



Friday 13th November 2026

Weekly Newsletter

💛🔔Important Staffing Update🔔💛

Dear Parents and Carers,
We just wanted to share a little update with you about some staffing changes across school.

As a small school, having three members of staff currently on maternity leave, with another two maternity leaves due to commence in the new year, is quite an unusual situation for us! Alongside this, Mr Birchall has made the decision to spend part of his working week in a teaching assistant role. Understandably, this has meant we've needed to make a few changes to our staffing arrangements.

Over the past two weeks, we have carefully introduced these new arrangements, giving staff time to establish positive relationships with the children and become familiar with their classroom routines. We are really pleased with how smoothly this transition has gone and how positively the children have responded.

Whilst changes to staffing at this point in the school year are certainly not something we would usually plan for, our priority has always been to have the right people in the right places, making sure our children feel happy, secure and have the very best adults supporting them.

Our staffing arrangements will be as follows:
Reception

Class Teacher: Mrs Boardman
Teaching Assistants: Miss Waine (full-time), Miss Taylor (SEND support) and Miss Abbott (almost full-time).

Year 1
Class Teacher: Mr Webster
Teaching Assistants: Miss Smart (full-time), with additional SEND support from Miss Taylor in the mornings and Miss Harrison in the afternoons.

Mr Birchall will be moving into a teaching assistant role in Year 4 for part of the week. However, we're delighted that he will continue spending Friday afternoons with the Reception children, leading sessions focused on music, storytelling, imagination and expressive arts.

We know that consistency and familiar faces are so important, particularly for our youngest children. That's why we've taken time to make these transitions as gentle and positive as possible, rather than making sudden changes.

Thank you, as always, for your understanding and support. We really are a small team managing a rather unusual number of maternity leaves, but we have a wonderful group of staff who genuinely care about getting things right for our children.

Most importantly, the children are happy, settled and continuing to enjoy their learning, which is exactly what we want! 💛

Year 5 Remembrance Performance

Last Friday, our wonderful Year 5 children had the privilege of taking part in a special Remembrance event at Leigh Miners Welfare, performing for veterans from across Leigh and Wigan.

The children performed three beautiful songs, receiving a fantastic round of applause from the audience after each one. We are incredibly proud of the confidence, respect and enthusiasm they showed throughout their performance. A special thank you also goes to Miss Monaghan, who accompanied the children on the keyboard for their first song.

As part of the event, our Year 5 pupils also presented the veterans with handmade cards, thoughtfully created by children from other classes across school. They even had the opportunity to meet some of the lovely community support dogs from Reeva Programme CIC, which was an added highlight of the day!

It was a wonderful opportunity for our children to show their respect, kindness and gratitude towards those who have served our country.

Well done, Year 5! You represented St John's brilliantly, and we couldn't be prouder of you all!

Light Up Leigh – This Saturday!

Looking for something fun to do with the family this weekend? Light Up Leigh returns this Saturday 14th November, bringing a fantastic day of festive activities and entertainment to Leigh town centre!

The celebrations begin at 12 noon, with arts and crafts workshops, Santa's Grotto at Leigh Town Hall, Christmas artisan markets and plenty of delicious food and drink stalls.

The highlight of the day will be the magical lantern parade, setting off from Leigh Miners Welfare at 5:15pm. Featuring illuminated lanterns, giant puppets and spectacular performers, the parade will make its way to Leigh Civic Square, where the celebrations will continue with live music, dancing and DJ sets until 7:30pm.

Food and drink stalls will remain open until 8pm.

It promises to be a wonderful community event and a lovely opportunity for families to come together and enjoy some festive fun!

We hope lots of our St John's families can make it along!

More Exciting Baby News!

We are delighted to share some more wonderful news from our St John's family! Miss Marrinton is expecting a baby!

We are absolutely thrilled for Miss Marrington and her family as they look forward to welcoming their new arrival in March next year. We're sure you'll join us in sending her our warmest congratulations and very best wishes as she prepares for this exciting new chapter!

Tea Box Request

As part of their DT project this half term, our Year 3 class will be making pneumatic toys. To do this, they need a selection of empty tea boxes like the images below.

If you have any at home that you would be able to donate, then we would be extremely grateful.

Thanks!
Year 3 Team





Monday 16th November



DIARY DATES

DATE	Event
Each Sunday	St Mary's Church Sunday Service @ 10am with Sunday School. Junior Park 2K Run @ Leigh Sports Village (free for 4-11yr. Old's) 9am
Friday 13th November	Children In Need Day
Monday 16th November	Odd Socks Day
Monday 16th November	Year 2 Visit- Staircase House
Wednesday 18th November	Open Day
Thursday 19th November	Open Morning

Leigh St.John's C.E. Primary School

Learning today for a brighter tomorrow

Ofsted Outstanding



OPEN DAY AND OPEN MORNING

FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE DUE TO JOIN RECEPTION CLASS SEPTEMBER 2027

WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2026

9.15am 10.30am 2.00pm

THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2026

9.15am 10.30am





TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON 01942 672825



Enjoy reading all about our wonderful school.

Discover why St John's is a happy place in which to learn.

Feel the St John's vibe and gain a flavour of the exciting opportunities on offer for children as they journey through the school.



Scan the code to see:

- Our school prospectus
- Prospective parents whole school video
- 360° photograph of the reception classroom
- An A-Z of LSJP
- Take a peep at reception video