



From the
Headmaster

Welcome to The Lamb. One of the highlights this week was the Hunter Jones Poetry Recitation Competition which was thoroughly enjoyed by all of the boys in Years 3 to 8. The class winners performed a variety of funny and serious poems with clarity and comic timing. I would like to thank Joseph Rich, a Merchant Taylors' English A level student and St John's Old Boy, who judged the competition and congratulate Otto and Zac who were the overall winners.

Also on the stage have been the Pre-Prep who celebrated Harvest by telling the story of the Little Red Hen. The Badgers and Eagles delivered their lines with confidence and the boys sang their hearts out. Many thanks to all the parents who gave donations for the local Food Bank and Play Skill.

Last week Year 4 enjoyed an educational visit to the Chiltern Open Air Museum and yesterday Year 5 visited Regents Park Mosque as part of their Religious Studies curriculum. I was very pleased to be able to present the first Bronze awards of this academic year to Andreas, Joshua, Darsh and Aarush.

Many of us enjoyed a morning of World Cup rugby on Saturday and thank you to all those parents who donated money towards the 1st team's tour to Portugal next term.

I hope you have a good holiday and I look forward to welcoming boys back to a busy and productive second half of term and seeing many you at the St John's Association Fireworks Display on Thursday 7th November.

S. Roberts

Hunter Jones Poetry Competition



The 2019 Hunter Jones Poetry Recitation on Monday was as exciting as ever, with all students from Year 3 to 8 learning a poem of their choice. The commitment and determination of all the boys impressed all English teachers, who commented on the use of language, choices of poems and recitation skills that the boys have shown. Our judge, an English Literature Sixth Form student from Merchant Taylors' and who was also an ex St John's boy, found it extremely difficult to decide on the winners this year, as the finalists were all of a high standard. Joe gave expert advice to everyone for the next Hunter Jones competition and he also shared some of his own poetry. Joe took the time to speak personally to his chosen winners and those who were highly commended; he observed that the boys had a distinct tone and clear voice and that they emphasised every single word of the poem. Joe also repeated in his closing speech how difficult it was to make a decision for the two winners because of the high standards of all the competitors! Well done to everyone involved.

Junior School Category (Year 3-5)

Highly Commended

Alistair 5WS

Noah 3W

Runner up

Ahaan 5V

Winner

Otto 4M

Senior School Category (Year 6-8)

Highly Commended

Ansh S 6R, Nishil 7B, Vishwadrik 7L,
Louis 8J

Runner up

Aarav 6R

Winner

Zac 8J



The new sports hall - latest pictures



First Bronze certificates



Mr Robinson presented the first Bronze certificates of the year in assembly last week. **Andreas in 8J, Joshua in 4B, Darsh in 4M and Aarush in 3H** were the first boys to achieve 40 House Points . Well done and keep up the hard work!



Year 5 visit London Central Mosque



On a beautiful autumnal morning yesterday Year 5 visited the iconic London Central Mosque on the edge of Regent's Park as part of their R.S. studies. Peter, our guide, explained the origins of Islam and we learnt a lot about the Five Pillars, including prayer times and charitable giving. The boys listened very carefully and took copious notes in the backs of their prep diaries to help them write about the trip. A very enjoyable and informative visit.





Rugby fever early on Saturday



There was a real sense of occasion in and around the Norman Hall on Saturday morning as England took on Australia in the Rugby World Cup Quarter Final. More than 150 keen supporters crowded into the hall having stocked up on a cooked breakfast, courtesy of the Sports Department. Aside from the actual game there was a raffle won by Kian (8J) who received an England shirt. Mr Robinson won a RWC Bobble hat for guessing the correct time of the first try. Darwin in 6M won the score predictor and a World Cup ball and Mr Southon and Darsh (4M) won Gilbert balls for the first try scorers of each half. A massive £876.73 was raised for the forthcoming Rugby tour to Portugal. A huge thank you goes to all parents and boys who attended. Also special thanks goes to the 1st team boys who provided cakes on the morning as well as helping out.





Assemblies this week



The construction company, **Borras**, which is building our new sports hall, sent in Carole and Rebecca to explain to all the boys the importance of safety in and around a building site. They brought along their mascot, Buddy, who helped our volunteers to dress in the correct clothes. Whilst it was a fun presentation it also taught us all about the correct equipment required for working in construction. Later in the week 6M continued our theme of keeping healthy with assemblies about the fat and sugar content of certain drinks and snacks. Boys were encouraged to only bring in fruit and vegetables as break time snacks and we are going to try and fill up the brown compost bin on the playground more quickly from now on. As well as being more healthy they don't need packaging so we are helping our environment too.





Year 1 visit Wenzel's Bakery - yum, yum!



As part of their learning about using their senses, the Otters and Owls had a fun time when they visited Wenzel's Bakery in Watford. Once each boy had put on an apron, hair net and baker's badge, they were transformed into proper mini bakers. First, each mini baker helped mix together flour, yeast, salt and water in a giant mixer. Next they kneaded the dough and formed it into interesting shapes, before it was put into a very hot oven. Whilst waiting for the dough to rise and bake, the mini bakers enjoyed decorating fairy cakes and gingerbread men with delicious icing, smarties and sprinkles. Finally, when the bread was ready, each mini baker was given a Wenzel's box and bag to carry all their lovely goodies back to school and a special certificate to remind them of their exciting time at the bakery. Which senses do you think the mini bakers used, whilst at the bakery?





Celebrating Harvest



Last Friday in the Pre-Prep we celebrated **Harvest Festival** in the Norman Hall in front of a full house. The Robins, Squirrels, Otters, Owls, Badgers and Eagles fitted snugly on the stage and told the story of the Little Red Hen. The older boys delivered their lines confidently and Mr Robinson commented on the clarity with which they spoke. Boys brought in harvest gifts which will be delivered to a local Food Bank and the retiring collection of **£218** will go to our charity for this year, Play Skill. Thank you to parents for their generous donations.





Celebrating Harvest





Archaeology, Iron Age, mud and rain!



As part of our History topics, Year 4 went to Chiltern Open Air Museum on Friday. We went armed with rainwear and wellies, having seen the day's predicted weather, but were pleasantly surprised to have a sunny morning and only a few showers in the afternoon. While we were there the boys investigated the lives of Iron Age people in Britain, visiting a replica roundhouse and doing tasks that Iron Age children would do. In the smoky house, they ground wheat using a saddle grinder and a quern. They mixed their flour to make flatbread which was griddled over the fire. Clay pots were fashioned and a valiant effort was made to beat cream into butter. The experience was made great fun by our Iron Age farmer's wife who told us all about her life and how people lived in Early Britain in a most entertaining manner.

The archaeology workshop went over all that we had learnt in class in a very practical way. Artefacts were uncovered and labelled, pots were reconstructed and we also put artefacts on to a time line. Wastepaper baskets were examined and we 'read' the stories of the artefacts found in them. Then boys donned disposable gloves to find out what had been consumed by looking through three different kinds of poo! Finally, one boy from each group volunteered to be dressed as Julia, a wealthy Roman lady! Great fun was had by all and lots of good learning took place. We would like to thank the mums who came with us and helped so willingly.





Archaeology, Iron Age, mud and rain!





Growth Mindset and staying healthy



DEVELOPING A GROWTH MINDSET	
INSTEAD OF.....	TRY THINKING....
I'm not good at this	What am I missing?
I give up	I'll use a different strategy
It's good enough	Is this really my best work?
I can't make this any better	I can always improve
This is too hard	This may take some time
I made a mistake	Mistakes help me to learn
I just can't do this	I am going to train my brain
I'll never be that smart	I will learn how to do this
Plan A didn't work	There's always Plan B
My friend can do it	I will learn from them

The boys in Year 4 have been discussing how they can develop a good Mindset, by trying to think more positively about how they tackle tricky situations. They all have a chart to keep in their desk and one to display at home to encourage them. 4M did an assembly this week on staying healthy and we talked about wellbeing indicators and discussed ways to keep healthy through diet, exercise, keeping clean and drinking lots of water. We also chatted about how good social relationships, fun, dancing and laughter can help us to have a healthy mind – not forgetting that sleep is very important! All the boys were engaged and participated eagerly.





U10 rugby v St John's Beaumont 11th October

U10 A v St John's Beaumont (away)

Try Scorers: Shane 2, Satyen 1,
Archie 1, Jimi 1

Outstanding performances:

Nishant for his desire to be involved in all aspects of the game and Satyen for his leadership and wonderful display of tackling.

This was a very tough match against an extremely good St John's, Beaumont team, but St John's most definitely gave as good as they got for most of the game and produced some of their finest, most aggressive rucking and mauling of the season. Oliver produced a super try-saving tackle on SJB's most dangerous player and our recycling and attacking play in general was outstanding. Nishant was awarded MOTM for his willingness to be involved in all phases of the match and Satyen for his leadership and wonderful display of tackling. An excellent effort from all of the team.



U10 B v St John's Beaumont (away)

Try Scorers: Alistair 4, Adam 2,
Ahaan 1

Outstanding performances:

Alistair

The team started well both in attack and defence. Alistair was electric in his running, and Ahaan in his first match shone with his tackling. The team as a whole improved in their tightness with each other although as a group they tired in the second half resulting in some soft tries by SJB.





U10 rugby v St John's Beaumont 11th October

**U10 C v St John's
Beaumont (away)**

Try Scorers: Kian A 4,
Remika 2, George L 1

Outstanding performances:
Kian A, Remika and Kabir

This was a scintillating match, with fraught competition for the ball at the breakdown as both sides sought to dominate the rucks. The tackling of our boys improved as the game went on, although it remains as an area for further development, particularly in terms of the height that the boys are engaging at. Nonetheless the game made for exciting viewing and well done to all of the boys on their efforts.

**U10 D v St John's
Beaumont (away)**

Try Scorers: Abdullah5,
Mihir 5, Rahul 3, Roshan 1,
George 1

Outstanding performances:
The whole team

The Under 10 D team played an outstanding game against SJB. The boys played magnificently in attack and scored some fantastic tries throughout the game. The team defending superbly and managed to make a number of great tackles during the game. This was by far the best performance of the season from the Under 10 D team. Congratulations to the whole team. Well done!





U13 & U12 rugby v Caldicott 16th October

U13 A v Caldicott (away) Won 50-10

Try Scorers: Krish 1, Louis 3, Charlie S 2, Yusuf 1, Bradley 1

Outstanding performances: Rohan

This was a full on physical match where the St John's team were fully committed. It was a tight first quarter of an hour with scores from both sides. Gradually the defensive pressure from St John's, brilliantly lead by Rohan on the Caldicott scrum half, gave the team the edge for possession and enabled the big ball carriers in Louis, Oliver and Yusuf in the backs, Charlie and Zac in the forwards, to set the platforms for some really good scores. The team kept the ball well and Krish at fly half ably feed the ball out to the runners. There was a mixture of team tries with good passing and link play, as well as forward drives which Charlie was able to finish off, and individual power run-ins notably from Louis and Bradley.

Above all this was a very good and encouraging team effort from all 15 involved.

U12 A v Caldicott B & Oratory Prep B (away)

Try Scorers: Arian 1, Ethan 1, Charlie 1, Ethan 1

Outstanding performances: Ethan, Jaidev, Reece, Charlie

We played some good rugby against Caldicott and when we moved the ball we always looked dangerous. Arian scored a brilliant solo try and beat several defenders on his way to the try line from inside his own half. Ethan and Charlie scored some good tries but it was the teamwork amongst the forwards and backs that really pleased me.

We had a very good match against Oratory Prep. However, we were camped a great deal in our own half in the first half where Oratory scored two tries. In the second half, we played very well and Ethan managed to beat a few players and score in the corner. All the players must be congratulated for their efforts which was a real team performance.





1. **Year 3** have been having fun painting their Egyptian mummy cats. **Caiden's** cat is looking lovely.
2. **Year 4** have designed some lovely heated hands – they have enjoyed learning about hot and cold colours.
3. **Year 5** have had fun learning about Native American Art. **Alistair** has designed this colourful face which will form part of a totem pole. Meanwhile **James** has made this lovely dream catcher.
4. **Year 6** are currently learning about the artist Monet. **Zac** and **Aryan** have painted their own version of Monet's waterlily picture. Well done boys.

OUTLOOK



SAVE THE DATE

ST JOHN'S
Centenary Ball

27TH JUNE 2020

TICKETS ON SALE IN JANUARY

OUTLOOK



MERCHANT TAYLORS' COMPANY

enter
now

photo graphy 2019 c o m p e t i t i o n

Entries are now welcome from pupils and staff across the school for the Merchant Taylors' Company Photography Competition. This year's theme is **Wellbeing** and photographs should be submitted as unretouched jpegs. Please supply a title for your photograph and, if you wish, a short description (of 12 words maximum).

Our school's selected photographs will be exhibited at Merchant Taylors' Hall in the City of London in December and January, with cash prizes awarded to the winners and runners-up in each category of Junior (Years 1-8), Senior (Years 9-13) and Staff.

For further information and to submit your entries - by Monday 4th November 2019 - please contact

Mrs Green
kgreen@st-johns.org.uk





OUTLOOK



Merchant Taylors' School in collaboration with St Helen's School
Presents

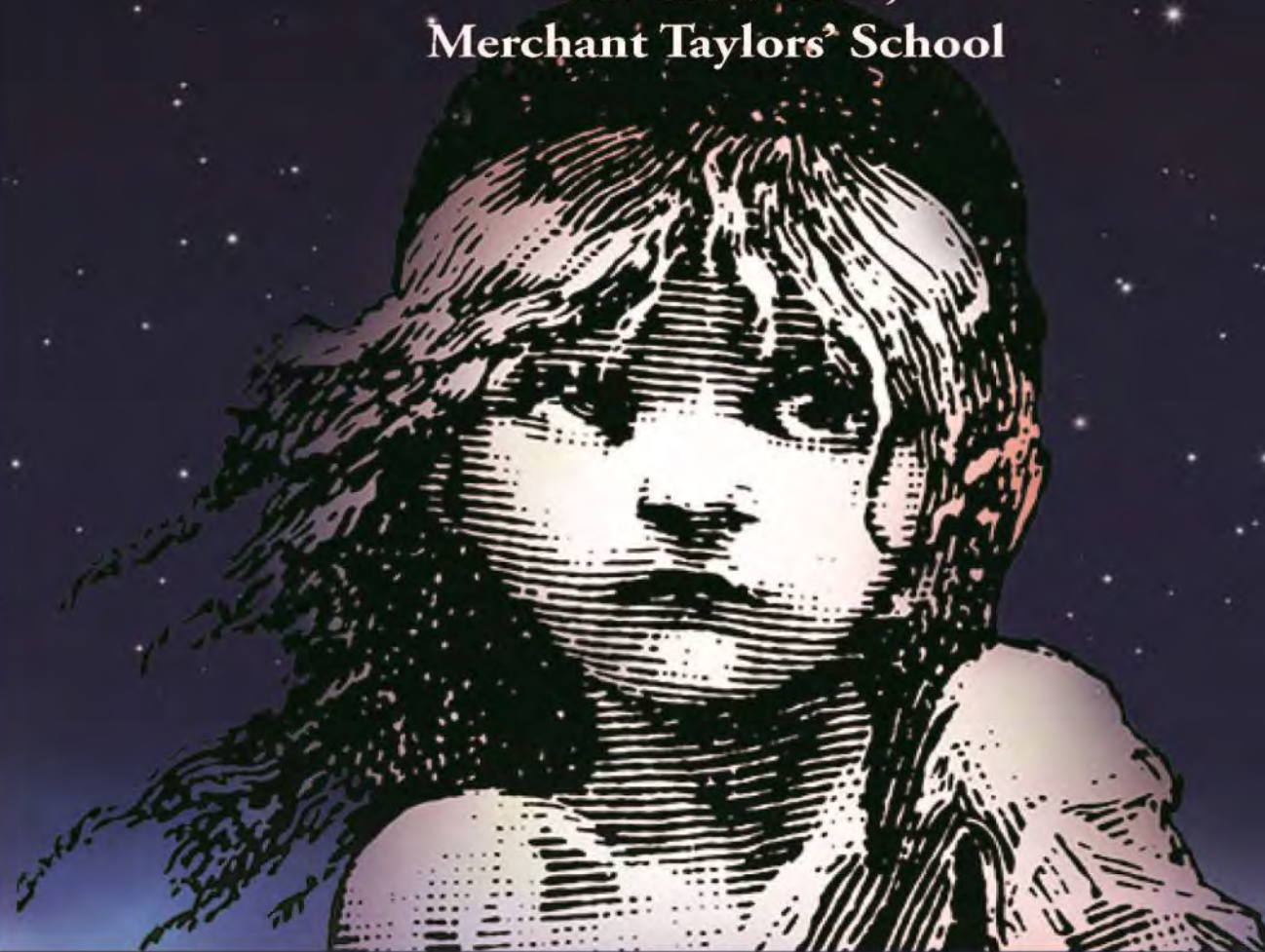
A musical by ALAN BOUBLIL and CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG

Les Misérables

SCHOOL EDITION

Performed entirely by students

The Great Hall,
Merchant Taylors' School



Wednesday 27th November 7pm, Thursday 28th November 7pm,
Friday 29th November 7pm

Tickets from <http://development.mtsn.org.uk/musical>

Adults £15 Concessions (Under 18) £10

School Edition special adaptation licensed by
MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL and CAMERON MAKINTOSH(OVERSEAS) LIMITED

St John's Association Fireworks 2019

Thursday 7th November

5.30pm to 7.30pm



Tickets available in the school office from 30th September and in the car park at pick up from 14th Oct to 18th October.

- Adults - £12
- Children - £8

Prices include hot food and a choice of drink served from 5.30pm. Please choose from fish & chips or vegan burger & chips

Mulled wine, beer, hot drinks, novelties and treats available on the night!

Guy and Pumpkin carving competition for Yrs 3 to 8. Prizes awarded on the night by Mr Robinson!

Bonfire lit at 6.30pm
Fireworks at 7.10pm

As there is limited parking available in the school, cars will be directed to Pinner Hill Golf club from where you can walk. Please avoid parking on Potter Street Hill as it causes congestion and please do not park on the private Gatehill Estate. Thank you for your cooperation.



Calendar and important dates

Monday 4th November: School Resumes 8.25am

U10 & 11 Swimming Gala at York House (2.30pm)

Year 8 Parents' Meeting (A-P) (6.00pm)

Tuesday 5th November: Rugby v Claires Court: U9 A, B, (h), U9 C, D (a) (2.45pm)

Wednesday 6th November: Reception Reading Meeting (8.00am)

Rugby v Merchant Taylors' Prep: U13 A (h), U12 A (a) (2.30pm)

PGL Meeting for Year 2 Parents (3.15pm)

Thursday 7th November: Reception Reading Meeting (3.15pm)

Governors' Meeting at St John's

Year 3 Pedestrian Training (9.30am)

Eco-Council Meeting (1.20pm)

Rugby v Caldicott: U8 A, B, C (h) (2.15pm)

St John's Association Fireworks Night (5.30pm)

Friday 8th November: Rugby v Davenies: U10 A, B, (a) (2.50pm)

Saturday 9th November: Belmont Rugby Tournament: U13 A, Colts A (9.15am)

Sunday 10th November: Remembrance Service, Cenotaph in Northwood (10.45am)

Contact details

Updates: please continue to visit www.st-johns.org.uk for all the latest information on sports fixtures and results.

The website will have announcements in case of emergency. You can also follow us on twitter @stjohnswood.



Mailings: if you have received The Lamb from someone else and would like to be sent your own copy direct each week, please email: [Lamb Editor](mailto:LambEditor@stjohnswood.org.uk). Let us know your contact details and you will be added to the list.

Photographs: Do please continue to send in any photographs which could be included in The Lamb.

Notices and Reminders

Remembrance Service. Our Head and Deputy Head boys will represent the School on Sunday 10th November at the Cenotaph in Northwood where they will lay a wreath. You are most welcome to join the community of Northwood at this important service of remembrance. Proceedings start at approximately 10.45am.

Fireworks Night. Remember, remember the 7th of November! Tickets are still available from the school office but they are selling out fast. Further details can be found on the flyer on page 19.

Year 3 pedestrian training. This takes place on Thursday 7th November. Boys should bring a warm coat in case of inclement weather.

Merchant Taylors' Company Photography Competition. This is always a very popular competition and half term would be a good opportunity to take a photograph on the theme of **Wellbeing**. Bear in mind that the closing date is Monday 4th November. Please see the flyer on Page 17 for more information.

Peripatetic music lessons timetables. The most up to date timetables can be accessed via the Parent Portal.

Les Misérables at Merchant Taylors' School. Please see the flyer on page 18. Two of our recent Old Boys have leading roles in what promises to be a fabulous production.

Votes for Schools. Last week's question: **Can music teach us about black history?**

Yes 87.1%, No 12.9%.

New question: **Are super-size classes the future?** Please discuss at home over half term (Years 3-8).



House Point Totals.

Lincoln: 34.20, **Oates:** 33.12, **Churchill:** 32.80, **Lawrence:** 30.71

Have a super half term break and don't forget that the clocks go back on 27th October.