

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

St. John's C.E. Primary School

10 March 2017



HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

We were very fortunate to have a visit from Pathways on Monday in our assembly where we were treated to a beautifully illustrated story about the last supper before Jesus was crucified on the cross. Throughout the rest of the week we carried on with the Easter theme in our preparation for our Spring Concerts in a few weeks.

As part of our Healthy Schools' initiatives, Mrs. Boyd, the Public Health Manager will attend the assembly next Tuesday to present the prizes to the pupils who have been placed in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for the no smoking at the school gates competition. The prizes are 1st – a mini Ipad, 2nd £50 WH Smith voucher and 3rd £25 WH Smith voucher. The winning poster will be displayed on a plaque by the school gate.

It was so encouraging to see so many parents at both our reading meetings this week, I hope you found these meetings useful. The reading group sessions in the classroom next week should provide you with different strategies to support your child's reading. Hopefully you will also come away with the feeling that reading is really fun and the importance of continuing to build on that enjoyment with your child.

As a follow up to the Parents' Meetings on reading, we are inviting you into your child's class to see how we are teaching reading so that you will be able to support your child at home. These reading workshops are taking place next week on:

Monday 13th March at 9am – 9.40am – Parents of Diamond Class

Wednesday 15th March at 9am – 9.30am – Parents of Sapphire Class

Thursday 16th March at 9am – 9.40am – Parents of Emerald Class

Could you please make sure that you book your place at the appropriate workshop on the clipboard by the school gates every morning. I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at these workshops as they will definitely be worthwhile for you to attend.

Please also make a note about the E-Safety meeting that is open to all parents and I can't stress enough the importance of this meeting.

Tuesday the 28th March at 2.30pm – E-Safety for all parents.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Susan Notley
Headteacher

This Week's Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Week</u>
Ruby	94.8%
Sapphire	100%
Diamond	96.4%
Emerald	93.3%
Overall	96.1%

Week Beginning 13 March 2017

Monday

	SCIENCE WEEK Cuffley Camp Emerald Class
8am	Breakfast Club
9am	Teaching Reading Demonstration—Diamond Class
3.15-4.10pm	Multi Skills (Reception to Year 6)

Tuesday

8am	Breakfast Club
3.15-4.10pm	Art Club (by invitation)
3.15-4.10pm	Science Club (by invitation)

Wednesday

8am	Breakfast Club
9am	Teaching Reading Demonstration—Sapphire Class
During School	Keyboard Club
During School	Recorder Club
3.15-4.10pm	Netball Club (3-6)

Thursday

Yr 2/3	Swimming
8am	Breakfast Club
9am	Teaching Reading Demonstration—Sapphire Class
3.15-4.10pm	Dance Club (by invitation)

Friday

8am	Breakfast Club
3.15-4.00pm	Football Club (Yr 3- 6)
	Please note the earlier finish time

Ruby Memories

It's been a very busy and varied week in Ruby class. Firstly, I would like to say thank you for coming to our reading meeting, your support is invaluable and will really help to encourage the love of reading and books which we want to embed in the children. On Monday we had to solve the mystery of the disappearance of our new gruffalo toy; footprints which were left and some good detective work proved that the culprit was 'The Gruffalo'! The children wrote and drew 'wanted posters' which have been displayed around school but we are still waiting for the return of our gruffalo toy! We have also been looking at and reading other Julia Donaldson books which the children have really been enjoying. In maths we have been focusing on counting in 2's which has included hanging socks in pairs,

making bead chains and using peg boards in patterns of two's. It will be really helpful if you could also look for patterns of two at home to encourage counting in 2's. Yesterday we had a classroom of spider men, astronauts, Harry Potters, dragons, gingerbread men and fairy tale characters to celebrate World Book day which was fantastic. A poet came to work with all the children in the afternoon and we had a lovely time in the sunshine, stretching our imaginations to think of ideas for poems. Next week is Science week at St John's which is going to be really exciting; we have some great 'WOW' experiments planned for our newly designed Ruby science lab!

Have a great weekend

Pat Creed

Sapphire Tales

In Sapphire Class this week we have been learning about money, finding the totals of different coin values, finding change using a number line and solving number problems. We have continued the theme of the seaside by looking at seaside poems and writing our own seaside poem. The poet Paul Lyalls worked with us on Thursday on making our poetry fun and interesting by thinking very carefully about the language and punctuation that

we are using. The children have continued to find out more about the famous explorer Ibn Battuta and his travels around Asia and Africa, seven hundred years ago. In Art, the children created their own seaside pictures using pastels to illustrate the poetry that they have written. These will be on display for you to see during Parents' Evening at the end of this month.

Have a lovely weekend creating some fun poetry!

Maria Piscitelli

Diamond Delights

This week in Diamond Class, the children have been writing instruction texts. One of their instruction texts was about how to be a good friend and they came up with some really lovely ideas. In numeracy, we have been focusing on money. The children have been adding and subtracting money both mentally and in columns. They have been applying these skills to

worded money problems. We have also been using different coins to make different combinations of amounts as well as ordering money.

Have a lovely weekend.

Hannah Gallagher

Emerald Echoes

This week in literacy we have been looking at poetry. The children have been focusing on writing free verse poems where there are very few rules. They have used a range of similes, metaphors, personification, onomatopoeia and expanded noun phrases to build up a 'moody' poem about a particular setting; we were really pleased with the end results. In maths the children have been looking at using pie charts and line graphs and have worked really well on creating and interpreting the data. Also, in maths this week, I have set the children a challenge where each group has been

given £5 and they need to think of a way in which they can make a profit. We are calling it St. John's Apprentice so be ready for the next Alan Sugar trying to sell you their wares in the upcoming weeks. On Tuesday afternoon in science we had an exciting lesson creating reactions including a very messy coke and Mentos explosion! Please remember on Monday we are at Cuffley Camp for the day starting at 9:30am and finishing at 2:45pm. We hope you have a relaxing weekend.

Joe Law & Claire Hill

NOTICES



SPORTS NEWS

Yesterday evening the football team played against an extremely strong Fir's Farm football team. Unfortunately, they were far too big and strong for us and won emphatically 10-0. To their credit the team played relentlessly and showed real determination to the final whistle. Marco did very well in goals and Kaela worked tirelessly in midfield but the player of the match goes to Tom for his crucial tackling in defence.

Cuffley Camp—Emerald Class

Emerald Class are visiting Cuffley Camp on Monday 13 March, so please ensure that contributions have been made over the weekend.



Dress the Egg Competition

Don't forget to start thinking about how to decorate your egg for the competition.

They will be judged on Thursday 30 March.



School Dinners / Packed Lunch

May we remind parents that if your child decides to change from either school dinners or packed lunch, that half a term's notice needs to be given.



100% Attendance—Sapphire

Sapphire Class have achieved 100% attendance this week!



Drop in Clinic to see the School Nurse

The School Nurse is hosting a Drop in Clinic at St. John's on **Monday 24 April from 9am to 10am.**

This is a chance for parents/carers to discuss any medical or family issues you may have.



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 Schools.





Date List for Spring Term 2017

MARCH		
Monday 13	Science Week	
Monday 13	Cuffley Camp—Emerald Class	
Monday 13	Teacher Reading Demonstration—Diamond Class	9.00-9.40am
Wednesday 15	Teacher Reading Demonstration—Sapphire Class	9.00-9.30am
Thursday 16	Teacher Reading Demonstration—Emerald Class	9.00-9.40am
Monday 20	Dress the Egg Competition to start	
Wednesday 22	Spring Concert—Nursery, Reception & Sapphire Class	2.30pm
Tuesday 28	Teacher Reading Demonstration—Reception Class	9.00-9.30am
Tuesday 28	E-Safety for all parents	2.30pm
Tuesday 28	Parents' Evening—Parent Questionnaires and E-Safety Questionnaires to be completed	
Wednesday 29	Spring Concert—Diamond & Emerald Class	2.30pm
Thursday 30	Dance Festival	
Thursday 30	Dress the Egg Competition to be judged	
Thursday 30	Parents' Evening—Parent Questionnaires and E-Safety Questionnaires to be completed	
Friday 31	Final Assembly—Easter Bonnet competition. School finishes at 1.30pm	

Term Dates for 2017

Spring Term 2017

INSET DAY	Thursday 5 January
Starts	Friday 6 January
Half term	Monday 13 to Friday 17 February
Ends (1.30pm)	Friday 31 March

Autumn Term 2017

INSET DAY	Monday 4 September
Starts	Tuesday 5 September
Half term	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October
Ends (1.30pm)	Thursday 21 December

Summer Term 2017

Starts	Tuesday 18 April
Bank holiday	Monday 1 May
Half term	Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June
INSET DAY	Friday 23 June
Ends (1.30pm)	Friday 21 July

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