



From the
Headmaster

Welcome to The Lamb. During this week we have been able to reflect on the wars that have taken place and the sacrifices that our armed forces have made to give us the freedom we enjoy today. The teachers have led assemblies and George, Year 5, read John McCrae's poem 'In Flanders Fields' with thoughtfulness and pride. The Pre-Prep told us all about the history and significance of the poppy. On Sunday our Head and Deputy Head boys will represent St John's at the Northwood Remembrance Service.

This morning Mihir, Satyen and Aarav gave an excellent presentation explaining the history of Diwali. Andreas, Year 8, was the first recipient of a Silver Certificate for House Points. I was fortunate to purchase some new shoes from 'The Lambs' Shop whilst Year 3 received pedestrian training from the Hillingdon road safety team.

St John's Governors made their first visit of the academic year. They were able to spend time seeing the boys in action in the classroom and meet new members of staff. School and Eco representatives put forward their respective council ideas challenging the Governors to support the initiatives wherever possible.

This last seven days has seen a busy schedule of sports fixtures. I hope you enjoy reading the reports and I look forward to supporting the U13s and Colts teams at Belmont tomorrow.

It is always a pleasure to hear news of the success of our Old Boys. Please see the article about Owen on page 16.

Finally, a huge thank you to the St John's Parents Association for another fabulous Fireworks Evening!

S. Roberts

Fabulous fireworks night!



Last night all eyes were facing upwards as we marvelled at the stunning St John's fireworks display which lit up the night sky. The whole event was organised by our excellent St John's Association and included a supper of burgers and fish and chips in the dining room, the opportunity to buy novelties, sweets and popcorn, a raging bonfire and beautifully carved illuminated pumpkins. Congratulations to Aary (3W) who won the pumpkin competition, Neil (3W) who was runner up and Alistair (5W-S) who won the Guy competition. It was wonderful to see so many families attend and we were very pleased to welcome several local residents too. A big thank you goes to the St John's Association for their enormous hard work and commitment and to Mr Blunt for taking some amazing photos.





Fabulous fireworks night in pictures





Our Governors visit St John's



Yesterday saw the first official visit of our governing body. They toured the school site with the Head and Deputy Head boys, taking in two Year 7 Science lessons, a Pre-Prep Q and A session and an inspection of the new sports hall building works. After lunch with new members of staff they listened to presentations from some of our Eco and School Council representatives and were invited to support several new initiatives. We hope our visitors enjoyed seeing our School in action.





First Silver Certificate of this year



To reach 80 House Points by this point in the school year is pretty good going and Andreas (8J) is the first boy to do it. Many congratulations to him - next stop Gold!

Latest from the Gardening Club



George, Andreas, Rehaan, Jamie and Leo have been busy planting their terrariums, selecting their favourite plants and decorating them with little figures. With luck they'll be ready for Christmas.



Learning about Diwali in Reception



Mrs Chawda visited the Reception classes to talk to the boys about Diwali. She came dressed in the most beautiful sari and gave each of the boys some sweets and a diva to take home and light. She also told them the story of Rama and Sita and the history of this Festival of Lights.





Off to the shoe shop



The Lambs are learning all about their tickly feet! Mr Robinson came to visit the shoe shop and had his feet measured ready for a new pair of shoes. The Lambs were keen to take his money and were excited to see the Queen on one side of the £5 note. When asked who the man on the back was the boys were sure it was Mr Robinson himself!





Year 4 enjoying practical subjects



Year 4 are always working hard in the classroom but here is a glimpse of the more practical side of the curriculum. Art, Computing and D&T lessons are eagerly awaited each week as the boys break into small groups to learn to be creative.

As we approach Armistice Day they have also been talking about the poppy. They listened carefully to the beautiful story by Michael Morpurgo about the poem In Flanders Field, a tale of how a young girl, whilst selling eggs at a field hospital, met John McCrae and how he crumpled up his first version of the iconic poem and then told her she could keep it. In the story he asked her to lay poppies on his friend's grave.





Stop, look, listen and think



Yesterday Year 3 had a visit from the Hillingdon Road Safety and School Travel Team. They learnt all about being safe on the roads and the rules around different kinds of crossings. They were also told about the different ways to keep safe and be seen in the dark which is particularly relevant as the nights draw in, before some very practical training on the roads around the School. All the boys listened carefully and hopefully they are now more road aware.





York House Swimming Gala 4th November



Year 5 and 6 boys took part in the York House Swimming Gala along with Aldwickbury, Gayhurst, York House and Aldenham. Against some very strong swimmers all the St John's boys worked very hard to compete against some good competition. What was really pleasing to see was that the diving and entry into the water at the start by most of the boys had improved considerably from last year. Archie and Mihir swam very well, both coming 2nd in their individual events and the Year 5 medley race was a real success with us also coming 2nd. However, all the pupils who took part for St John's must be congratulated for their efforts. Well done!

Eastcote Cricket Club success



Nayan and Zac, both in 6A, were recently presented with awards for their contribution to the U10 B team's success in the 2019 summer season. Zac received the manager's award and Nayan was awarded batsman of the year. Well done to both boys.



U9 rugby v Claires Court 5th November



U9 A v Claires Court

Try Scorers: Leo 1, Dries 1, Aubrey 1

Outstanding performances: The whole team

Considering they haven't had nearly as many fixtures as their opponent on this occasion, this was a good performance. The team is clearly getting better in attack and defence with glimpses of passing at the right time and aiming to put more phases together. Strong individual break away tries from Leo, Dries and Aubrey. The recent introduction of basic positions has really supported organisation in attack and defence. Really well battled boys!

U9 B v Claires Court

Try Scorers: Alex 1, Rian 2, Owen 2, Mehul 1, Neel 4, Thomas 1

Outstanding performances: Neel

A really good match with the St John's team playing attacking rugby and scoring a number of tries in the match. We battled hard in the first half and Claires Court ran strongly and they had a number of very quick players. In the second half, our tackling improved and we managed to score some very good individual tries. Neel ran superbly to score 4 tries. But I was really pleased with the team effort and how the boys supported each other in the match.



U9 rugby v Claires Court 5th November

U9 C v Claires Court

Try Scorers: Joshua 3, Vivek 1, Arjun 1, Ali 1

Outstanding performances: Joshua

Both teams started the game at a good pace and remained close all through. St John's organised themselves well both in attack and defence completing good tackles and strong ball carries. What was pleasing was their effort to pass the ball and run to the open spaces. Joshua showed great ability in finding the gap and was good for his 3 tries. All the boys demonstrated good all round effort and abilities.



U9 D v Claires Court

Try Scorers: Harry 5, Freddy 4

Outstanding performances: Freddy

Today was a very good display of how we want to play rugby as a team. We passed the ball well, drawing in the defenders and then offloading the ball, creating space out on the edge of the pitch. Some really good running from Freddy sidestepping his way to the try line. A big aspect to work on for our next game is our defensive organisation and defending as a team. Overall a positive start from the team after a long break. Well played boys.



U9 E v Claires Court

Try Scorers: Ayaan 7, Vineel 1, Leo 2, Aiden 2

Outstanding performances: Ayaan

An outstanding game from the St John's boys. Whether it be in attack or defence we showed great strength and determination. The boys were running great lines in attack to pierce the Claires Court defence, and pressuring their opposition whenever possession switched. Everyone deserves recognition for their great performance, but none more so than Ayaan who lead by example with his great running and tackling.





Hockey v Merchant Taylors' Prep 5th November

U13 A v Merchant Taylors' Prep
Lost 4-2

Scorers: Saam 2

Outstanding performances: Louis,
Aaron, Saam

A much more competitive match and the score changed a number of times during the match. A very good first half finishing with 1 - 1. This was a much better team performance and the attitude was excellent. At the back, Louis made numerous saves and Aaron controlled the defence with his good passing and link play with other players up front. Saam always look dangerous in the opposition 'D'. But what impressed me most was the work rate of all the players and each pupil who played for the side should be congratulated for their efforts.

U12 A v Merchant Taylors' Prep
Drew 5-5

Scorers: Arian 2, Reece 2, Ethan 1

Outstanding performances: The whole team

This was by far the best Under 12 A hockey performance of the season in what was an outstanding match between two excellent teams. The St John's boys showed great energy in attack and tested the MTP defence all evening. They passed and moved the ball exceptionally well throughout the game. In attack Arian, Reece and Ethan combined on a number of occasions with some great interplay. The game went back and forth and both teams finished exceptionally well. At one stage the St John's team went up by 5-3 and were heading for the victory. However, the MTP team struck back with two goals. This was end to end stuff and although the boys were disappointed not to get the result, it was a 5-5 fair draw in the end. Congratulations to all the boys. Well done.





Senior rugby v Merchant Taylors' Prep 6th November

U13 A v Merchant Taylors' Prep Won 25-15

Try Scorers: Charlie 2, Zac A 1, Bradley 1, Yusuf 1

Outstanding performances: Louis

This was an excellent match with St John's giving one of their best performances so far. Early on they kept the opposition under pressure and eventually took the first try from close range through Charlie. Their second try through Yusuf was also from close out but gradually the game opened up. MTPs scored through a powerful centre going through a number of tackles. In response St John's started to move the ball well on the back of Rohan, sharp at scrum half, getting quicker ball resulting in wide out tries through Zac and Charlie and a tremendous run in by Bradley from inside his own half. Louis drove the side on brilliantly from centre and also made numerous try saving tackles. In a well fought match the boys came out worthy winners.



U12 A v Merchant Taylors' Prep Lost 35-25

Try Scorers: Ethan 3, Arian 1, David 1

Outstanding performances: Ethan, Jaidev, Charlie and Rodrigo

St John's defended well in the first half but in the ruck area we just needed to be more aggressive to win the ball at the tackle area. A number of times we tried to go wide on our own and the ball was turned over. However, when we kept the ball and supported each other we scored some excellent team tries with David and Ethan scoring in the first half. MTP had a number of good runners and one in particular scored 4 tries for MTP. In the second half, we rucked much better and held onto the ball which enabled us to score some good team tries. Arian scored a good try in the corner and Ethan finished two great tries with excellent team work. Jaidev and Charlie tackled superbly and Hillesh had his first game for the team today.





U8 teams v Caldicott 7th November

U8 A v Caldicott

Try Scorers: Zachariah 2, Henry 1

Outstanding performances: Yuvraj, Zachariah and Henry

Against a very good Caldicott side who ran and passed the ball very well we took some time to get into the match. In attack, we tried to go wide on our own but the Caldicott defence was very good. At times, we went sideways and really needed to run straighter. As the game progressed, we started to string passes together, run straighter and this enabled us to put more pressure on the opposition's defence. Zachariah scored two excellent tries and by the end of the 3rd 10 minute game the team was much more in tune with the passing, running and playing as a team.



U8 B v Caldicott

Try Scorers: Hamza 2, Abbas 1, James 3

Outstanding performances: James

Against a well drilled opposition it was difficult to build any momentum. When we had the ball we showed good glimpses of teamwork and running ability. After discussing at half time what we needed to work on we improved our attacking options and scored some good tries. We need to work on our defensive line, using the width and pressing as a team. Overall some things to work on but we will get there.



U8 C v Caldicott

Try Scorers: Irajdeep 1, Niam 1

Outstanding performances: Irajdeep

This was a good game with both sides defending well often getting 7 touch turnovers. The attacks improved with straighter running and quicker passes after the touch call. All in all the boys showed good shape and lots of effort.





U8 teams v Caldicott 7th November



U8 D and E triangular match v Caldicott

Try Scorers: Arun 2, Neer 1, Shay 1, Liam H 1

Outstanding performances: Arun and Ansh

This was an entertaining match thoroughly enjoyed by the boys, parents and teachers. There was strong defence and closing down of runners by the whole squad and excellent individual runs. The main encouragement here was to run more straight and forwards. Caldicott showed some really good handling and this is something we will continue to target going forwards. Great sportsmanship, handshakes and 'three cheers' from all at the end! Mr Kruger knows the boys are very much looking forward to their next fixture.

Tennis success for Zachariah



Zachariah (3H) won the U9 Autumn Tennis Open 2019 at the National Tennis Centre over the half term. The competition was held at the LTA's National Tennis Centre in South-West London and he came through stiff competition at the semis (15-13, 11-9) and the finals (8-6, 6-8, 11-9). Well done!

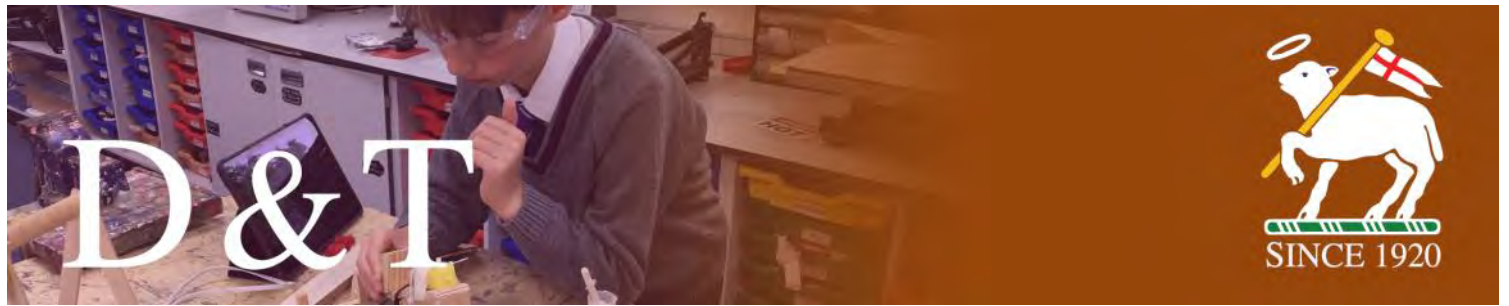




Old Boy playing top flight hockey



Owen left St John's in July 2012 after a very successful time here both in the classroom and on the sports field. He progressed to Merchant Taylors' where he gained four A*s at A level as well as playing 1st team and County hockey. He is currently studying at Exeter University where he plays hockey for their 1st team. This team is currently ninth in the Premier League which is a fantastic achievement for Owen. If you have any Old Boy news you would like to share then please contact us at OldBoys@st-johns.org.uk



A snapshot of the many activities



1. **Year 5** have their first lesson learning to use the sewing machines.
2. **Freddie** has finished his wonderful cam operated toy.
3. **Year 6** put the finishing touches on their Golochenty lighting projects and check the programming is complete.



1. **Arnav** in Year 3 has made this wonderful Egyptian mummified cat.
2. Christmas is coming! **Abdullah** and **George** in Year 5 have created these 3D snowflakes.
3. Autumn leaves Kandinsky style, designed by **Leo** in Year 4.
4. **Daniel** has made this lovely Native American dream catcher.
5. A taste of some of the beautiful artwork which will be shown at Arts Evening on the 28th November.



OUTLOOK



ST JOHNS CHRISTMAS FAIR

**SATURDAY 7TH
DECEMBER 2019
10.30 AM TO 2.00PM**

**Lucky tree - Santa's Grotto - Secrets Room
Bottle Tombola - Chocolate Tombola - Guess the Teacher
Rudolph's rings - Second hand books and toys
Guess the sweets - Golden Cracker - Name the teddy
Mince pies and Hot chocolate - Raffle - Lucky Dip
Tin Can Alley - Bauble Decorating - Scalextrix - Olaf's Carrots**

Please donate any second hand books, DVDs or toys

**Please let us know if you would like to hire a stall
space to sell any of your own products**

Contact: Gaby on gaby222@me.com or 07970 954 521



Calendar and important dates

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

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

Monday 11th November: Primary Maths Challenge (Years 5 & 6)
Year 8 Parents' Meeting (R-X) (6.00pm)

Tuesday 12th November: Annual Travel Survey
Power of One Anti-Bullying Show
Years 3 & 4 Parents' Meeting (6.00pm-8.00pm)
Rugby v Davenies: U12 A (at MTS) (6.00pm)

Wednesday 13th November: School Council
Chess v Lochinver
Rugby v Davenies: U13 A, B (a), U12 B (h) (2.30pm)

Thursday 14th November: 7+ Assessments (9.00am-11.30am)
Rugby v Davenies: U8 A, B, C, D, E (h) (2.30pm)
St John's Association AGM (7.00pm)

Friday 15th November: House Meetings
Rugby v St Paul's: Colts A, B, C, D (a) (2.30pm)
Rugby v Gayhurst: U10 A, B (a), U10 C, D, E (h) (2.30pm)
U11, U10 & U9 Barbarians at Merchant Taylors' School (5.00pm)

Saturday 16th November: Northwood Lights Big Switch-On (3.30pm)

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 @stjohnsnorthwood.



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@stjohns.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

Cenotaph Service. Our Head and Deputy Head boys will be representing the School on Sunday in the centre of Northwood when they will present a wreath at the Cenotaph. You are warmly invited to join them and many other schools and organisations at this service of remembrance. Proceedings begin at 10.40am.

St John's Association AGM. This takes place on Thursday November 14th at 7.00pm in the Norman Hall and lasts approximately half an hour. All parents are welcome to attend.

Anti-Bullying Week. In line with the rest of the country next week anti-bullying is our assembly theme. Don't forget to wear odd socks on Tuesday 12th November!

Stem Den. The doors of Stem Den are open again over the Christmas holidays 16th – 19th December. Take a look at the fun filled educational program on the website www.stemden.co.uk Book early to avoid disappointment, places are limited.

After-school activities cancelled. Advance notice that there will be no after-school activities for Years 3-8 on **Tuesday 19th November** because of a full staff meeting.

Annual Traffic Survey. Please be advised that on Tuesday 12th November we will be conducting our annual traffic survey. This will be undertaken by an independent company which will be within the car park and immediate area recording car volumes throughout the day.

Secure bike parking at St John's. Some boys (and staff) travel to and from school by bike. If you are considering using this healthy and green mode of transport we would like to remind you that there is a secure cycle shed next to the pedestrian crossing near the science block changing rooms. Please see Mr Lawrence for further details.

Votes for Schools. Last week's question: **Are super-size classes the future?** No 75.8%, Yes 24.2%. New question: **Do you think it is possible to reduce bullying in your school?** This links in with the [Anti-Bullying Alliance](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) theme of the week.

House Point Totals. Lincoln: 38.56, Oates: 37.47, Churchill: 37.05, Lawrence: 34.60

Enjoy the weekend and wrap up warm.