



HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

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It is so lovely to see everyone returning to St. John's School feeling so refreshed and ready for an exciting half-term in the run up to the festive season. Please make sure that you check the dates for all the events that have been scheduled for this half-term including the parent workshops and meetings that we have organised to help parents in supporting their child's learning.

This week during our collective worship we have been discussing our school's motto:

'Thriving and learning as we build God's Kingdom.'

The pupils had some fascinating suggestions and thoughts about what our motto may look like to people visiting our school and the message that we want to give to people about why this is really important to us. We talked about all the different areas that we have thrived in since we have started in September and what our learning has been focused on this week. When we discussed our learning, we also talked about learning outside the classroom, the extra-curricular activities, playtimes, charities that we are currently working with alongside the work that both the School Council and the Eco-Committee are currently focusing on. Please make every effort to support both our Remembrance fund raising and also the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal that will run until the 14th November. Also we need every child to bring in their plastic bottle so that we can create our poppy field for the Remembrance Service on the 14th November at St. John's Church.

Thank you to many members of the Parents Teachers' Committee that have given up their time today to run our pop up shop. This shop will be raising money so that we can subsidise the Pantomime trip in December and also purchase the ongoing equipment that we need for every class. Please make every effort to support this initiative every week in the school hall.

Given the very positive feedback that we have received from many parents following our demonstration lessons, we have decided to run more this half-term. Please take note of the dates as we really want to see as many parents as possible at these very valuable lessons.

13th November at 10.30 – 10.50pm – Guided Reading in Emerald Class

22nd November at 10.45 – 11.40am Maths lesson in Sapphire Class

4th December at 10.30am – 11am Phonic lesson in Ruby Class

4th December at 9.20am – 9.45am Guided Reading in Diamond Class

Have a lovely, relaxing weekend. Please remember to bring in your plastic bottle for the poppy that we will all be making.

Best wishes

Susan Notley

Headteacher

This Week's Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Week</u>
Ruby	85.7%
Sapphire	90.3%
Diamond	95.2%
Emerald	93.1%
Overall	91.1%

Week Beginning Monday 5 November 2018

Monday

8am	Breakfast Club
3.00-4.00pm	Multi Sports (Reception, Yr 1, 2 & 3)

Tuesday

School Photographer—Individual photos

8am	Breakfast Club
3.00-4.00pm	Football Club (Yr 3-6)
3.00-4.00pm	NO Science Club (by invitation)
3.00-4.00pm	School Choir

Wednesday

8am	Breakfast Club
9.00am	Sapphire Class Collective Worship Assembly
During school	Keyboard
During school	Recorder
3.00-4.00pm	Netball Club (Yr 3-6)

Thursday

8am	Breakfast Club
9.10am	Open morning for Prospective Parents
3.00-4.00pm	Dance Club (Yr 3-6)
3.00-4.00pm	Tennis Club (Yr 2)

Friday

8am	Breakfast Club
11.45-12.10	Running Club
2.45pm	Pop Up Shop

RUBY CLASS

It was lovely to see the children back at school ready for the busy half term ahead. This week we have been reading the story of 'The Rainbow Fish' which has promoted lots of discussion about the importance of sharing. In maths we have focused on the recognition and ordering of numbers 0-20. If you could encourage the children to look for numbers in the environment that would be great.

A reminder that the reception children need their P.E. kit in school on Tuesdays. Please be aware the children will be getting changed into their kit before lunch, as they will be out in the playground and the weather is turning cooler you may prefer to send joggers in rather than shorts. Have a lovely weekend **Pat Creed**

SAPPHIRE CLASS

In Maths this week, we have looked at time. Before I touch on what we have covered, I have been impressed with the determination and enthusiasm shown by the children bearing in mind time is a very tricky concept! Y1 have looked at time in terms of ordering events, days of the week and months of the year. We also used our number recognition to create our own clock faces before visiting time to o'clock. Please continue to work on o'clock with your child. Y2 have been looking at time to 15 minutes and some of us have even taken this further and explored time to 5 minutes. We have also completed simple time word problems! Well done Sapphire Class. In Literacy this week, we have started our new book, called Mr Underbed by Chris Riddell. We have used the front cover and blurb to make predictions about the story, identify character names etc. we have also talked about character feelings and some of us have linked this story to something else (book/film etc) that it reminds them of. Others have been unjumbling simple sentences about the story so far and wrote in the correct order. Next week we will be looking at a piece of writing about 'Our Beautiful World'. In RE, we have looked at Diwali. We looked at who celebrates Diwali, where it is celebrated, why it is celebrated and how. This will form part of your child's homework and will also form our Collective Worship assembly on Wednesday (7th November). In Science, we have looked at the human life cycle. Y1 have looked at it as baby, child, adult, elderly whereas Y2 were also introduced with toddler and teenager. I have been SO impressed with the homework this week and our new Science display looks fantastic!! I look forward to seeing everybody on Wednesday (7th November) at 9:00am for our Collective Worship Assembly to parents/carers. Please ensure that your child has time to learn their script over the weekend. This, alongside three in-school rehearsals, will result in your child feeling confident with their part! Thank you for your corporation. Have a lovely weekend and a nice, relaxing half term! **James Stringer and Tracey Hargate**.

DIAMOND CLASS

This week in Diamond Class, the children have planned, and have begun to write a character profile for the character 'Grandad' in the story 'Grandad's Island'. I have been really impressed with how they were able to use evidence in the text to support their ideas, and make inferences about the story and the characters based on the images. They continued to apply this skill during our Guided Reading lessons where we have been focussing on summarising a section of a text. In Maths, the class have been learning to multiply and divide whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000. Although some children struggled with this task at the beginning of the week, I am very pleased to have seen how their understanding really developed throughout the week. It was wonderful to see how much effort the children put into their Science research over the half term break! I really enjoyed observing their projects and hearing them share all that they have learnt. Next week we will begin to delve into our new Science topic for this half term. Our new topic in History is based around the Ancient Egyptians. This week, the children discovered where Egypt is located on the world map, they located and plotted a number of key places on their own map of Egypt, and explained why the River Nile was so important to the Ancient Egyptians. In RE, we looked at the Ten Commandments and discussed why God might have chosen to put these rules in place for Christians to follow. The class also ranked the commandments in order of importance, and explained their choice of sorting. Hope you all have a lovely weekend! **Sabrina Anderson**

EMERALD CLASS

This week in Emerald Class, we have been thinking about why remembering is so important. This led to a deep and interesting discussion, in which the children made great connections with the lessons we can learn from remembering events from the past. In maths we have been focusing on shape, finding the area and perimeter of rectangles and work based around angles. The children are now a lot more confident when using a protractor to measure. In geography we have started our new topic of how our country has changed. We looked at all the different major locations in Great Britain and the types of things that we associate with our country. In science, the children presented their half term projects, which were excellent. Well done to all for the high quality research and projects! We hope you have a relaxing weekend. **Joe Law & Kamran Ezel**

NOTICES

Attendance for the week

DIAMOND CLASS have received the highest attendance this week but unfortunately as it is not over 96% the non-uniform on Monday does not apply.



As per our school policy, please remember that medical evidence is required on the 4th day of absence or if attendance has dropped below 90%.

Eco-Committee



Please bring in your plastic bottles so that we can make our poppies for the Remembrance Service.

Having reviewed the situation regarding the water bottles in school, pupils will be allowed to bring their non-breakable water bottles in to use in the classroom but they will not be allowed to take them outside.

Please make every effort to support the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal, members of our Eco-Committee will be available every morning at the school gate for you to get a leaflet and a spare box if you should require it. We need to have all boxes back by the 14th November.

School Photographer



The school photographer is coming into school on Tuesday to take individual and sibling photographs (only siblings who attend St. John's). All photographs will be taken during school time.

Please ensure your child's hair is neat and uniform is correct.

School Dinners & Packed Lunch

Please may Parents be reminded that if your child is changing from either School Dinners or Packed Lunch the school office need to be informed and given **half a terms notice**.

The kitchen have ordered food in advance and it causes a lot of problems if numbers go up or down.

Lost Property

If you would like to look in the Lost Property box, it is situated outside the school office.



School Council

The School Council have been busy discussing a range of things this week. We have settled on some options for the attendance reward – classes will have the choice of a pizza and movie afternoon, a fun treasure hunt, or a free creative afternoon. The School Council will also be involved in selling poppies afternoon, starting tomorrow and continuing next week. Our next focus will be to think about a variety of games that can be introduced into the playground. Well done School Council!

Operation Christmas Child



Gift Form, for Operation Christmas Child, which we support every year. Operation Christmas Child is where we aim for every family in the school to donate a shoebox filled with gifts for a special child to enjoy this Christmas. Please bring these in after half term with the deadline of **Wednesday 14 November**. For more details visit their website

www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk

Happy Bags Collection



Wednesday 12 December

To raise funds for St. John's.

Please donate clean, unwanted clothes, shoes, bed linen and towels.

To find out more information please go to www.happyschoolbag.co.uk.

Please bring in your Happy Bags on **Tuesday 11 December**. Bags will be given out nearer the time.

Nursery Admissions

- Complete our supplementary forms, which can be found on the school website or collect them from the school office.
- Return the supplementary forms to the school office as soon as possible.

Worship

St. John's Church, Strayfield Road, Sunday at 9am

St. Luke's Church, Phipps Hatch Lane: Sundays at 10.30am

Children and their parents are welcome at both churches and both have Sunday





Date List for Autumn Term 2018

NOVEMBER		
Tuesday 6	School Photographer—Individual photographs	
Wednesday 7	Sapphire Class Assembly	9.00am
Thursday 8	Open morning for Prospective Parents	9.10am
Friday 9	Pop up shop (running every Friday after school)	2.45pm
Tuesday 13	Guided Reading in Emerald Class for Parents	10.30-10.50pm
Wednesday 14	Remembrance Service at St. John's Church (Reception to Yr 6)	2.30pm
Wednesday 14	Operation Christmas Child (deadline for shoeboxes to be in school)	9.00am
Tuesday 20	Parents' Evening to see the class teacher	
Thursday 22	Parents' Evening to see the class teacher	
Thursday 22	Maths Lesson in Sapphire Class for Parents	10.45-11.40am
Friday 30	Decorating of the School Hall for Christmas	After Celebration Assembly
DECEMBER		
Tuesday 4	Phonic lesson in Ruby class	10.30-11.00am
Tuesday 4	Guided Reading in Diamond Class	9.20am – 9.45am
Tuesday 4	Book Fair	After School
Thursday 6	School Disco for Emerald & Diamond Class (Dance Club will enter free)	3.00-4.00pm
Friday 7	School Disco for Sapphire & Ruby Class	3.00-4.00pm
Wednesday 12	Happy Bags Collection	9.00am
Thursday 13	Nativity for Ruby Class	2.00pm
Friday 14	Secret Santa shop for all pupils—buy a present for your family	
Tuesday 18	Pantomime at the Millfield Theatre—Beauty and the Beast	During school
Wednesday 19	Carol Service at St. John's Church	2.00pm
Thursday 20	Christmas parties for all classes	During school
Friday 21	END OF AUTUMN TERM	1.15PM

Autumn	2018
INSET DAY	Monday 3 September
INSET DAY	Tuesday 4 September
Starts	Wednesday, 5th September
Half Term	Monday 22 October—Friday 26 October
Ends (1.30pm)	Friday 21 December
Bank Holiday	Tuesday 25 & Wednesday 26 December
Spring	2019
INSET DAY	Monday 7 January
Starts	Tuesday 8 January
Half Term	Monday 18 February—Friday 22 February
Ends (1.30pm)	Friday 5 April

Term Dates for 2018/2019

Summer	2019
Starts	Tuesday 23 April
Half Term	Monday 27 May—Friday 31 May
Ends (1.30pm)	Friday 19 July
Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May & Monday 27 May 2018
INSET DAY	Friday 28 June

Please remember that any of the above dates may alter because of changing circumstances.
On INSET days the school is closed to pupils.