



St John's CE Primary School

Newsletter 20 July 2023



I can't quite believe we are at the end of another school year and what a year it has been. There has been a mountain of learning, overcome and enjoyed by all children, numerous experience days from whodunits to potato characters to a Paralympic games morning the children had today.

There have also been a number of trips, visits and visitors into school which have brought together the learning for the children, really making it come alive.

The production of *Matilda* this week was outstanding, with incredible acting and singing from all the children, I was so proud of each and every one of Year 6 who performed with such confidence, courage and conviction- Well done! We experienced (and survived!) another visit from OFSTED, who recognised what a wonderful school St John's is and how each and every child is deeply cared for and truly at the heart of all we do.

None of this would be possible without the wonderful staff team that I am privileged to lead. Everyone works well together, they are so committed and dedicated to providing the best for the children and I would like to thank them for this.

Teaching is not just a job it is a vocation, a lifestyle and we are lucky to have the staff we do. I also hope they all enjoy a well-deserved break this summer.

I would also like to thank the governors and you as parents' for all the support you have shown for the school and all we do here. Thank you.

I hope you all enjoy the summer break; I look forward to seeing you back in September for the next stage of your St John's journey.

For those leaving us, good luck to you all as you begin your new journeys, I look forward to hearing about the future achievements I know you will have.

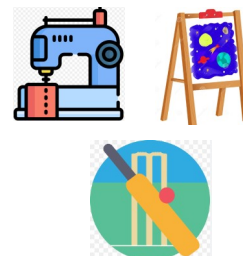
Mrs Pullan

Clubs

Bookings run by external providers are bookable now.

School run clubs will be bookable from 11:00 on **Tuesday 5th September**.

You can book school run clubs by visiting <http://stjohnscep.parents.eveningsystem.co.uk> . ParentMail for full club details.



Dates for your diary

July

21.07.23— 10.00 Year 6 Leavers Service

21.07.23— **13.30** Last day of term 6 (early finish)

September

01.09.23— INSET Day

04.09.23 — First day of term

08.09.23— Year 2 Forest School

11.09.23— Year 4 Dance

12.09.23 — Year 5 Swimming



Dear God,

Thank you for letting this last year together be a successful one. As we move on to new schools or classes, give us hope that we may fulfil our dreams and be the people you want us to be.

Amen.

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Eco-Committee update

The Eco Committee are proud to share that they have completed Level 1 of the Plastic Clever Schools Certification. This involved them:

- Presenting an assembly
- Conducting a litter pick around the school grounds
- Making a video about why we want our school to be plastic clever

Well done everyone!

We'd also like to say a fond farewell to Honor and Penny in Year 6 and to thank them for all their hard work and valuable contributions whilst being on the Committee. We know they'll keep up their wonderful work on environmental matters in the future - we'll certainly miss their passion for all things Eco!



Summer Concert July 2023

Last Friday afternoon, a packed audience listened to music performed by KS2 children, showing off their skills and playing repertoire that had been learnt this term.

Year 4's, who have been learning violins and cellos this year, performed one of their favourite pieces together and this was followed by smaller group and solo performances from within the class.

Our orchestra gave their rendition of a Samba and then came the soloists, performing on brass, strings and piano. This was the first time, for many of these children, that they had ever performed in front of a live audience, and I was extremely proud of their courage in doing so. We had music from beginners up to Grade 5 level and all so enjoyable to listen to.

We even had star solo performances from a couple of Year 2 pupils who were desperate to show what they could do on the piano! Fantastic!! The afternoon was rounded off with a song from our fabulous choir from the film Moana.

Well done, to everyone who performed. It was a very enjoyable event and I look forward to many more.

Mrs Hanna

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Year 1: Visit to Stonepitts Farm (Yum!)

On Tuesday 4th July Year 1 went strawberry picking at Stonepitts Farm. We learnt all about how the strawberries are grown before getting the chance to pick our own. There were so many strawberries and they were very tasty!



Year 1: Nurse visit

On Wednesday 5th July year 1 had a visit from a children's nurse. We were inspired by all the amazing things that nurses do and were really excited to use machines that measure your heart rate, temperature and blood pressure. Some children also had the opportunity to get wrapped up in plaster cast!



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Celebrating our children's success

On Wednesday 35 pupils attend Tonbridge Boys Leisure Centre to participate in District Sports. We competed against 6 other schools and placed in 8 races. Special mentions go to Sadie, Lottie and Rachel who won their sprint races. Matilda C, Fireman's Chain team and Scotch handball team came second. Finally, Tunnel ball and year 5 and 6 relay who came third. Overall we came in joint 4th place, well done everyone!



Wimbledon 2023



On Tuesday, 8 pupils were selected to go to Wimbledon. We were lucky enough to secure 8 tickets for Court 2 for the day. To start the day, we watched Granollers & Zeballos against Galloway & Harris. This was a close match with some amazing rallies. Eventually Galloway & Harris went on to win 2 sets to 0.

Then we decided to go and sit on Murray mound for some lunch before heading to the practice courts to see whether we could see Novak Djokovic. Unfortunately, we missed Djokovic by 10 minutes! We moved from there to one of the outside courts where we found Greg Rusedski rolling back the years.

Eventually, much to Emily and Rachel's delight, we headed for strawberries and cream to take back to Court 2 where we eagerly awaited the arrival of Jamie Murray and his partner Michael Venus. After a rain delay they started their match at 4.30pm and by 6.15pm they had won 2 sets to nil 6-4 and 6-3. The children were still not ready to go home, so we took ourselves off to Murray mound again to watch Novak Djokovic win the second and third set.



Just before we left to come home we found a lovely guard on Court 1 who let us go and have a sneak peek on the court which made Bertie's day! Finally, we headed back to the station and home for some more food. Thank you all for a fabulous day!

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



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Paralympic Sports Morning

The children had a brilliant morning trying out a host of Paralympic sports building on their coordination and teamwork. They tried their hand at curling, boccia, goalball and seated volleyball. Well done to everyone who took part in the event!



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Special mentions—Week beginning 26 June



Reception - Oskar and Jude, for being imaginative and creative in their play with the sea creatures and sowing how much they have learned.

Reception - Dexter and Charlie, for creating amazing games and always playing fairly and sticking to the rules—well done!

Year 1 — All of Year 1, for being so well behaved on our trip to the strawberry farm and picking some amazing fruit!

Year 2 — Frankie, for his phenomenal improvement in swimming, his excellent mathematical knowledge and his fantastic recall of Spanish! We are all proud of how far you've come Frankie!

Year 3 — All of Year 3 for preparing so maturely for Year 4 even though they all feel a bit nervous—you'll be great!

Year 4 — Lily, for noticing when someone was upset and actively found an adult to help. This is very kind and shows great compassion and thoughtfulness.

Year 5 — Year District Sports children who worked really well as a team. Well done!

Year 6 — District Sports competitors: Sadie, Diego, Emily, Dylan, Penny, Shea and Alex. Fantastic teamwork in scotch ball relay and determined individual performances.

From Mrs Simpson: Amber and Emily (year 5), for your kindness, thoughtfulness, patience and giving up your own time to help others at lunchtimes.

Also a big congratulations to our brilliant soloists who performed at the **Summer Concert** recently, for many of whom it was the first time they had performed!

Year 2: Etive and Noah

Year 3: Iris

Year 4: Bella, Martha, Hughie, Mila, Rachel, Rory and Emily

Year 5: Lottie, Amber, Poppy, Emily, Russell, Arlo, Seb and Teddy

Year 6: Dylan, Erin and Penny

Well done to you all!

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