

St. John's C.E. Primary

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

This week we have been talking about the importance of respecting our world, linking this very closely with our school campaign on reducing plastics in our school. We talked about God being very pleased about his creation and being very clear about his expectations of us. Emerald Class have been looking at looking after their environment in Geography and are focusing on how the different forms of pollution are impacting dramatically on our world. Many pupils have started to use their gifts that God gave them to make pupils think about the importance of making changes in our lifestyle. Alesha has completed an excellent presentation that is attached to this newsletter that talks about what different groups of people are doing to make a difference. Both Nicky and Sophia spoke very confidently on Wednesday to Diamond Class about the promises that pupils in the class should be thinking about making. It is rewarding to see pupils using their gifts to make a difference and supporting others to think and act in a different way that will have more positive outcomes.

Today we had an unexpected visit from the Secretary of State for Education, Damian Hinds—who spoke to Emerald Class about what the government are doing on reducing plastic.

The Community Group are continuing to work with all the pupils, staff and parents of St. John's School in their campaign to reduce the use of plastic in our school. I am delighted to say that already Breakfast Club have made some dramatic changes in that they no longer have drinks with straws and reusable beakers are being used for drinks. From being in the dining hall this week, I can see that more pupils are using reusable containers for sandwiches and snacks along with reusable water bottles. Thank you to everyone who has made an effort to reduce the amount of plastic that we have in our school. It is important also that you are talking to parents and other family members about how you can transfer it to your home and make an even greater difference.

It is with much sadness that we were informed recently that Miss Thelma Tillaney, our Vice-Chair of the Governing Body died. She was an inspirational lady who was so devoted to the life of the school with a very keen interest in all aspects of Literacy and supported so many pupils in encouraging them to enjoy their reading. Miss Tillaney will be a great loss to St. John's School and she will be very sadly missed on the Governing Body. I will be attending her funeral on the 28th March and we will be sending a wreath from the pupils at St. John's School and the Governing Body.

Have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend creating your Easter egg extravaganza which needs to be in by the 21st March with the winners being announced in the Celebration Assembly on the Friday.

Best wishes,

Susan Notley
Headteacher

This Week's Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Week</u>
Ruby	88.1%
Sapphire	81.5%
Diamond	90.0%
Emerald	91.1%
Overall	87.7%

Week Beginning 19 March 2018

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Parents' Evening

Wednesday

8am Breakfast Club
**9.05am Diamond Class As
sembly**
**2.30pm Easter Concert for
Ruby & Sapphire
Class in St. John's
Church**

During School Keyboard Club
During School Recorder Club
3.00-4.00pm Netball Club
(Yr 3-6)

Dress the Egg Competition closing date

Thursday

8am Breakfast Club
1.30pm Swimming Yr 2&3
3.00-4.00pm Dance Club
(Yr 3-6)

Parents' Evening

Friday

8am Breakfast Club
12.30-1.00pm Running Club
(Yr 3-6) Yr 2 welcome

RUBY CLASS

On Wednesday we had our class assembly about Chinese New Year which I hoped you all enjoyed. The children did so well and we are so proud of them as I am sure you are. The main focus in Ruby class this week has been 'Understanding the World' which links in with Science Week in the rest of the school. Our science lab is now up and running and the children have been carrying out their own investigations into light, mini beasts and magnetism. All the children have carried out different experiments during the week which involve 'exploration and discovery' - the theme of science week. These have included making volcanoes, magic milk, discovery bottles, blasting rockets and investigating how we can change the colours of flowers! Next week the reception children will also be exploring signs of early spring when we go on our walk to Hilly fields. Have a look at our class science book to see all of our experiments and investigations when you come to parents evening next week. Please let me know if you are unable to make your appointment next week so we can re-arrange a more suitable time.

Have a lovely weekend **Pat Creed**

SAPPHIRE CLASS

As you may be aware, this week it has been Science Week and we have had lots of fun with this in Sapphire Class. We have been looking at how water reacts to the colouring on smarties and skittles and we discovered that, when water is applied to these, the colours run and make a beautiful, interesting pattern on the plate. Furthermore, we were amazed to learn that this successfully happened despite changing the surface (different types of plates) and the temperature of the water. We have been researching Neil Armstrong and we have learnt that he was the first man to successfully land on the moon in 1969. This has captured our fascination and cannot believe how recent in history this famous event occurred. Over the week, we have been paper volcanoes. We have had to cut paper, glue it together, create a paper mache and then paint it. On Friday, we ventured out into the playground where we mixed bicarbonate of soda and vinegar. We were astounded by the reaction that took place and we were able to link this to what happens to an actual volcano during the time of eruption. Why not ask your child what they have learnt/ what they have enjoyed this week? In Maths, we have continued our work on addition and subtract, where we have been finding missing numbers (by using the inverse) in both subtraction and addition calculations. In literacy, as well as making our volcanoes, we have started our setting description. Beegu found himself playing with new children and making friends with them and it is the school environment that we have been (and will continue to) describing this week. I have been so impressed with all the children's ideas for this and the beginnings of their descriptions are amazing! Well done. I do look forward to meeting you all next week for Parents' Evening. If your appointment time is inconvenient for you for whatever reason, please come and see me at the earliest possible opportunity and I will endeavour to find another time slot to meet your needs. However, I must stress that this must come from you and not from your child! Have a lovely, relaxing weekend, **James Stringer, Tracey Hargate and Charlotte Snook.**

DIAMOND CLASS

Diamond Class have thoroughly enjoyed and have been fascinated by our Scientific experiments this Science Week. The experiments we undertook were changing the colour of celery through the absorption of food colouring (which didn't work out very well for us!), skittles and m&ms reaction with water, inflating a balloon by the reaction of baking soda and vinegar and our grand finale, the Coke and Mentos experiment! Meanwhile in Literacy this week, the children wrote their own Shape Poems based on a theme of their choice. They have really demonstrated their creativity skills and great use of descriptive vocabulary! In Maths, the class have been learning to draw reflections of shapes, patterns and pictures. A few children found this a tricky concept at first, but by the end of the week I was very pleased with the outcome and their growing understanding of this topic. Next week is Assessment Week, therefore I encourage all children to revise any topic that they feel they need to work on, so that they are fully prepared to work at the best of their ability in these assessments. Hope you all have a lovely weekend! **Sabrina Anderson**

EMERALD CLASS

This week in English, the children in Emerald Class finished off their blurbs for Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters. All of the children thought carefully about the features and how to make their blurbs effective. They all did really well. In maths we have been looking at the properties of numbers in terms of factors, multiples and missing number sequences. As part of Science Week, we have been investigating which conditions are best for keeping plants healthy. We have also researched a scientist of our choice and started producing PowerPoint presentations about them. On Wednesday morning we completed the Curly Wurly challenge where the children had 15 minutes to make the chocolate bar as long as possible.

Well done Emerald Class for a great week.

Joe Law & Kamran Ezel

NOTICES

Pyjama Day

We raised £88.75 for our school playground equipment.



Spare Clothes required

Ruby class have run out of spare trousers, skirts, socks, tights and knickers for any accidents. If you have any spare or unwanted items, please can you bring them into school.

It would be really appreciated.



Dress the Egg Competition

Closing date has been extended to Wednesday 21 March

Winners to be announced on Friday 23 March.



ParentPay—Email and Mobile

Please can you ensure that you have entered your email address and mobile telephone number on ParentPay as we send out information regarding changes or events coming up and the newsletter.

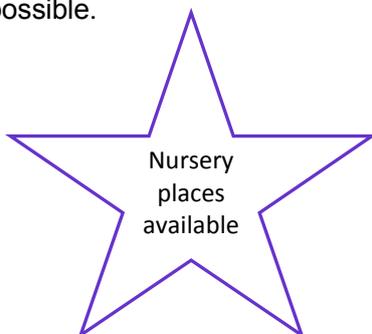


Secretary of State for Education visits St. John's



Nursery Admissions 2018/19

- 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.



Packed Lunch

Please ensure that all packed lunches are collected at the end of the day.



Worship

Sunday 18 March, St. John's Church there will be a family service at 9.30am.



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 2018

MARCH		
Tuesday 20	Parents' Evening	3.00— 5.30pm
Wednesday 21	Easter Concert for Ruby & Sapphire Class in St. John's Church	2.30pm
Wednesday 21	Diamond Class Assembly	9.05am
Wednesday 21	Dress the Egg Competition closing date	
Thursday 22	Parents' Evening	3.00— 7.00pm
Wednesday 28	Easter Concert for KS2 in St. John's Church	2.00pm
Thursday 29	School closes for Easter Holidays	1.15pm

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN TIMES TO THE EASTER CONCERTS

Term Dates for 2018/2019

Spring 2018

INSET DAY Friday 5 January
Starts Monday 8 January
Half term Monday 12 February - Friday 16 February
Ends (1.30pm) Thursday 29 March

Summer 2018

Starts Monday 16 April
Half Term Monday 28 May—Friday 1 June
Ends (1.30pm) Friday 20 July
Bank Holiday Monday 7 May 2018

Autumn 2018

INSET DAY Monday 3 September
Starts Tuesday 4 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

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