



# St John's CE Primary School

## Newsletter 14 December 2023



What a wonderfully Christmassy Wednesday we had this week! Firstly we were treated to the Nativity that was performed so brilliantly by Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The children so confidently performed dances, sang and narrated the story of the Nativity with such confidence, it was lovely to watch.

Later on, Key stage 2 classes led us in the Carol Concert at St John the Baptist church, which was truly magical. I was blown away by the singing from all the classes and the choir- we are lucky to have so many talented children.

The solos performed by Arlo and Russell were also outstanding. Thank you also to Mrs Henry who sang so beautifully, Mr Aveson for playing the organ and to all those who read during the service. There was a real sense of community which was lovely.

None of these events would be possible without our wonderful staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all the hard work that went in to organising, preparing and bringing these events to life. This term is always busy but they never fail to create such magical and wonderful memories for the children and parents, so a big thank you to all the staff.

I would also like to thank all of you for your continued support of the school and all that we are doing here.

I hope that you all have a relaxing, restful break and a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

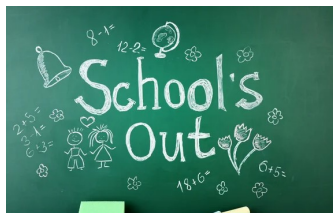
I look forward to seeing you all in 2024, hopefully with a voice!



Mrs Pullan

### Early finish reminder

School finishes at **1.30** (after lunch) on **Friday 15 December**



### Christmas blessing

May love come alive within your heart As Christmas time draws near. May hope fill each room you decorate And bring joy to those you hold dear.

May peace be before you at every meal And faith ring through every song. For Christ is alive, the light of the world May he bless you all season long.



### December

15.12.23 — Last day of term  
**Finish at 13:30**

### January

02.02.24 — INSET Day  
03.01.24 — Club bookings open  
03.01.24 — First Day of Term

### Advance notice

#### March

12.03.24 — Parent consultation  
13.03.24 — Parent consultation

#### June

26.06.24 — Sports Day  
27.06.24 — Back up Sports Day

You can find all of the dates for your diary and further information on the [School Calendar](#).

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### Christmas Fair

A huge thank you to the PTA for organising such a wonderful Christmas Fair. **Over £3000** was raised which is a really tremendous effort—thank you all!

As you know, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes to make the Christmas Fair such a special event in the St John's school calendar and a big thanks goes to our PTA Chair Claire and everyone who got involved this year, as it really is such a wonderful team effort!

A special thank you also goes to Naomi Ball who is handing over the reins after creating another magical grotto this year. I'm sure Naomi will be on hand for words of wisdom to those taking on the task next year! Again, it really is a team effort, so thank you to all the other elves who lent a hand!

Thank you to everyone who attended and joined the festivities!



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### Sports update

#### Football

On Friday 25th November, a team of 6 pupils participated in the Sevenoaks School under 11 Futsal tournament. We were drawn in a group against Anthony Roper, Edenbridge, Shoreham Village and Ide Hill.

The team had a tough first two games against Anthony Roper and Edenbridge, losing 2-0 and 3-0. However, this did not get us down, and we were determined to go out fighting for the last two games against Shoreham and Ide Hill.

After some excellent link-up play between Louis and Ivan, we scored our first goal! We went on to win 3-0 against Shoreham and 2-1 against Ide Hill. Although we did not progress through to the final, all the pupils should be proud of themselves for playing some excellent football.



### Music: Friday15 Concerts

We have had two Friday15 concerts this term, and what fantastic concerts they have been. They are very informal, the children put their names forward during the day and we gather in the hall at 2.55 on a Friday afternoon with year 4 adding to the audience, after their brass lesson.

Some children decide at the last minute that they would rather not perform, which is absolutely fine, and hopefully they will try again next time.

The standard of our performances so far has been amazing!! What a talented bunch we are! No piece is too short to be played. When the children feel ready, we will allow parents to come and watch, so do listen out for announcements.

Our first ever Friday15 on 13<sup>th</sup> October featured: Teddy, Zach, Edward, Zeena, Bella, Russell, Arlo, Amber, Poppy, Emily, Felix.

On 24<sup>th</sup> November our performers were: Zeena, Felix, Teddy, Poppy, Lottie, Hazel, Daniel, Agah, Emily, Zach, Bella, Martha. (we ran out of time and couldn't hear Russell and Arlo).

Well done to everyone who took part and the next Friday15 will be in the New Year.

Mrs Hanna



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### Christmas Lunch and Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day



On Wednesday 6th December the children enjoyed a very festive Christmas Lunch complete with crackers, hats and candy canes!  
A very jolly time was had by all!

Thank you to everyone who took part in Christmas Jumper Day this year and donated to Save the Children.

By dressing up you have helped children facing serious issues like war, hunger and poverty, so thank you!



### Celebrating our children's success



Arthur O (Year One) passed his Ju Jitsu grading and even gained a belt grade higher than he was expecting!

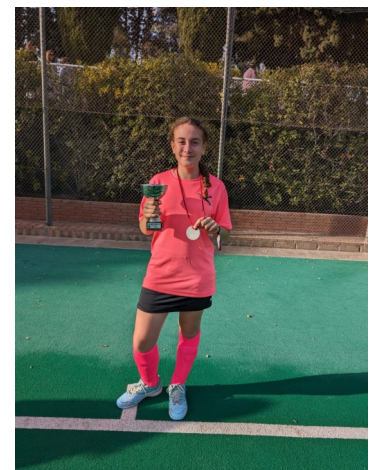
He is delighted as hasn't always found the class easy.

Brilliant job Arthur!

Lottie and her hockey team, the Sevenoaks Spitfires, had an amazing time in Barcelona.

They came 2nd in the whole championship, losing by just one goal to a team from Belgium.

Congratulations Lottie!



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### Special mentions—Week beginning 30th November



**Year 1** — Eva, for always being a superstar and trying your best in everything you do—especially maths!

**Year 2** — Una, for a fantastic focus and calm composure—persevering when tackling a questions she's unsure of.

**Year 3** — Arthur, for consistently giving 100% effort in lessons, especially during maths. Keep up your amazing work Arthur!

**Year 4, 5 and 6** — Well done to all our amazing mathematicians who took the National Primary Maths Challenge! They showed resilience, determination and creative thinking—great work!

*Well done to you all!*

### Special mentions—Week beginning 03 December



**Year 1** — Arthur O, for being such a superstar during nativity practise. You know the songs really well and have made such an effort to learn the dance routine!

**Year 2** — Alyssa, for working so hard on publishing your independent writing. You have written a beautiful story to share with others. Well done!

**Year 3** — Katie, for consistently being an exemplary role model to others. Your positive influence is truly appreciated. Well done!

**Year 4** — Daniel, we would like to acknowledge your amazing attitude to learning. You are always so positive, hard working and you have a go at everything! What a great learner you are!

**Year 5** — Harrison, for being thoughtful and caring to another member of the class. What a Good Samaritan. Well done!

**Year 6** — Luca P, for his focus in writing and excellent suggestions. Plus, his reflections and deep thinking in this week's reading text.

*Well done to you all!*

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