings at both school sites to be at school drop-off and pick-up on time. **Being late does have a knock on effect for everyone and can cause disruption.** Please also remember our playground is open from 8:30am at Chackmore so you can drop your children off.

Akeley Site: Start of day 8.40am – finish 3.10pm. **Chackmore:** start of day 8.45am – finish 3.15pm.

Parking

Please be reminded to park sensibly and considerately. Please do not park on or opposite the yellow zigzags and block or hang over our neighbours' driveways, including the school driveway.

PE Days



Monday: Year 5 and Year 6

Tuesday: Year 4 and Year 3

Wednesday: EYFS and Year 1

Thursday: Year 5 and Year 6, Year 2
Forest School

Friday: EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and
Year 4

EVERYDAY MINUTE COUNTS



5 minutes per day

3 school days lost per year



15 minutes per day

10 school days lost per year



25 minutes per day

19 school days lost per year

BSSP Badge

We're proud to share that our school has been graded a "Green" School for Safe Practice in the delivery of our School Swimming Programme!

This recognition highlights our commitment to water safety and high-quality swimming provision for our pupils.



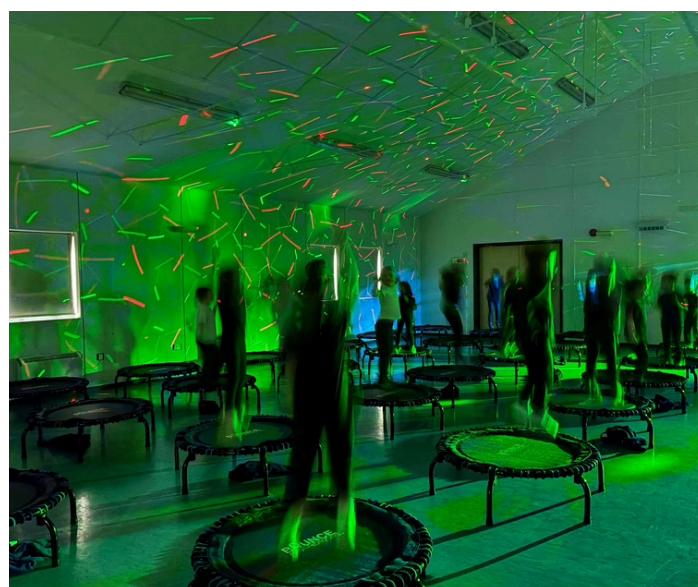
Cooking Competition

Round 2 of the cooking competition provided super impressive, healthy, packed lunches! We were blown away by the imagination and the delicious recipes. We had stuffed peppers, chicken wraps and lots of fruit! Well done to the 3 finalists who will be announced soon.



Beyond Bounce

We really enjoyed our bounce workshops in January! The session provided full disco lighting rig with lasers and effects, and a professional sound system! The children absolutely loved it. Staff enjoyed the adults' session too!



Spirituality

Next half term, we will be discussing spirituality in collective worship.

Our spirituality statement:

Spirituality is about ensuring that everyone flourishes.

It is about an awareness of ourselves as unique individuals, making connections with others and appreciating the awe and wonder of the wider world. Spirituality enables us to reflect on the deeper meaning of life and connects us to something greater than ourselves. Spirituality is not something we see, it's something we feel inside.



News from our PTFA!

We have had another amazing half term. For fundraising events we've had Comfy Day; Disco; and Break the Rules.

We have submitted our application for **Tesco Stronger Starts** (blue tokens) and hopefully will be able to let you know soon when this will be in store. We have started up new passive fundraising opportunities: Easy Fundraising; **recycle your ink cartridges** at both sites; name labels; and a Clothing Drive at Chackmore on 5 March.

As part of World Book Day events with school, we are funding a whole school visit from author **Teresa Heapy**. Alongside writing children's books she works for the Royal Literary Fund, helping people in hospices, Recovery Colleges and schools to explore the power of writing and reading.

Honey the bear at Akeley has been getting her World Book Day outfit ready and also had fittings for a summer dress.

A couple of upcoming dates for the diary:

Refreshments at Mother's Day Assemblies
Easter Bake Off – Friday 27 March

Enjoy the half term holidays!

Thanks for all your support.



DIARY DATES

For next half term



We have quite a relaxed start to the New Year and look forward to the exciting learning opportunities and activities planned below!

WHOLE SCHOOL

Monday 23 February 2026 - First Day back

Thursday 5 March 2026 - World Book Day

Friday 27 March 2026 - Whole School Easter Eggstravaganza -Whole school to Chackmore

Friday 27 March 2026 - Last Day of Spring Term 1

CHACKMORE

Tuesday 24 February 2026 - Fencing Workshops (Wear PE kits)

Monday 2 March 2026 - Year 4 trip to Holdenby House

Friday 13 March 2026, 2pm - KS2 Mother's Day Assembly, School Hall

Thursday 19 March 2026 - Years 5 and 6 Netball Festival after school

Tuesday 24 March 2026, 2pm - Years 3 & 4 production dress rehearsal for Grandparents and local community.

Wednesday 25 March 2026, 2pm and 6pm - Years 3 and 4 Production

Thursday 26 March 2026 - Year 4 Gawcott Solar Farm Workshop

AKELEY

Tuesday 3 March 2026 - Archery Workshops (Wear PE kits)

Thursday 12 March 2026, 2pm - EYFS and KS1 Mother's Day Assembly, Akeley Village Hall

Friday 20 March 2026, 2pm - EYFS Games Afternoon