



From the
Headmaster

Welcome to the 259th edition of The Lamb. I was very pleased with the efficient way in which boys and staff switched to on-line learning this week. Thank you to all the parents for your support and we hope that all the boys and families affected by COVID-19 will feel better soon.

We have made several alterations to our End of Term calendar in the light of recent events and I hope you have all had the opportunity to read my letter which sets out the detail of our plans. We look forward to welcoming as many boys as possible back to the site for the rest of term.

Earlier this week, Year 3 presented a fabulous historical assembly about life in Ancient Egypt. Every one of the boys had taken time to prepare carefully and, with the Year 3 production team, produced a most enjoyable and educational experience. I hope you all enjoy the photos on page 1 and 8.

I was delighted to read that seven of our photographs have been short-listed in the Merchant Taylors' Photography competition 2021. You can see the photos on pages 13 and 14. This week's edition also includes a review of Year 2s annual visit to the White House for their parachute drop, a fun way to learn about design, forces and air resistance.

Finally, a quick reminder that you can buy your tickets for the St John's Association Raffle online this year. The details are on page 20. I hope you have a super weekend.

S. R. A. in

Year 3's historical assembly



Year 3 cheered us all up this week with their Egyptian extravaganza of an assembly! The boys have really enjoyed their Ancient Egypt topic this term and were delighted to share their knowledge with us through narrating, acting, music and dancing. We learnt all about life in Ancient Egypt as the "Young Archaeologists Club" searched for facts about the past. We learnt about pyramids, mummification, the many gods and much more. Year 4 watched the assembly in the Norman Hall on Tuesday and again on Wednesday when it was streamed live to the whole of the Prep School on-line. 3L and 3W have been working hard with Mrs Luke, Mrs Wagemaker and Mrs Burkauskiene and they presented a really excellent show. There are more photos on page.....Well done Year 3.





Alumni news

Recently we have been in touch with Ian Vicary, who attended St John's with his brothers Christopher and Michael in the 1950s. When the brothers were at St John's, the School was based in a large house in Paines Lane in Pinner. Ian remembers playing with Dinky Toys in breaks, attending woodwork classes in the attic workshop, the hatch system which was erected every day to connect the kitchen and the dining room at meal times and the old buses, one with stairs outside at the back that took the boys to the West Harrow Swimming Pool. He recalls that hot Bovril and a jam doughnut was the treat for after swimming – the water was probably very cold. Mr Stevie Stephens taught him to swim using a hoop on the end of a rope to pull him along.

Ian sent us this lovely photo of himself and Christopher in their St John's uniforms, with purple caps, taken in Trafalgar Square in 1949/1950. On the 1953 school photo, Ian is in the bottom right corner and his brother Christopher is standing at the top far left.

Christopher went on to Merchant Taylors' and then into the Merchant Navy and Ian and Michael went to Framlington College and then worked in accountancy and banking respectively.

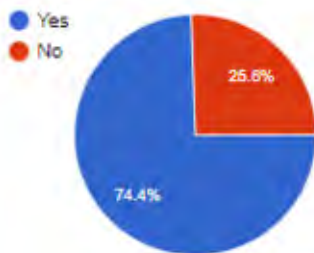


VOTES FOR SCHOOLS



Votes for Schools is a way of connecting us to what is going on in the world around us, through topical debate. Use the Votes for Schools Google Classroom to access the material and discuss at home and at school. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs McSween vmcsween@st-johns.org.uk

Results



I put yes as I have a disability (believe it or not) and when I told my class, they didn't go berserk, they just understood that many people have disabilities and for that I am thankful.
Aiden, Year 6



Last week's question

Has the pandemic made us more aware of disabilities?



Your thoughts

I voted no as many people all over the globe are still segregated for their disability. I agree with James C - we have ignored them and been caring more about COVID. One in three disabled people feel ignored and sad as they did not get jobs or another thing that they needed. Ananda, Year 6



I voted yes because during the coronavirus lockdown, people with disabilities or in care homes have had to stay inside during the whole day and it has become hard for family and friends to meet up with them due to this. People with disabilities depend so much on socializing with other people and making new friends because that is what makes them happy. Not being able to socialize means that they might feel left out and lonely which isn't good for any person, not just for a person with disabilities. Kush, Year 7

Next week's question

Should children use phones in school?



Thank you to Svanik, Om and Nikhil (Year 4) for their fabulous video contributions. Check them out on the Vfs Google classroom.



Vocab

Smartphone:

A mobile phone that connects to the internet and can be used as a small computer.

Cyberbullying:

Using the internet to harm or frighten another person.

Distract:

To take someone's attention away from something.



Snowball making in the Lambs

The weatherman may have said it was a light dusting of snow but the Lambs made the most of it as you can see. They were dressed up warmly with eyes sparkling and cheeks glowing red as they played with snowballs in the Pre-Prep play area.





Investigating air resistance

As **part of** their topic on forces, Badgers and Eagles have been learning about air resistance. Each boy designed and made their own parachute. Great discussions were had during the design process. Boys were very excited to test their parachute in the White House.





International studies

The boys have been very excited with this week's International Studies lessons, as they have tried some traditional food. Reception had churros dipped in chocolate, Year 1 drank black tea with honey or sugar in it and ate pancakes covered with chocolate spread and Year 2 made their own smorgasbord – one piece of bread decorated with chopped vegetables and the other (which we nicknamed Morgansbord) covered in sweets and chocolate pieces!





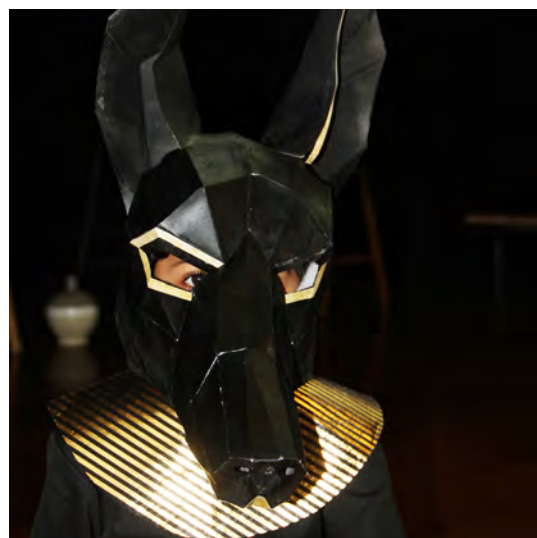
Squirrels are writing to Santa

We know he knows if we've been naughty or nice but it doesn't hurt to write an ever so polite letter to Father Christmas telling him that we've been ever such good boys this year. We've heard he also appreciates us dressing up while we're writing too. the Squirrels also wrote Christmas cards to their mummies and daddies.





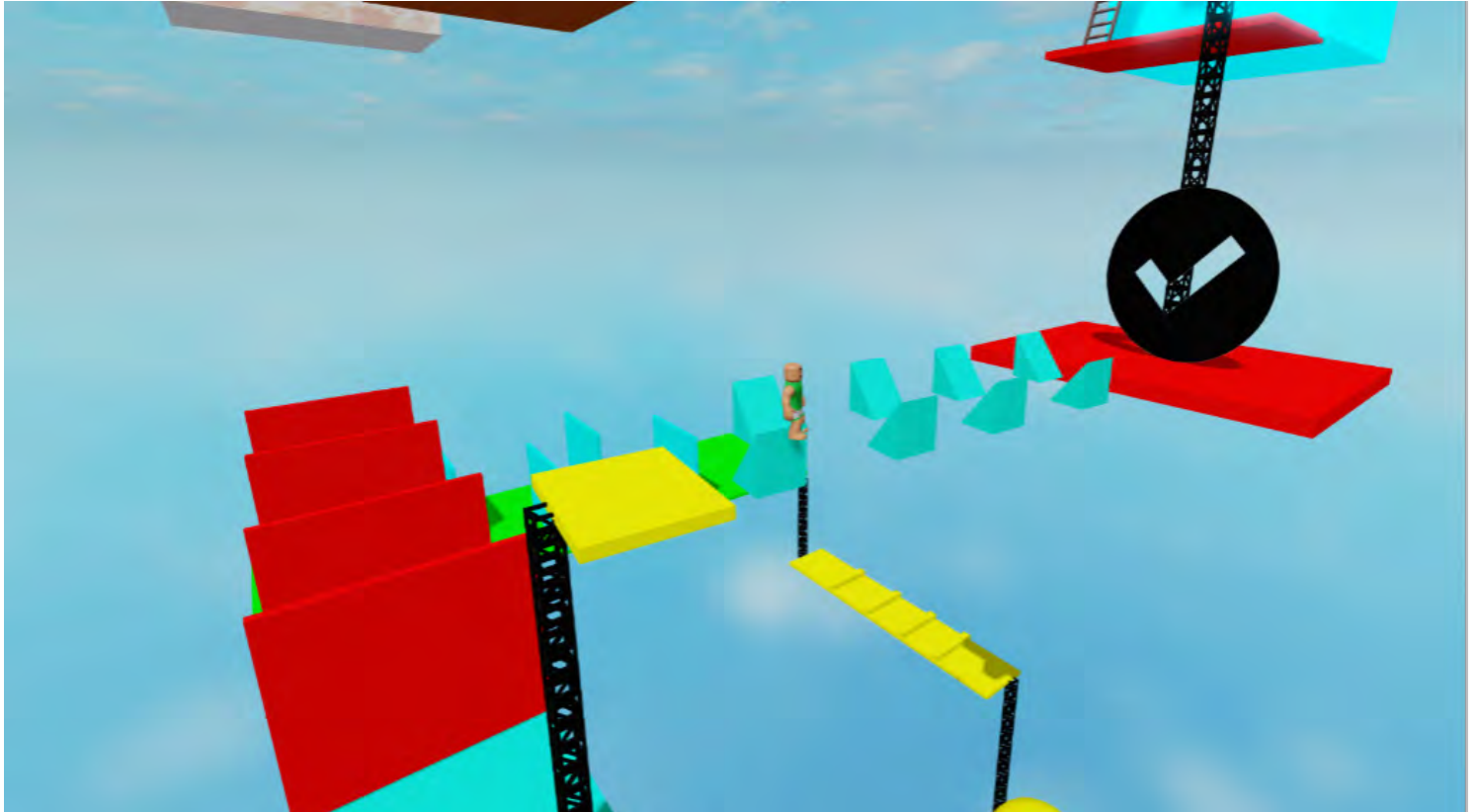
Historical assembly cont...





Ryan's Roblox game

Ryan in 4H has recently published his first game in Roblox. This obstacle course looks quite challenging. Well done Ryan.



Nikhil's super swimming

Nikhil in 4H came second in the Harrow Swimming Gala cubs backstroke. Well done Nikhil.





Making connections in music

We have been really impressed with the way that all boys have adapted so professionally to online learning in music this week, both in class lessons and in individual music lessons.

Our visiting music teachers have really enjoyed seeing the boys and are appreciative of the efforts from all families. Here are a few photos of boys enjoying online instrumental lessons and rehearsals this week. Junior boys in school have been highly receptive to the opportunity of combining their rehearsals with Senior boys who have been at home.



MUSIC



It's Back!



The Watford Festival of Music, Speech & Drama 2022!

Festival Dates:

**Sun 27th Feb -
Sun 13th March**

Finale Date:

Sun 20th March

Festival Location:

**The Pump House
5 Local Board Rd
Watford
WD17 2JP**

Finale Location:

**Watersmeet Theatre
High St
Rickmansworth
WD3 1EH**

Closing date for Entries

December 17th

New User deadline: December 10th

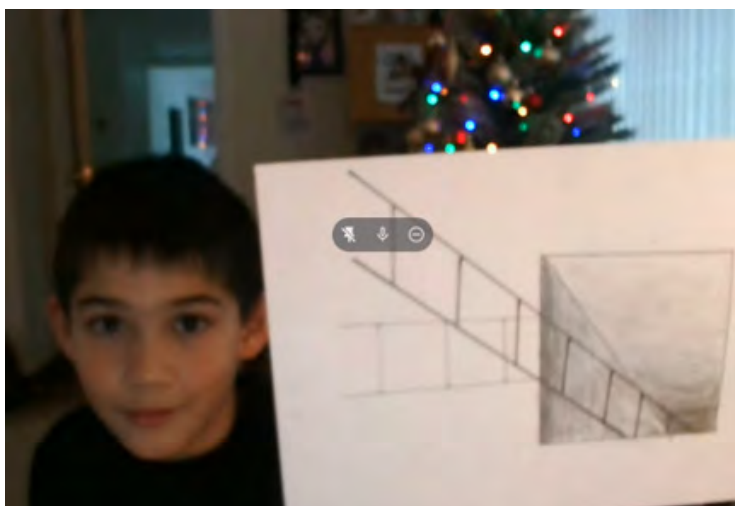
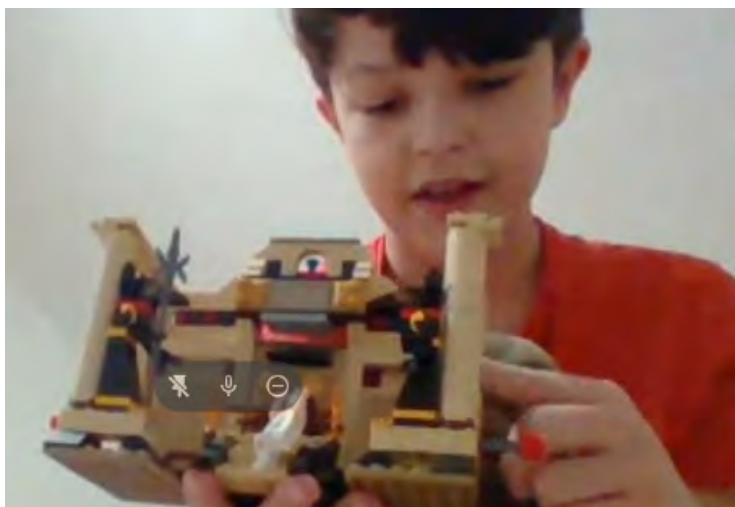
Information

**There are categories for all music, speech and drama enthusiasts.
Please go to the website for all the exciting details!**



Year 5 boys making models at home

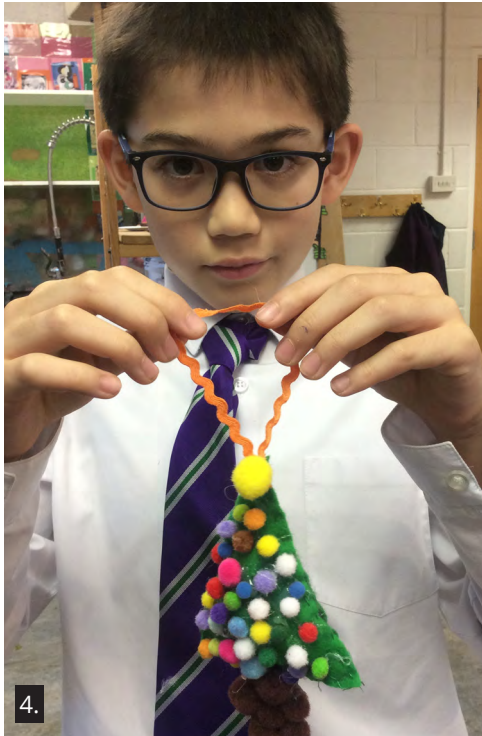
Agastya's Lego Ninjago, Abbas's Sky Wing lego model, Charlie's Lego Indiana Jones, Raiders of the Lost Ark, Caiden's Harry Potter Lego, Max's Illusion Drawing, Raphael's Necron Warrior from War Hammer,





It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas....

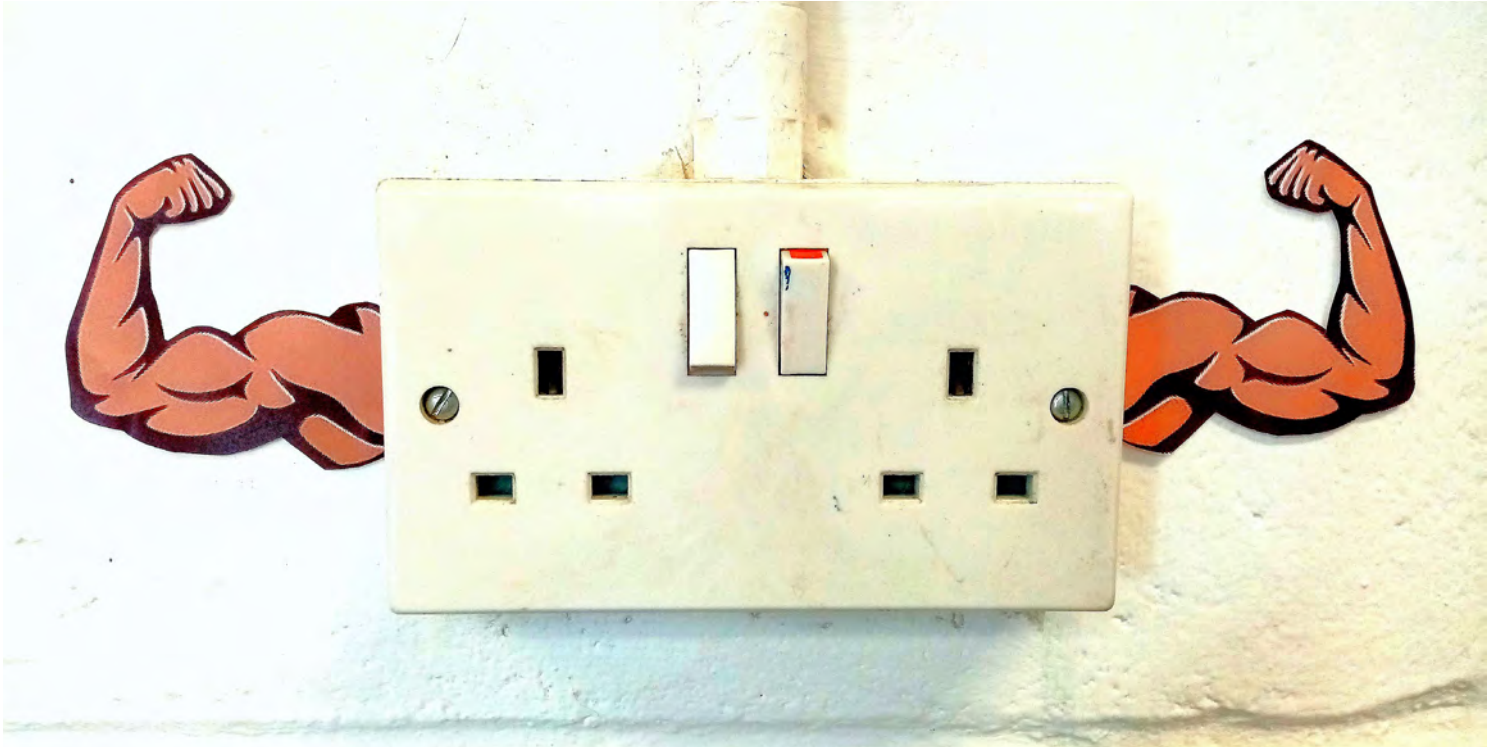
1 Anek in Year 8 has made a gorgeous paper luminary. 2 Year 4 have been cutting paper snowflakes. Hugo is pictured with his. 3 Aary's snowflake. 4 Maximilian in Year 5 has made a cute felt decoration. 5. Raphael G in Year 5 is pictured with his reindeer decoration. 6. Arnav's star. 7. Eissa in Year 3 is making a 3D snowflake out of pasta. 8. Tanay and Maahir with Tanay's star.





Merchant Taylors' Photography Competition

We have heard from the Merchant Taylors' Company that seven of our photographs on the theme of power have been shortlisted this year in their Photography Competition. This is an excellent result. Well done everyone. We will know next week whether we have a winner at St John's this year.







Year 3 House Rugby – Thursday 2nd December

The Year 3s played House Rugby yesterday and the excitement from all the boys was clear to see. We played Walla touch, and this allowed the pupils to carry on once touched. The referee called “look, look pass.” This really helped the boys to move their feet and not stop once they had been touched. There were some excellent individual tries but I was also impressed with the passing amongst the House teams. Some of the team tries were well worked and it was a joy to see the teams passing and supporting each other. The spirit and sportsmanship from all the Houses was excellent and the whole event was enjoyed by all the boys.





Year 3 House Rugby: the results

Matches	House Teams	Result
Match 1	Churchill vs Lawrence	5 - 10
Match 1	Lincoln vs Oates	5 - 25
Match 2	Churchill vs Oates	5 - 20
Match 2	Lawrence vs Lincoln	15 - 1
Match 3	Churchill vs Lincoln	5 - 5
Match 3	Lawrence vs Oates	10 - 25

1st Place	Oates
2nd Place	Lawrence
3rd Place	Churchill
4th Place	Lincoln





U10s against St Albans and The Beacon

U10 A This was a fantastic festival, run by St Albans school. The focus was on development and player involvement. The boys split into three groups, mixing with five other schools. They had skill-based games and activities to complete working on specific rugby skills. It was great to see them interacting with different boys and show-casing their ability. In the afternoon we played as a team against other schools. The matches prioritised enjoyment and the rules changed throughout, they even got the chance to add the rules themselves. This made the game entertaining and the score was irrelevant. It was a bitterly cold day on an open St Albans playing field. The boys tried hard and kept going until the very end of what was a full day of rugby. Well done boys, you conducted yourselves brilliantly and were fine representatives for St John's.



U 10B A hail storm delayed us at The Beacon, but once we were able to get to the pitches, the boys were straight into the action. We played two twelve minute matches, but both teams were really suffering with the cold. Players had to be regularly substituted to try to warm up their hands and at one stage we only had five players on the pitch. The boys put up an impressive performance in both matches and never stopped tackling and running. Caiden was the only player to cross the opposition try-line, but a special mention must go to the whole team for the character they showed in terrible conditions. Man of the Match: Raphael

U10 C We returned to The Beacon to improve on our performance from the last match against them. The conditions were cold and wet to say the least, and we got going quickly to keep as warm as possible. We started extremely well, with Saavan claiming his hattrick before The Beacon threatened at all. We were physical in attack and defence, getting stuck in regardless of the muddy pitch. We ended the first game 7-7 and the second game 5-2 giving us the first win of the season in the toughest of circumstances. Really well done boys. Man of the Match: Taarun, Dhilan, Saavan



U10 D Exposed on the crest of a hill near Amersham, in freezing cold and driving wind and rain, and having just sheltered from a vicious hailstorm, the Under 10 D team took on The Beacon for a second time this term. The match was an end-to-end business, with Charlie impressively running in a number of tries. Towards the latter stages the support play

from St John's was superb and the boys were unlucky not to finish a scintillating move with a try when Agastya was injured. Theodore and Neel ran strongly and supported the man with the ball well throughout. The boys were a good match for the Beacon and the contest was close.



U9s against Caldicott

U9 A A great attacking game against Caldicott on Tuesday the 30th November. The team ran in no less than 11 tries, very well done indeed. On this occasion, the boys played 'walla rugby' which is a form of touch rugby where the ball runner must keep running after being touched. The referee calls 'look-look-pass' which encourages team-mates to run forwards onto the ball and to pick better supportive lines. A great way to coach and instil momentum in attack through teamplay. The team responded really well to this on the day. Defensively they also started to talk more and to rush up a lot quicker and with more conviction. Very well done indeed. Try scorers: Teddy x 4, Yash x 3, Hari x 1, Armaan x 1, Dylann x 1, Micah x 1



U8 C We started well with Rian showing excellent running. He beat numerous defenders to score some good tries, supported well by Kian and George. The players who ran forward realised that they could run through the gaps in the opposition defence. We supported well and when we were touched, we always looked to pass the ball. Our defence was good and we moved up as a line which made it harder for Caldicott to score against us. Now we just need to pass the ball along the line and move onto the ball with greater pace and depth. However, this was a huge improvement from the last match. Try scorers Rian P 10, Om 1.



U9 B On Tuesday we played a very well-drilled team. We played a different style of rugby with different rules to the ones we are used to, but the boys flourished. Our defensive structure needs a bit of work, as our line wasn't pressurising the opposition as much as we should have been. Our attacking structure was looking very promising with offloads out of the tackle which created scoring opportunities. We tried to force the offload on a few occasions which Caldicott capitalised on. I am very pleased with the way in which the team is starting to come together. Well done. Try Scorers: Eliot, Ryan 2, Arnav, Nikhil 2



U9 D This was our best performance of the season. The boys were really starting to implement all the structure and skills we had been working on all term. The support running from Aarav P, Kaiyan and Jay was brilliant and they kept working hard throughout. A mention must go to Paras as he made one of the best catches I have ever seen on a rugby pitch diving low with one hand to his left. All in all, every boy who played in the U9Ds on Tuesday played very well and I was very proud. Well done boys. Scorers Jay 1, Kaiyan 1, Aarav P 3, Aarav K 3, Paras 1



OUTLOOK




HAMPERS BY MERCHANT TAYLORS'

THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS IS ALL IN THE GIVING

Hampers by Merchant Taylors' returns for 2021 with a sumptuous selection of sweet and savoury goods, cakes, chutneys and jams, all created in our own kitchen and complemented by carefully selected wines.

The joy of Christmas is all in the giving, and with our lovingly curated range of wicker hampers, jute bags and gift boxes, there is the perfect gift to add some magic to everyone's Christmas this year.

Order yours soon at www.merchant-taylors.co.uk/hampers

 @eventsbymerchanttaylors @merchant_taylors | 0204 511 6280
hampers@merchant-taylors.co.uk

ST JOHN'S ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON



**YOU HAVE GOT TO
BE IN IT TO WIN IT**

**CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW
TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKET NOW!**



BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE

<https://stjohnsassociationportal.square.site/s/shop>

Open for boys and
girls ages 5 to 13
years.



STEM DEN is open during the Christmas Hols!

★ Christmas Program includes-

Exploring how gears work, building an automata using a crankshaft, taking part in Christmas STEM challenges, building a Santa trap, finding out how we can make machines travel more quickly in our 'hands on, minds on' activities.

www.stemden.co.uk

16th/17th Dec, 20th, 21st,
22nd Dec 2021





Krüger Sports Camps



www.krugercamps.co.uk

December Sports Camp

Thu, 16th Dec = INDOOR CRICKET

Fri, 17th Dec = INDOOR CRICKET

Mon, 20th Dec = FOOTBALL

Tue, 21st Dec = FOOTBALL

Wed, 22nd Dec = COURT SPORTS

(Dress up Day! Christmas themed!)

For more information go to www.krugercamps.co.uk



OUTLOOK



It's time
for

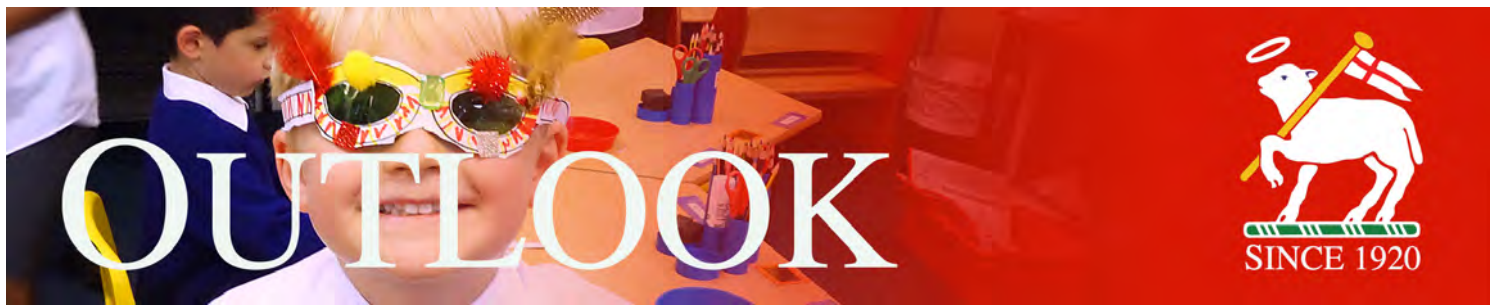
ST JOHN'S ONLINE CHRISTMAS QUIZ 2021

We're starting to feel festive in school and its time to get your thinking caps on for our ever-popular Christmas Quiz. Its free to enter, just for fun and open to all family and friends of St John's. Just follow this [link](#) to a feast of festive fun. As you will see, the quiz consists of two general knowledge and two cryptic



sections. Feel free to enter whichever ones you wish. Should you get stuck then internet research is positively encouraged. Once you've completed the quiz, it will 'self-mark' to produce a final score. If you enjoyed the Quiz then you might wish to make a voluntary online donation to Place2Be.

[Place 2Be Just Giving Page.](#)



Calendar & important dates Contact details



Picture of the week: *Lovely Pre-Prep smiles on a damp and misty winter's day*

Saturday 4th December: Year 6 Merchant Taylors' Entrance Examinations at MTS

Monday 6th December: Pre-Prep Christmas Play Dress Rehearsals

Wednesday 8th December: Pre-Prep Christmas Play recording

Thursday 9th December: Junior House Cross Country

Friday 10th December: Lower School Pantomime Trip

Monday 13th December: Junior Christmas Party

Tuesday 14th December: Christmas Jumper Day

Senior House Cross Country

Christmas Lunch

Pre-Prep Christmas Party

House Christmas Quiz

Wednesday 14th December: end of term

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 @stjnsnorthwood and our sports department @StJohnsNwSport

Mailings: If you have received The Lamb from someone else and would like to be sent your own copy each week, please email: Lamb Editor. Let us know your contact details and you will be added to the list.

Photographs: We cannot always be on hand every event with a camera and rely on photographs from parents and supporters. Do please continue to send in pictures to lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk for inclusion in The Lamb. Many thanks.

Notices and reminders

St John's Association AGM: This will take place on Tuesday 14th December at 9.00am and is open to all parents who wish to attend. To join in go to meet.google.com/uwg-shwx-qvw

St John's Association online Christmas raffle: You can buy your tickets at this link. Tickets are £10 for five stjohnsassociationportal.square.site/s/shop Good luck!

Christmas Jumper Day: Advance warning that Tuesday 14th December is Christmas Jumper Day at St John's and all boys are encouraged to take part and raise money for Children in Need. You don't need to buy a special jumper – you could just decorate one in a festive style. We look forward to seeing you all looking Christmassy!

Watford Festival of Music, Speech and Drama 2022: This wonderful festival is back providing a great chance to perform!

The closing date is the 10th December and the Festival takes place 27th February to 13th March. There is more information here <https://www.watfordfestival.co.uk/>

The Famous St John's Christmas Quiz 2021: Here is the link to this year's Quiz. There are two general knowledge rounds and two cryptic rounds. Its free and just for fun. If you enjoy it, maybe you would like to make an on-line contribution to our charity this year, [The Place2Be Place 2Be Just Giving Page](#).

House Points: 1st Lincoln 53.09, 2nd Churchill 52.38, 3rd Oates 50.64, 4th Lawrence 50.35

The Lamb: The next edition of The Lamb will be our end of term edition on Wednesday 15th December. Meanwhile have a lovely weekend.