



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Newsletter

We  We are all
Maths writers ... 



We are growing
our learning 

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Newsletter date:

Friday 4th September

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Term Dates

Monday 26th October—Friday 30th October—Half Term

Monday 21st December—Friday 1st January—Christmas Holiday

Monday 4th January—First Day of Spring Term

Monday 15th February—Friday 19th February—Half Term

Friday 26th March—Friday 9th April—Easter Holiday

Monday 12th April—First Day of Summer Term

Diary Dates

Tuesday 8th September—5.00p.m. Final Information Meeting for Year 6 children going to PGL/Kingswood.

Thursday 10th September—2.00p.m.—3.00p.m.—Year 3 Meet the Teacher @ T Site.

Tuesday 15th September @ 2.30p.m.—Parent Handwriting Information session @ AF

Wednesday 16th September @ 2.45p.m.—Parent Handwriting Information Session @ 2.45p.m.

Wednesday 16th September—Year 5 Swimming starts.

Sunday 20th September—Friday 25th September—Year 6 Residential PGL/Kingswood.

WB 28th September—Harvest Week in School.

Steve Skinner—Site Supervisor

I am very sorry to have to let you know that Steve Skinner, our Site Supervisor, passed away in the early hours of this morning. Steve had been with us since 2014 when we first opened our AF site.

Many of you knew Steve personally and bantered with him at the beginning and end of the day. You would also have been very aware of his commitment and dedication to the school he loved and that he cared passionately for. Always on hand to help, a ferociously hard worker and someone who wanted the school to look its best. He also had a penchant for a bargain and was particularly keen in showing off his latest watch—last count was that he had comfortably over 100.

His battle with cancer never fazed him and he remained to the end committed to the school and the community he loved.

Steve will be sorely missed by everyone and at the time of writing this is all very raw for everyone. As more information becomes available I will share it with you.

In the early hours of this morning, my amazingly brave husband Steve sadly passed away at home, surrounded by his family. Whilst our loss is devastating and will take a very long time to come to terms with, myself and our children Max and Jade will forever be in awe of Steve's strength, tenacity and determination to stand up to everything that life threw at him over the last five and a half years.

His motto was: I'm not going anywhere and because of this, he will stay with us forever. He absolutely loved working at St John's Green Primary and relished his role as Site Supervisor. As a family, we take great comfort in knowing how valued he was by the entire school community and we ask that he forever remains in your thoughts.

Elsbeth, Max and Jade Skinner



Welcome Back

A very warm welcome back to all our children and to you all as parents.

A special welcome to our new Foundation children who have started school for the first time this week.

In addition we also have a few new children in different classes throughout the school and a very warm welcome to you too.

I very much hope that you had a good summer and are looking forward to the new term.

Please be aware of some key dates we have popped on the newsletter.

Rights Respecting Schools. Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously. (from children's perspective – fair and just).

All Things Handwriting

Hopefully your children have started talking about our new expectations for handwriting at St. John's Green. We have started the Letter Join programme, which begins in EYFS and goes through to Year 6. The new handwriting style will take some time to master (for children and staff alike!) but we strongly believe in the benefits of children learning fluent, joined style.

Mrs Wall and Mrs. Skinner will run 2 x handwriting information sessions on:

Tues 15th September @ 2.30pm AF site

Wed 16th September @ 2.45pm Town site.

<https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/>

EEF Findings: When a child's handwriting is automatic and fluent, they do not have to consciously think about how to form letters. This allows them to focus their limited working memory on the composition of their text, such as choosing rich vocabulary, structuring sentences, and planning their ideas.

Please pop along to one of these sessions if you can.



We all have a set of values, things we hold dear and things we aspire to. For the children at our school these are the values that we have embedded.

These values are integral to our life and work at school and we will spend time with the children —talking with them and supporting their learning in being the very best of themselves and how we treat others.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ENTITLEMENT CHECKING

Over the summer holidays, the school found it necessary to change the provider for checking free school meal eligibility.

From now, all checks will be made directly through the school, which should hopefully give a more prompt response regarding eligibility.

Some parents have already had their details checked and these will have been confirmed directly by the school. However we are aware that several other families have submitted their details directly via the QR code that was provided prior to the summer break. We are still waiting for confirmation with regards to eligibility.

For those parents who were previously entitled to free school meals and have not re-applied, please do so as the provision does not continue automatically from now on.

If you feel you may be eligible for free school meal entitlement based on either the Targeted or Expanded basis and have not yet applied, could we please ask that you complete the form that has been sent out and return it to the office for Mrs Shuttlewood's attention, so that we can get the data checked as soon as possible. **IF YOU NEED A FORM PLEASE CALL INTO EITHER SCHOOL OFFICE.**

Please rest assured that this data will not be shared with any other party as per our data protection policy.

If you have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact the school offices.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED YOUR APPLICATION—THERE IS NOTHING MORE YOU NEED TO DO!

Our apologies for any inconvenience this change may cause. However, your prompt action will benefit both yourself and the school.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS 2026/27

Important changes for families receiving Universal Credit



FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

All children from households receiving Universal Credit may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM).



TWO TYPES OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS



TARGETED FSM

Linked to lower income, savings of £7,400 or less



Free school meal every school day



Access to the HAF Programme (school holidays)



School receives Pupil Premium funding for additional educational support



EXPANDED FSM

Universal Credit households above the £7,400 savings threshold



Free school meal every school day



No HAF eligibility



No Pupil Premium funding



TRANSITIONAL PROTECTION IS ENDING

From 31 July 2026, previously FSM protection arrangements will end.



Eligibility will be reassessed annually.



Some families may become eligible for the first time.



FSM may no longer be automatically protected for older children.



ACTION REQUIRED

You may need to check your eligibility again.

1 JULY 2026

New eligibility rules start from **SEPTEMBER 2026.**



Apply or re-check eligibility as soon as possible.



RECEPTION YEAR & YEAR 2

The Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme is not changing.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to receive free school meals under the existing scheme regardless of household income.

