

HEADTEACHER'S NEWS SUMMARY NEWSLETTER



This week I talked to the pupils about Epiphany and why this is a very special time for Christians celebrating Jesus' birth, his baptism and the visit from the Magi to see Jesus in the stable in Bethlehem. We discussed why we thought the Magi were the last people to visit baby Jesus and why God chose the shepherds as the first visitors to see Jesus. A child read a passage from the book of Matthew in the New Testament describing the Magi's journey to visit Jesus and the difficult decision that they had to make in not returning to King Herod after they saw Jesus. If you have time this weekend it would be lovely for you to sit with your child and continue this story from the Book of Matthew as children will really enjoy the stories in this book outlining Jesus' life. Throughout this term we are going to explore the Book of Matthew, following Jesus' teachings and covering the Easter story in preparation for our special Easter services.

Having completed all our assessments last term, all staff are very clear about the teaching and learning that needs to take place this term. The Spring Term is always a very exciting time as this is the term where we really see pupils making great progress. It is important that parents are supporting their children's learning by listening to them read, practising times tables, ensuring that you check your child's homework, practise their spellings etc. If this is completed consistently, it is so rewarding to see the impact that this will have on your child's learning throughout the term. We will be holding our Parents' Evenings after half-term so that we can update you on where your child is half way through the school year.

The following meetings and events will be taking place this half-term:

My Bank workshops for Emerald and Diamond Class on the 23/1, 30/1 and the 6/2

Friday 19th January - PJ Day and Cake Sale in aid of Miss Bates' trip to Uganda supporting the Bridge of Hope Charity

Thursday 25th January - Miss Bates flies to Uganda with the Bridge of Hope Charity and returns on the 9th February.

Monday 29th January - Pathways assembly on Lent

Tuesday 30th January - Maths meeting for Sapphire Class parents at 2.15pm

Friday 2nd February - cookery classes for all pupils run by Stir Foods

Tuesday 6th February - Safer Internet Day for pupils and meeting for parents at 2.15pm

Thank you to all the parents and pupils who supported our final fundraising event today to support Miss Bates' trip to Uganda to work with the Bridge of Hope Charity for two weeks. We will inform you next week of the total amount that we have raised, and we look forward to hearing from Miss Bates about the work that the Bridge of Hope Charity will carry out during their time in Uganda. Next half-term we will be working with Miss Bates and the pupils to decide the next project that St. John's School are going to fund in continuing our work in Uganda.

Have an enjoyable and relaxing weekend!

Best Wishes

Mrs. Notley



Week Beginning Monday 22 January 2024

Monday

8.00am Breakfast Club
 3.00-4.00pm Netball Club (KS2)
 3.00-4.00pm Arts & Crafts (Recep, Sapphire Class)

Tuesday

8.00am Breakfast Club
 9.15am Workshop for Yr. 3/4
 11.00am Workshop for Yr. 5/6
 3.00-4.00pm Football Club (Recep, Sapphire Class)
 3.00-4.00pm Yoga Club (Recep, Year 1, 2 & 3)

Wednesday

Swimming for Diamond Class

8.00am Breakfast Club
 During school Keyboard
 During school Recorder
 3.00-4.00pm Football Club (KS2)
 3.00-4.00pm Choir Club (KS2 & Year 2)

Thursday

Miss Bates flies to Uganda

8.00am Breakfast Club
 3.00-4.00pm Tennis Club (KS2)
 3.00-4.00pm Activities Club (Recep, Sapphire Class)

Friday

8.00am Breakfast Club
 8.00am Rugby Club (KS2)

SPRING 2024

Starts Monday 8 January
 Half-term Monday 12 February to
 Friday 16 February
 Ends
 (1.00pm) Thursday 28 March
 INSET DAY Monday 19 February

SUMMER 2024

Starts Monday 15 April
 Half-term Monday 27 May to Friday 31
 May
 Ends
 (1.00pm) Wednesday 24 July
 INSET DAY Friday 28 June
 Bank Hols Monday 6 May

AUTUMN 2024

Starts Tuesday 3 September
 Half-term Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November
 Ends (1.00pm) Friday 20 December
 INSET DAY Monday 2 September
 INSET DAY Monday 4 November
 INSET DAY Friday 29 November

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

NOTICES

Attendance for the week

DIAMOND CLASS have the highest attendance this week and will be allowed to come into school in non-uniform on Monday 22 January in recognition for their achievement this week for the most attendance this week.



This Week's Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Week</u>
Ruby	96.3%
Sapphire	97.2%
Diamond	98.7%
Emerald	96.2%
Overall	97.1%

Breakfast Club

- Starts at 8.00am (please do not bring children any earlier, they will not be allowed in)
- Please ring the Breakfast Club bell
- If you require breakfast for your child, please ensure you are at school by 8.10am
- Breakfast Club account should always be in credit (either weekly, monthly or termly) £3.50 per day
- Any changes to the days your child is attending, please leave a message on the Breakfast Club line.

Absent Procedures

Please may we remind parents/carers of the following if your child is absent.

- Please telephone or email the school office on the morning your child is absent.
- On the return of your child's absence a letter with an explanation needs to be brought into school or you can email the school with the reasons.
- If your child is absent for more than 3 days then we do require medical evidence, otherwise this will be an unauthorised absence.

School Uniform

This can be purchased from Smiths Schoolwear, 155-157 Lancaster Rd, Enfield EN2 0JN.

If you would like to purchase a school tie or water bottle, this can be purchased from the ParentPay shop, where the link is located on our homepage of the school website or please use the link below.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=783>

RUBY CLASS

Two weeks in and Ruby class are well into the swing of their learning. Last week, we focused on 'Whatever Next' and this week we have looked at Julia's Donaldson's 'Room on the broom'.

In English, we have focused on rhyming words – what rhyming couplets can you think of at home? We are continuing to build on their phonics knowledge with a consolidation of their Set 1 sounds – which will take us up until February half term. In our independent writing, we started off the week with drawing and labelling their own Witch picture – we are encouraging independence and celebrating all writing attempts!

In maths, we have been focusing on numbers up to 5 and then 10, and using the vocabulary more than and less than.

Next week, the weather continues to be incredibly cold, so please ensure that your child comes in with labelled gloves, a hat and a scarf. We are really trying to help the class become independent with putting on their shoes, jackets etc, this is part of our EYFS curriculum so we ask that you continue to work on this at home too. We understand that is often due to speed, but we would appreciate your support with this.

Mrs Gatward, Ms Dall'Aglio, Mrs Dall'Aglio & Ms Shivarova lucy.gatward@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

SAPPHIRE CLASS

Our Sapphire children have welcomed Miss Moore, our trainee teacher, to our Sapphire team and have been working really well with her. Miss Moore is such a lovely addition to our team this half term.

English – We have completed another fantastic piece of writing. Comic Caption was the focus for this unit where children have learnt about the different sentence functions: statement, exclamation, question and command, and the correct punctuation for each of them.

Maths – We have been consolidating our understanding of subtraction methods through a variety of calculation strategies such as using number lines or mental calculation. We have also revisited the addition unit during the first week working on the skills and mathematical language needed.

Science – The children are exploring the properties and characteristics of different materials, identifying and testing different types of material to identify the correct purposes of use.

Religious Education – This half term, we are learning all about the Promises Christians make before God through understanding the meaning of church community, the meaning of Baptism, Christian marriage and exploring the concept of 'promise'.

In **PSHE**, we are learning all about being healthy, ways and choices. **History**: The focus this half term is on Change over time, understanding the concept of history. How people, building and ways of life change over time. **Ms Chebbi, Mrs Hargate, Mrs Hocyk and Miss Moore are very proud of you**

Ms Chebbi, Miss Creed, Mrs. Hargate & Mrs. Hocyk
asma.chebbi@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

DIAMOND CLASS

Welcome back to Diamond Class, it has been lovely to have everyone in school after the Christmas break. We have jumped right back into learning, and I have been impressed how well the children have remembered routines and the thoughts and ideas we spoke about in Autumn term.

In Maths, the children have been practicing their column multiplication and bus stop division methods and I am confident now that everyone has achieved this, and this should really help them with the other topics we are looking at this term. In English, we have been writing excellent setting descriptions about the Amazon Rainforest and the children have loved finding out about the different layers of the forest and the various exotic animals that live there. In Science, we have started looking at rocks and testing to see what rock is the most suitable for various different criteria such as a house roof or kitchen work surface.

The most exciting part of our week has been swimming! It was an exciting opportunity to go out of school and Diamond Class represented St John's admirably. I was thoroughly impressed with all children getting into the water and showing off their skills. I look forward to seeing what badges the children earn over the next 10 weeks.

Please can I reiterate that homework is an important part of school life, it allows the children to practice skills that they have learnt, and this is key for them to progress. Every week I set MyMaths and Times Tables practice for all children, and this is pertinent to support them in all areas of the maths curriculum. Additionally, you should be reading with your child every night and completing the questions they have been set. I would like to see more children getting full marks in their spelling test each week so please ensure they are being practiced at home as well.

I hope you have a relaxing weekend,

Miss Anderson, Miss Bates & Miss Ozgen lauren.anderson@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

EMERALD CLASS

Wow, time is really moving quickly and I can't believe we are already two weeks into the new term.

In history we have been focusing on World War II which the children are thoroughly enjoying and this week we have been looking at the key events that happened throughout the war from the German invasion of Poland to the USA bombing Japan.

In maths over the last couple of weeks we have been focusing on shape-both 2D and 3D. The children have a much better understanding of how to describe the shapes, a few examples being parallel/perpendicular sides, rotational symmetry and lines of symmetry.

In science we looked at how animals have adapted and evolved over time, it is really amazing how some animals live and survive. Booster sessions for year 6 on a Wednesday morning are really crucial to help your child through their SATS in May and everybody did really well on the 2D shape questions I set last week. We will be having our booster lunch next Thursday. Have a great weekend and thank you for all of your kind birthday messages.

Mr Law, Mr Pople & Miss Alagee joe.law@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

Date List for Spring Term 2024

JANUARY		
23	Workshop for Yr.3/4	9.15 – 10.30am
23	Workshop for Yr5/6	11-12.15pm
25	Ms. Bates flies to Uganda to support the Bridge of Hope Charity	
29	Pathways assembly on Lent, parents welcome to attend	
30	Final My Bank Workshop for Yr5/6	
30	Maths meeting for parents in Sapphire Class	2.15pm
FEBRUARY		
2	Cookery Day across the school supported by Stir Foods	
6	Safer Internet Day supported by Mr. Nath, followed by support workshop for parents on ensuring that their children's devices are safe for them to use.	
9	Miss Bates returns from Uganda	
12 – 16	HALF-TERM	
19	School closed for INSET Day	
20	Hearing Tests for Reception pupils	
21	Ash Wednesday Service at St. John's Church for all classes except Nursery	2.00pm
27– 29	Debating Competition for Yr.5/6	
MARCH		
4	Pathways assembly	
11 – 15	Parents' Meetings week with teachers	
20	Easter Concert for Ruby Class and Sapphire Class in St. John's Church at 2pm	
25	No Clubs this week	
27	Easter Service for Diamond Class and Emerald Class	
28	School closes for the Easter Holidays	1.00pm



At
St John's Church
Strayfield Road
9:00am
Every 2nd Sunday of the Month
Come
And See



At
St Luke's Church
10:00am
Every First Sunday of the
Month
Come
And See