

St. John's C.E. Primary

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

As we are now in the festive season, both our classrooms and our assemblies have taken on the Christmas theme. We are delighted to have Elena Dallaglio helping us to decorate our classrooms and the dining hall ready for our Christmas lunch next Friday. Elena has also made a beautiful Advent wreath for us to have in all our assemblies where we have spent time this week talking about Advent and what each of the candles symbolise. As Christians, celebrating Advent involves spending time in spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. (Luke 2:8–11, NIV)

Throughout this week I have noticed a few things that are occurring and I really need to remind parents and pupils about the expectations that we have in this school. There are a number of pupils arriving late every morning and in most cases it tends to be the same pupils. This is extremely disruptive for the teacher but also very unsettling for your child as they are arriving into lessons that have already started. I shall be monitoring this very closely until the end of term as we need to improve this. I have also noticed some parents using their mobile phones whilst in the school, please remember we are a mobile phone free zone and for everyone's safety, mobile phones should not be used whilst in the school.

Next week we shall be starting our Christmas celebrations with Ruby Class's nativity on Thursday at 2pm, the gate will be open from 1.30pm as we will be serving refreshments before the concert. On Friday we will be having our delicious Christmas dinner for all pupils and staff along with it being Christmas Jumper Day. I look forward to seeing all the pupils in their different festive attire. We will be asking for a contribution of £1.50 to the Christmas Jumper Day Charity.

Our overall attendance percentage for this week is 93% which is below our target of 97%. Well done to Emerald Class as you achieved the highest score of 96% this week for attendance. Emerald Class will now have the cup in their classroom all week.

Have a lovely, relaxing weekend.

Susan Notley
Headteacher

This Week's Attendance

Class	Week
Ruby	94.9%
Sapphire	89.6%
Diamond	91.3%
Emerald	96.0%
Overall	93.0%

Week Beginning

11 December 2017

Monday

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

Tuesday

8am	Breakfast Club
FOOTBALL CLUB CANCELLED FOR THE REST OF THIS TERM	
3.00—4.00pm	NO Science Club (by invitation) starting after Christmas

Wednesday

8am	Breakfast Club
During School	Keyboard Club
During School	Recorder Club
NETBALL CLUB CANCELLED FOR THE REST OF THIS TERM	

Thursday

8am	Breakfast Club
2pm	NATIVITY RUBY CLASS
3.00-4.00pm	Dance Club (Yr3-6)

Friday

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY AND CHRISTMAS SCHOOL DINNER	
8am	Breakfast Club
During School	Running Club

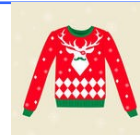
NOTICES

Christmas Post Box



Our post box is in the Reception area by the school office for children to post their Christmas cards. Please remember to address the envelopes with the name of the child and their class to ensure cards are delivered to the correct child.

Christmas Jumper Day



Don't forget to wear your Christmas Jumpers on Friday 15 December and donate £1.50 to Save the Children.



Christmas School Dinner



If your child is packed lunch but would like a Christmas School Dinner on Friday 15 December, please pay £2.30 on ParentPay under school dinners and inform the school office, so the kitchen can order enough food for everyone.

Spring Term 2018 Multi Skills & Dance Club

Multi Skills will be starting on Monday 15 January 2018 and Dance Club on Thursday 18 January. They will finish the w/c Monday 19 March 2018. Letters will go out shortly with your children.



Nursery Admissions 2017

- 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

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.



RUBY CLASS

In Ruby class we have been celebrating the start of advent by lighting our advent candle and opening the doors on our advent calendars. The reception children have been very busy putting their phonic skills into practise by writing their letters to Father Christmas and posting them in the Ruby class post box - we are hoping for replies very soon! In maths we are continuing to investigate the properties of 3D shapes, we have also been looking at shapes in the environment. Please encourage the children to look for 3D shapes around the home, I am sure you will be impressed with how many they can find. Next week I will put out the party food list for our Christmas party, please tick one item which you would be able to contribute; many thanks. The children have been practising so hard for their Nativity performance and are looking forward to sharing it with you - this Thursday (14th December 2 p.m.) We would also like to invite you for a pre-performance tea/coffee and mince pies from 1.30 p.m. Have a good weekend, stay warm! **Pat Creed**

SAPPHIRE CLASS

Another exciting week of learning in Sapphire Class!

First of all, I would like to say a very big well done to all children. Year 1 children have done extremely well with the different activities that have been planned for them with Miss Snook and Mrs Hargate whilst the Year 2's have completed their assessments. On that note, Year 2's have done exceptionally well this week with their assessments. We used last year's SATs papers to assess what the children are confident with and where we need to go from now. This is the first time that the Year 2 children have completed their assessments in this way. Well done everyone! In literacy, we have completed our diary entry work on our pantomime trip last week. We have spent this week reading our work against our given checklists, finishing it off, using our 'polishing pens' to edit and improve our writing before transferring our diaries from our literacy book to our Big Write Book. Again, the children have really done well with their diaries! In maths this week, we have been looking at tally charts. We collected data about what our favourite time of the year is (with Christmas being an astounding winner!) and our favourite pets. We have answered questions about this data and even wrote our own questions for someone else to answer! We then looked at given tally charts, interpreted this data and again answered questions about it. Have a lovely, relaxing weekend, **James Stringer, Tracey Hargate and Charlotte Snook**

DIAMOND CLASS

Diamond Class have been working extremely hard as they have been undertaking their assessments all this week. Throughout assessment week, the children have also enjoyed collecting their own Christmas-related data in the form of a tally chart during their Maths lesson, and creating different types of graphs to reflect their findings. On Tuesday, the children had a fun afternoon making Christmas decorations for the classroom. Keeping with the Christmas theme, in our RE lesson we have been discussing Christmas advertisements and how they may, or may not portray the true meaning of Christmas from a Christian's point of view.

God bless and have a lovely weekend! **Sabrina Anderson**

EMERALD CLASS

This week in Emerald Class the children have been taking their termly assessments. They all worked incredibly hard during this and the results are generally encouraging. In our science, we looked at designing our own animals with special adaptations for different environments. We then wrote reports about our new animals introducing all their amazing features. The children thought of some very clever adaptations for their animals to survive in extreme environments. In geography the children have been creating PowerPoint presentations based on 'Where does stuff come from?' These included discussions about rubber, coffee, silk, tea and cotton.

Well done Emerald Class! **Joe Law & Kamran Ezel**

Parent Governor Position

There are three applicants for the position of Parent Governor at the school. Below are the supporting personal statements for each of the applicants. Please take time to read these and then from Wednesday 13 December there will be an opportunity to vote for the applicant that you feel is most suitable.

1. Thank you for your time on the phone on Wednesday, as discussed I am sending you my personal statement in regards to the parent governor position.

I have 2 children at St. John's and 1 more to join next year. Both my children have had a wonderful start to their education, I have seen them flourish. I would like to become a school governor so that I can support the school and staff as they work hard to give all our children a happy and successful education.

I believe that parent governors have a special role and should always try to assess issues and decisions from the point of view of parents and ensure that the parent's perspectives are always considered.

I worked for 7 years at Marks and Spencer's in the head office in the Merchandising team. My role was to ensure that the right products got to stores and on the website at the right time in the correct quantities. This involved working closely with the buying teams to accurately forecast trends and plan stock levels within a department budget. I left in 2014 to have my 3rd child and feel it is time to take on a new challenge.

St. Johns is already a thriving school, it would be a privilege to be part of the team that help it continue to succeed and improve even further.

Kind regards

Emily Lawlor

2. I would like to become a member of the Governing Body of our school.

I am very interested to learn how the Governing Body works and I would like to offer my help and general knowledge regarding this. As a parent in this school I have seen lots of interesting work going on and I am very keen to be a part of this group of people that helps our school going forward.

Regards

Symeon Eleftheriadis

3. I am writing in respect of the Parent Governor position now available at this school. We have been a part of the school community for 4 years now and I feel I have formed great relationships with many of the parents and staff during this time.

I strongly believe in the overall ethics and mission statement here at St John's and would be honoured to have the opportunity to become an active member of the Governing team to further implement and build on the processes in place to safeguard the children and ensure an optimum learning environment.

A key part of my day-to-day job as a project manager in the service industry is liaising with people of all levels, which has helped me to develop strong communication skills that I believe will enable me to carry out this role effectively. The excellent relationships I have with the parents will help me to provide valuable feedback to the Governors to relay any concerns as well as what the parents feel is positive about St John's.

I graduated with a law degree and I am capable and suited to the task of educating myself in regards to any existing and new legislation and impending legislative changes as I will be familiar with the terminology and am used to reading lengthy statutes!

Above all else, I care deeply for the children, their well-being and their educational future and hope I can contribute to enhancing and improving their journey at St John's School.

Hawazan Al-Ani



Date List for Autumn Term 2017

DECEMBER		
Thursday 14	Nativity for Ruby Class	2.00pm
Friday 15	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas School Dinner	
Tuesday 19	Christmas Parties	1pm
Wednesday 20	Carol Service in St. John's Church	2pm
Thursday 21	END OF AUTUMN TERM	1.15pm

Date List for Spring Term 2018

JANUARY		
Friday 5	INSET DAY	
Monday 8	Spring Term starts for pupils	8.45am
Monday 15	Multi Skills start for the Spring Term (Year 1—3)	3.00pm
Thursday 18	E-Safety for parents in the school hall	2.30pm
Thursday 18	Dance Club starts for the Spring Term (Year 3—6)	3.00pm
FEBRUARY		
Tuesday 6	Emerald Class Assembly	9.05am
Thursday 8	Organ Recital for Emerald Class	9.15-10.45am
Monday 12—Friday 16	HALF TERM	
Wednesday 21	Ash Wednesday Service in St. John's Church	2.30pm
Wednesday 28	Sapphire Class Assembly	9.05am
MARCH		
Wednesday 7	Diamond Class Assembly	9.05am
Wednesday 14	Reception Class Assembly	9.05am
Tuesday 20	Parents' Evening	3.00— 5.30pm
Wednesday 21	Spring Concert for Ruby & Sapphire Class in St. John's Church	2.30pm
Thursday 22	Parents' Evening	3.00— 7.00pm
Wednesday 28	Spring Concert for KS2 in St. John's Church	2.15pm
Thursday	School closes for Easter Holidays	1.15pm

Autumn Term 2017

INSET DAY Monday 4 September
 INSET DAY Tuesday 5 September
 Starts Wednesday 6 September
 Half term Monday 23 October—Friday 27 October
 Ends (1.30pm) Thursday 21 December

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

Term Dates for 2017/2018

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

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