



**One Family in Christ**

# St John the Baptist RC Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs L. Campbell

Newsletter

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

We have had a wonderful week and the children have shown kindness and empathy towards one another. They make us proud every day and we thank you for your support.

#onefamilyinchrist  
© Mrs Campbell

Head-teacher awards	Qualities of the class 'woman of the Bible'	Celebration of Talent spotting
Nursery (Jochabed)	Azan	JayJay Ella
Reception (Miriam)	Maranata	Nooreil Murewa
Y1 (Elizabeth)	Jacob	Sulaimaan Ayman
Y2 (Prisca)	Moria	Manahil Cecilia
Y3 (Sheba)	Yasmin	Peniel Rayaan
Y4 (Deborah)	Tiago	Paris Lexie
Y5 (Esther)	Naomi	Lexi Taiwo
Y6 (Lydia)	Edvin	Ayan S Haram



Class	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Attendance: week beg 19.1.26	99.1	92.9	96	97.8	97.5	99.5	96.1

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<https://www.stjohnsrc.rochdale.sch.uk>



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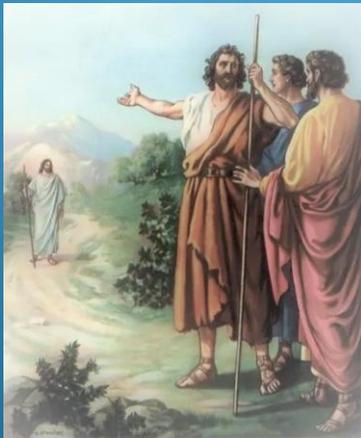
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## Catholic Life

### Gospel: John 1:29-34

The next day John saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.' I did not know who he would be, but I came baptising with water in order to make him known to the people of Israel."

And John gave his testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and stay on him. I still did not know that he was the one, but God, who sent me to baptise with water, had said to me, 'You will see the Spirit come down and stay on a man; he is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen it," said John, "and I tell you that he is the Son of God."



John tells us that he saw the Holy Spirit come down like a dove to rest on Jesus. Because of this, John believed that Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus asks us to love other people, to care for people who are sick and to be signs of hope in our world, especially to people who are poor. This is not always easy, especially when people are in different countries to us. But when we do these things, other people can see the Holy Spirit working through us, just as we can see the wind in the trees.

Love of learning and playing together. One community, aiming high, helping each other and praying together. On our journey with Christ.

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## The Importance of Attendance

Our attendance this week is 97.1% - this is fantastic! Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is in school every day.

Please ensure extended family visits abroad are not in term time – your children are required to be in school every day so they don't fall behind.



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## A cause for celebration!



### A message from Bridget Phillipson



Dear Lisa,

**Congratulations** to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at St John's Roman Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

Please pass on my thanks and **congratulations** to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.

*Your sincerely,*

**Bridget Phillipson**  
Secretary of State for Education

This week I received an email from the Secretary of State, congratulating us on our excellent outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. We rank very highly when compared to ALL schools in England! Well done everyone



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## Parental support: Managing screen time

All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollage.com](http://nationalcollage.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

### Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

**GET OUT AND ABOUT**

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. It was a stroll to the local shop would do; the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

**TRY A TIMED TRIAL**

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

**GO DIGITAL DETOX**

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

**LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

**AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES**

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

**HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY**

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

**BE MINDFUL OF TIME**

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

**'DARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT**

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

**SWITCH ON DND**

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

**TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK**

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

**SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS**

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

**WIND DOWN PROPERLY**

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

**Meet Our Expert**

Maria Ahmad designed and delivered the UK's only specialist psychological mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.

**DEVICE BOX**

The National College

NOS National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.01.2023

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## EYFS PD

This week, nursery were using some new pieces of equipment to experiment how far and high they could launch a ball. A different technique was required than what they are used to.



## New Fitness Equipment



Some more new equipment was being tested out on Friday morning in the Fitness Studio. Children will now be able to bounce on the trampette or navigate their way around a predesigned route on the new stepping stones.

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## Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1



This week, Year One learnt all about Transient Art and worked really hard to create their own art during Forest School. Well done, Year One!



To celebrate World Religion Day, the Nursery children, with the help of their parents, decorated handprints showing the Christian sign of peace - the Cross. Our families added other signs of peace from their own faiths, including a moon and star, and the Om symbol.

“Love one another as I have loved you.” John 15:12

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## LKS2



Year 3 have created artwork that captures the flow and heat of lava using oil pastels. They blended warm-toned colours together to produce vibrant, fiery pieces inspired by fire and magma. They look fantastic!

## UKS2

This week year 5 have been investigating how to join fabric using a range of methods. They have been finding out which method works best for each fabric or item which was reported in their evaluations. Everyone then considered what they would change next time which will be useful when they make their final products - taking an old item of clothing and making something new from it.



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