



# St John's Gosport C of E (VA) Primary School

Grove Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 4JH  
[www.st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk](http://www.st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk)  
[adminoffice@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Carolyn Wilkinson  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Gemma Havey  
School Business Manager: Mrs Hannah Bonwick

Telephone: 02392 582404



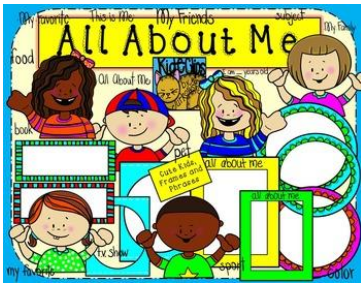
## Autumn 1 Newsletter

September 2024

### Early Years Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We hope your child has enjoyed their first day. We have loved having them and seeing all their smiling faces. We have been extremely impressed with how well they have settled in here at St John's and how eager they all are learning the new routine of school. We are looking forward to the exciting and busy year ahead.



We will be focussing our learning around our fabulous units: All About Me! Autumn and Bear Hunt. Your child has been allocated a Key Person, who is a member of staff that they will meet with more frequently to build a relationship with. This will enable them to settle at school quickly with a trusted adult from their class. Your child will also spend time with their teacher individually. This allows the adults to get to know each individual and begin to plan for the next steps in their personalised learning journey.

In the first few days of the term, we will play lots of Getting-To-Know-You games, learning each other's names, singing songs and rhymes and sharing stories. These activities help all of the children to find their feet in this new and exciting environment.

### Pick Up and Drop Off

We are really pleased with the independence shown today by so many children coming into the school building on their own. Please continue to drop off your child at the double doors each morning ready for **8.30am**. Staff will be outside to welcome your children into school. Pick up is at **3:00pm**. **RFD will leave from the same blue doors where they enter in the morning.** **RKH will leave from the office.** **Please line up along the ramp outside the office.** We will dismiss the children one at a time as you arrive at the door. Until we get to know you all, please could you clearly state your child's name as you step forward and we will get them from the line. Please allow space around the door for this. Please ensure that no dogs are brought on site and please keep little ones under close supervision at all times.





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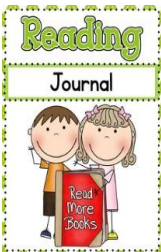
Early Years is a very important year for your child, being the first year of their school journey and we hope that, with your support, we can all work together to help your child to achieve their full potential. You can help by ensuring they are in school each day on time, that they are prepared and organised for the day ahead and that they have completed their daily reading for their Home Learning. We are always happy to support you and your child over the year and will be outside after school each day if you have any messages or questions.

## Uniform



We are delighted to see the children looking so smart and wearing the correct uniform. It gives us a lovely sense of pride and belonging. **Please name every item that comes into school** - it is very easily misplaced.

## Reading at home



In Early Years, we encourage children to 'read' (share a book) at home with an adult **every day** - this could be rereading the same book or sharing a story at bed time. Your child has been given a Reading Diary for you to record their reading in. They will get a special certificate for every 25 reads too with prizes given at 100 reads! Initially, many of the books contain no words. This encourages children to use the pictures and their prior knowledge to tell the story or rhymes in their own words and turn the pages correctly. As their phonic (sound) knowledge develops, their books will contain words and sentences at a level that is accessible to them. When you are reading with your child it is useful to point to the words as you read them, this will help them to further develop their reading strategies and recognise that each one is a separate word.

We are using a Phonics scheme called Little Wandle and they will be bringing home a Little Wandle book on a Wednesday along with a Library book and some Home Learning - **these MUST be returned on the Monday**. They will have read this book 3 times over the previous week with an adult so they should be able to share it with you really well.

## Trips

We are hoping to take the children on several little trips throughout the year, the first being an Autumn Walk. Others visits have included visiting Mrs Newton's Chicken's, visiting the library and a working dairy farm in the summer term. We will give you more information once we have gotten to know the interests of the children and planned in our visits.



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## Awards

At St John's we give out certificates in our usual **Friday Celebration Collective Worships**. The children have the opportunity to earn a certificate for the Christian Value that we are focusing on (**Love** is our first focus), a certificate for one of the Six Strands to develop our Living and Learning behaviours (we are working on **Boundaries** this half term) and a certificate for excellent presentation (which could be in writing or another curriculum area). These certificates are usually presented by our Headteacher, Mrs Wilkinson or another member of the Leadership Team.

## Communication

Every morning the class teacher will greet you and your child at the double doors, so if you need to pass on any information quickly please do so at this time. We will also be outside at the end of the day. We understand that some parents work and are not around at the start or end of the day so please feel free to write us a note that your child can bring in. If you need to speak to a teacher the office is open 8.30am-4.30pm each day or you can email:



[adminoffice@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk)

Our SENDCo is Mrs S Chambers: [sendco@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk](mailto:sendco@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk)

Please do check the school website as this is updated often with key learning information.

## Early Years Team 2024-2025

### RFD

Mrs Dickinson (Early Years Leader)  
Mrs Taylor (EY Teaching Assistant)  
Mrs Roberts (Speech and language Support)

### RKH

Miss Hiseman (Early Years Teacher)  
Mrs Newton (EY Teaching Assistant)  
Mrs Kodrowska (Learning Support Assistant)

We are really looking forward to spending this year with your children. We promise that we will support your children and you in any way we can and we really hope to make your children's experience of Early Years at St John's a happy and memorable one.

**The Early Years Team**