



St John's CE Primary School

Newsletter 08 February 24



As we reach the end of Term 3, I also realised we are halfway through this academic year which suddenly feels like it is going very quickly. It has been an eventful term with a visit from the Vikings, Year 2 class assembly, Year 6 visiting Seville and no cold water from the mains (new learning for me!). I can't wait to see what other exciting (and maybe unexpected) things Term 4 has in store!

Sadly, at the end of this week, Mrs Renee Williams will be leaving us. Unfortunately, Mrs Williams' father is unwell in Australia and she is going back to see him for an extended period of time. Mrs Williams has been at St John's since 2011 and has been an asset to the team, supporting many children, she will be greatly missed by all of us. Ms Griffiths, our play therapist and parent support worker, is also going to be leaving us at the end of Term 4 and we wish her the best of luck for the future.

We have been fortunate to be able to recruit Miss Jeffery who will be working as a TA in Year 3 after half term, we look forward to welcoming her to our school community.

Thank you all for your continued support of the school and all we do. I hope you all have a lovely half term.

Mrs Pullan

Sports update: Water Polo



On Wednesday 7th February, 6 pupils represented St John's at the annual Sevenoaks School Water Polo tournament.

We had to play 6 matches in total. Some being in the deep end and shallow end! First we were up against Chevening and lost 3-1.

We then went on to beat St George's 4-3, Ightham 2-1 and Shoreham 9-0. Our final two matches were against Amherst and Anthony Roper. We lost both matches by only one goal!

The team played brilliantly and everyone commented on how good our goalkeeper was (well played Teddy!).

Dear God,

Give us strength to do what we know is right. Lead us to help others and encourage those I meet to do the same so that all people may flourish. Fill us with your love and lead us to serve others in whatever way we can.

Amen.

Dates for your diary

February

- 09.02.24—14:30 Sharing afternoon
- 09.02.24—PTA Sponsored Book Read
- 09.02.24—Last day of term 3
- 19.02.24—First day of term 4
- 20.02.24—Year 4 swimming starts
- 27.02.24—Year 4 Liquid Nitrogen show
- 29.02.24—Year 4 Carrotty Wood
- 29.02.24—Year 2 Energy Live show



29.02.24—Year 1 Kids in Space

29.02.24—Year 6 Royal Institution Community Show

29.02.24—Year 5 Royal Institution Energy Show

March

12.03.24—Parent consultations

13.03.24—Parent consultations

14.03.24—Science Day

22.03.24—PTA Bunny Hop Disco

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

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Sports update: Table Tennis



Following on from all our Table Tennis teams successes back in November at the Schools competition. Our Girls Under 11 team who won the Kent qualifier, went on to represent the school, and county at the Regional competition held in Croydon on Saturday 3rd January.

Lottie, Bea, Isabella and Primrose all played amazingly and were an absolute credit to the

school, not only winning games on the table but also displaying some outstanding sportsmanship.

The team ended the tournament in Bronze place, quite an accolade for such a small school! Go St Johns!



Sports update: netball



The St John's netball team played some of their best netball this season on Tuesday. Quick passes, bold interceptions and accurate shooting saw them dominate in both of their games, winning 8-1 against St Thomas' and 13-2 against Chevening, as well as earning them some well-deserved praise from the opposition coaches. Congratulations Bea, Bertie, Lottie, Rachel, Seb and Teddy!

Celebrating our children's success



Jack & Sam participated in the schools tennis tournament today. They had lots of fun and won some matches too. Great work!



Noah passed his 25 metres swimming badge at the weekend and wanted to share this with his school—well done Noah!

St John's Sports are kindly supported by Robert Draper Removals and Storage



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St John's at the largest school choir in the World!

As I'm sure you all are aware, the Choir have went to the O2 arena in London, to take part in the Young Voices 2024 series of concerts. They worked hard to practice their words and movements and set off from school in a coach last Tuesday morning, to drive to the venue.

The rehearsal during the afternoon gave us all a chance to get used to singing in such a large space (we were VERY high up), and to see the amazing special guest stars that were performing with us. There were over 8,400 children singing with us, and wow, what an incredible sound! We all wore our Young Voices t-shirts and used our special torches to make an amazing display when the lights went down to start the concert.

The children were absolutely fantastic and had such a brilliant time. We eventually arrived back to school extremely late with very happy (though tired) children.

I would like to thank Mrs Becker in the office, for all of her hard work and helping to get this event organised, also to Mrs Hoemke, Mrs Webb, Mrs Walmsley, Mrs Reynolds and Ms Crewe for being such fantastic companions on our epic journey. Not forgetting Mrs Bennett for making us a St John's sign so we could be noticed.

So what with the Carol service, and two visits to sing for Demelza Charity at the end of last term, we are looking forward to another musical year here at St John's, with more performances and workshops lined up!

Mrs Hanna (Music lead)



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Year 4: Wally Hall Workshop

On Thursday 11th January, Owl Class attended a science workshop at Walthamstow Hall. We arrived and were told that a teacher had been "kidnapped" and set a CSI investigation to find out what could have happened to her. As excellent detectives with solid scientific skills, we set about exploring the evidence. We carried out Chromatography work to match ink samples, tested soil samples for their minerals, used evidence of what types of hot drinks teachers preferred so as to eliminate possible suspects and we used microscopes in the lab to look at hair samples found at the crime scene. The children were so enthusiastic and engaged, developing their observations skills, use of scientific equipment and recording in tables skills throughout the morning. Thank you to the Wally Hall team who so expertly took Owl Class on their CSI adventure.



FIZZ POP Science Club

Wow!!!! The first FIZZ POP Science Club went well with the children being set their first challenge: to design a marble run so that a marble lands in a particular container at the end of a track. They worked in teams, developing collaboration skills and used different equipment to achieve their challenge.

Week 2 saw the children exploring chemistry through a demonstration of liquids and how their colours change depending on whether it is an acid or an alkali.



The children went on to create their own colourful slime which they were allowed to take home (with several promises made to not get it in the carpet or in a sibling or pet's hair!). Let's hope the children managed to keep their word whilst still enjoying their slime.



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Special mentions—Week beginning 22 January



Reception - William, for his perseverance and problem solving when making a bird cage—he fixed his model, improved his model and did it all by himself!

Year 1 — Effie, for showing excellent listening skills during learning time on the carpet.

Year 2 — Oscar, for his amazing improvement in his handwriting and his determination to develop correct formation of his letters and joins.

Year 3 — Olivia, for being a good Samaritan on the playground by helping Reception children zip up their coats—well done!

Year 4 — Inky, for making progress in handwriting and presentation. This takes a lot of effort and care but is so worth it. Keep up the determined work!

Year 5 — Samuel, for working hard during his independent work time. Well done Samuel!

Year 6 — Poppy, your diligence, hard work and quiet perseverance never goes unnoticed. The Year 6 team love having you in class.

Special mentions—Week beginning 05 February



Reception - Mary-Grace for trying hard in all that you do. You show perseverance, concentration and all with a smile on your face.

Year 1 — Freya, you have impressed us this week with your amazing writing about the new toy you invented! You wrote in a lot of detail and even remembered capital letters and full stops!

Year 2 — Poppy, for her progress in articulation of some tricky sounds and applying it to participation in class!

Year 3 — Megan, for always being kind, polite and friendly and always working hard in class and showing good listening.

Year 4 — Taylor—wow! What an amazing piece of independent writing. You used all the teaching points. You listen respectfully in lessons and work hard to always do your best. Super progress. We are all so proud of you.

Year 5 and 6 — Primrose, Bella, Bea and Lottie represented Kent and the school at the regional Table Tennis finals last Saturday. They played magnificently against incredibly strong opposition and came third. Well done!

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