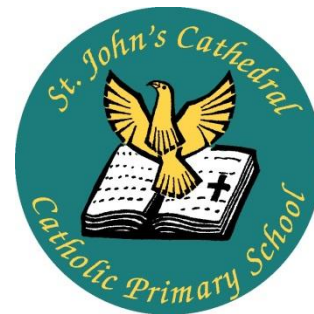


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH NURSERY)
Cottage View
Landport
PORTSMOUTH
PO1 1PX**



Head Teacher: Mrs. L. Park BA (Hons), PGCE, MA

**Tel: 023 92821055 Email: admin@stjohns.portsmouth.sch.uk
Fax: 023 92815065 www.stjohnscathedralschool.org.uk**

13th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

A belated Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term at St John's.

Thank you

Thank you so much for all the kind words, cards and gifts shared with staff for Christmas. They were very much appreciated – as are your continued support and prayers.

School Admissions Information Key Messages for Parents/Carers

The deadline for applications to start in Reception in September is 15th January 2026. When applying for school we strongly recommend that parents/carers list **as many preference schools as possible (up to 6)** on their application.

- o *Please note: listing only one preference does not strengthen the application.*
- o *Having criteria such as sibling or feeder school links does not guarantee a place.*

Before applying, parents/carers should read the information available on the [Portsmouth City Council website](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/council) and/or seek advice from the Admissions Team.

Please remember to include all additional information e.g. the Supplementary Information Form (SIF), baptism certificate, letter from a minister etc if relevant. The application can only be ranked according to the information received.

If applying for St John's reception class, please also remember that attending St John's nursery does not have any bearing on the school application process. It is a completely different process and requires parents/carers to complete the starting school application and provide all relevant documentation.

Staffing changes

As Yr 4 parents will be aware, Mrs Maunders left us at the end of term. Mrs Leaman has increased her hours and will now be teaching Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Miss Simmonds and Mrs Warren will be teaching on Thursday and Fridays. The children know all the staff well and have made a good start to the new term.

Mrs Gardner and Mrs Brown

Please continue to pray for Mrs Gardner and Mrs Brown.

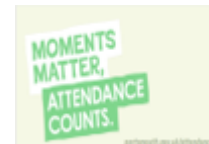
Class Masses and Celebrations of the Word

Year 5 and 6: Friday 16th January

Year 2 and 3: Friday 30th January

Year R and 1: Friday 13th February

Year 4 do not have a Mass this term as they will be leading our Lenten Reconciliation service in February.



School Dinners

Please remember to order your child's school dinners in advance of the start of the week.

Attendance and Punctuality

Please remember to contact the office by phone, email or through studybugs when your child is going to be absent or late.

Mary's Meals

Thank you to everyone who donated to Mary's Meals, our chosen charity, last term. Please see the message below that we received from the charity:

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your precious gift of £303.94, which is helping us to transform the lives of hungry children around the world with a nutritious daily meal in school.

Your kindness is bringing food, joy and hope to the children who eat Mary's Meals, allowing them to make the most of their education and giving them the chance of a better future.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child comes to school with a suitable winter coat everyday so that they are warm and dry when on the playground.

With the weather so cold, it is important that children have navy blue tracksuit/jogging bottoms in their PE kit to wear for outdoor PE lessons.

Choir and Prayer, Scripture and Play Club

Choir begins again on Tuesday 3rd February and will run until the end of term. (Tuesday 24th March)

Prayer, scripture and play club begins on Thursday 26th February and runs until the end of term. (Thursday 26th March)

Safeguarding

Please remember that if you have a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, you should contact either myself as the school's Designated Safeguarding lead (DSL) or Mrs Warren the deputy designated safeguarding lead (DDSL).

Please also remember to keep us informed of any change in family situations or childcare arrangements and any accidents or injuries from home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

L. Park
Head Teacher

DIARY DATES

2025-2026

January

Friday 16th
Monday 19th

Year 5 and 6 Mass
School nurses in
Year R and 1 trip to concert
Year 4 drama workshop
Year 2 and 3 Celebration of The Word

Wednesday 28th
Friday 30th

February

Thursday 5th
Friday 6th
Wednesday 11th
Friday 13th

Parents' meetings KS 1
Parents' meetings KS 2
Year 6 theatre day
Reception and Year 1 celebration of The Word
Break up for half term

Half Term 16th-20th February

March

Wednesday 4th
Thursday 5th
Tuesday 24th

Year 1 drama workshop
World book Day
KS 1 End of term assembly
KS 1 book share
KS 2 book share
KS 2 end of term assembly
Break up for Easter 1.30pm

Wednesday 25th
Thursday 26th
Friday 27th

Easter 30th March-10th April

April

Monday 13th
Monday 27th
Thursday 30th

Back to school
Nethercott Trip
Year 5 swimming starts

May

Monday 4th
Monday 11th
Tuesday 19th
Wednesday 20th
Friday 22nd

Bank holiday – school closed
SATs week for Year 6
Nurse and Reception Sports day
Years 1-6 Sports day
Break up for half term

Half term 25th-29th May

June

Monday 1st
Wednesday 10th

back to school
Class photos

Wednesday 17th
Wednesday 24th
Friday 26th

Reception drama day
Year 5 book awards
INSET day – school closed

July

Thursday 16th
Tuesday 21st
Wednesday 22nd

Year 6 show
Children break up for summer
INSET day – school closed