



From the
Headmaster

Welcome to this Friday's Lamb. It has been brilliant to receive so many fabulous photographs from the 75th Anniversary celebrations of VE Day. Although we haven't been together I can feel the sense of importance that St John's boys attached to the occasion which makes me feel extremely proud. I know we will never forget.

In assembly Sami, Zain and their family gave us a real insight in to the celebration of 'Ramadan during the lockdown' with an excellent film and Mr Phillips reflected on the importance of the invention of the Morse Code. The online learning has continued at a pace and I marvel at your extraordinary pieces of work. I know you have had some more time on your hands but the English videos, the musical pieces, the fabulous marble runs, the lockdown challenges and Year 4's virtual trips are all great to see.

Please take a look at Year 3's Ancient Greek pottery designs on page 20. Many congratulations to two Year 7 boys, Darius and Cyrus, who have made it through to this year's final of the Raspberry Pi competition with their automated plant watering system. Check out the link on page 22. Don't forget to get an entry in to Mr Taylor's House Quiz as soon as possible.

Finally I am very pleased to see how well you are all supporting each other. Have a lovely weekend!

S. Robson

Celebrating VE Day



Last Friday we joined with the whole country to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. Boys from all age groups really went to town making bunting, baking cakes, decorating their homes and dressing in red, white and blue. Kian, Krish, Vivaan, Aarav and Nishant even entertained us all with a wonderful rendition of 'We'll Meet Again'. Though we live in unusual times it does not stop us remembering the enormous sacrifices our soldiers made in the Second World War for our freedom today.





VE Day 2020

With the lockdown many of the plans that were made to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day had to be changed. That did not mean that the day passed unnoticed as these pictures show.





VE Day 2020 continued





VE Day 2020 continued





VE Day 2020 continued





Looking back to 1945

Here are several pictures of the Queen when she was just plain Princess Elizabeth in 1945. She and her sister Margaret were very involved in the war effort and joined the ordinary people in their celebrations when Victory in Europe Day was announced. Thank you to Mrs. Goodchild for providing these pictures from the Queen's collection at Windsor Castle.






War Horse inspired poetry

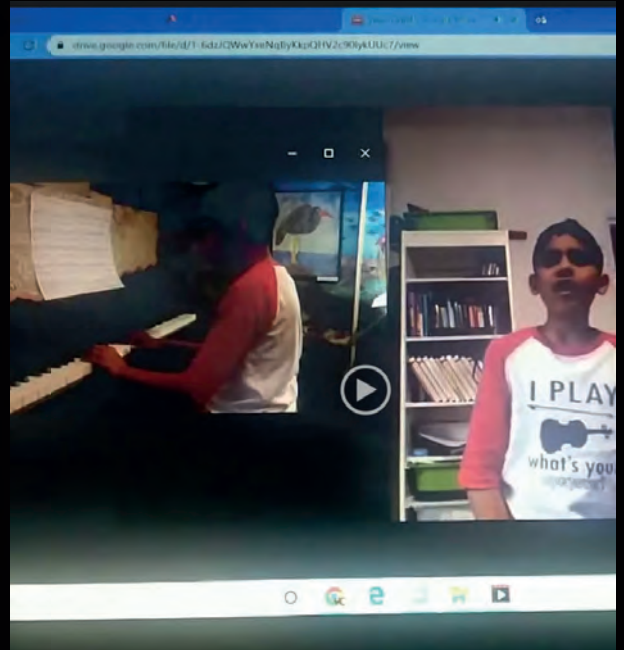
6M have been studying War Horse by Michael Morpurgo which focuses on the relationship between Joey the horse and a young man called Albert. The start of the novel focuses on their relationship and sad separation at the start of World War I when Joey is sold to be a war horse and Albert is too young to enlist and go with him. Our boys were asked to produce a poem about the friendship and separation involving these two characters. Extension work, for the more musically orientated young men,

was to try to put the poem to music when presenting it to the class. What the boys came up with was impressive; poems full of emotion and imagery that empathised so well with Joey and Albert. Well done, 6M, for keeping so motivated and producing such beautiful work even during lockdown – be proud of your efforts. Especially well done to Vivaan who produced this super musical poem.

 Collins Readers

michael
morpurgo

Click the link below to listen to Vivaan's recitation with accompanying music



WarHorse



Frankenstein videos

To bring the novel 'Frankenstein' to life in a fun and exciting way, 8H were asked to produce the story as a film trailer of the novel, using sight and sound with the help of ICT. This task not only helped the boys to think about key moments from Shelley's book but it also required them to think about the world of the media and how trailers entice us persuasively into the realm

of fantasy, without giving the plot away. 8H really rose to the challenge, producing outstanding work. Perhaps in the future, our students will choose Media Studies at their next school and even end up in the film industry? Well done, 8H, for producing excellent work, even during lockdown. Click on the links in each picture to see some of their work.





Emerson's lockdown challenges

Miss Vale has been setting us 5 varied tasks each week in order to get a House Point. We are currently on our third week. Last week I had to do a good deed each day so I helped tidying up around the house but on Monday I gave my sister and Dad a piece of cake whilst they were working which really cheered them up. I also had to learn how to make a cup of tea which was useful as Mrs McSween asked us in DT to write out a set of instructions on how to do this.

Another task was to make a pet rock and do things with it. I had kept a rock I had painted as a bumble bee in Ms Gilders' Reception class so I used that but could not take it out very much as it was raining but I kept it with me during home school lessons and when the sun came out, I took it for a quick bike ride.

This week's lockdown challenges have been fun and interesting to look at. On Tuesday I boiled an egg and had it with some toast soldiers (prep for VE day!). It tasted wonderful, mainly because I made it myself. I find that the challenges are useful because when you are bored and want to do something interesting, you can do the challenges. These tasks make your family happy

as well, as my parents like it when I sweep up the floor after I mow the grass. My mum was shocked when I offered to help her hang out the washing which was a Week 1 challenge!!

I also was told to draw a picture of the people I am in Lock-down with and tried hard to do my best. The next thing I did was to get 10,000 steps and since I normally get ten thousand steps per day when at school, it seemed pretty easy but as we are stuck at home I had to do a run to make sure I got enough. I found saying hello in ten different languages amusing because I needed to know how they pronounced it rather than just writing them up, that would take 2 seconds and would not be much of a challenge.

The lockdown challenges actually don't feel like chores, they feel like fun things that you can do in your free time and enjoy. It's a bonus to get House Points at school and make my parents happy so I can play Fortnite a bit more :-)

Thank you Miss Vale for coming up with this, next week can we have something to do with cake as it is my birthday?!!!

Emerson, 5V





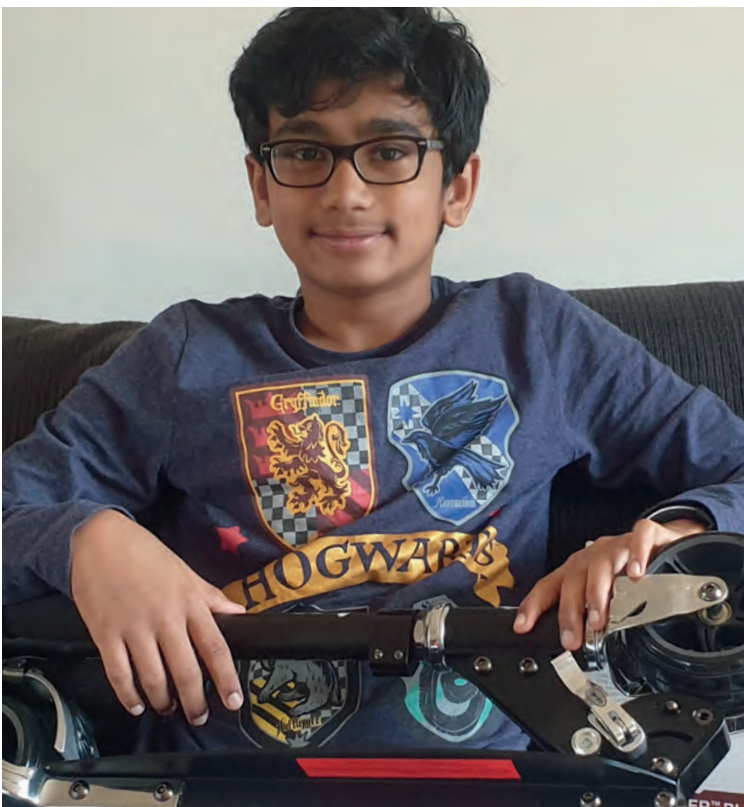
Meet our Birthday boys

Eleven more St John's boys have celebrated Birthdays this week so many happy returns to Amay, Ananda, Arti, Ebi, Emerson, James, Joshua, Noah, Shayan, Svanik and Vish. We hope you all had a really special day.





Meet our Birthday boys continued





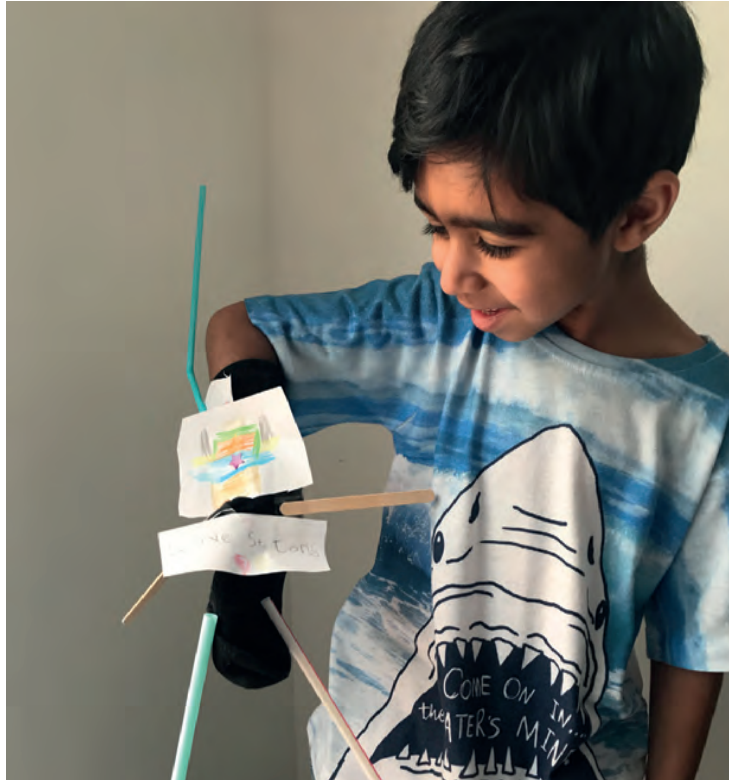
Miss Morgan's Challenges

This week the Pre-Prep have been challenged to use their imaginations to create a sock puppet from all those odd socks that appear in the washing machine! There was an extra twist to the task. The boys had to try and use a new life skill -sewing. The different designs demonstrated some amazing creativity and imagination. Miss Morgan particularly liked the Red Dragon that she presumes has flown over from Wales!





Miss Morgan's Challenges continued





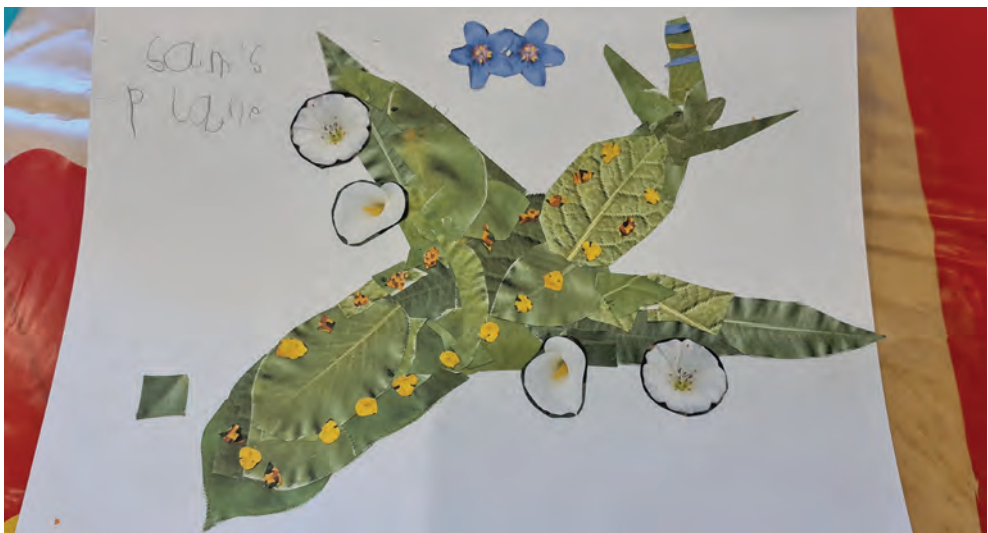
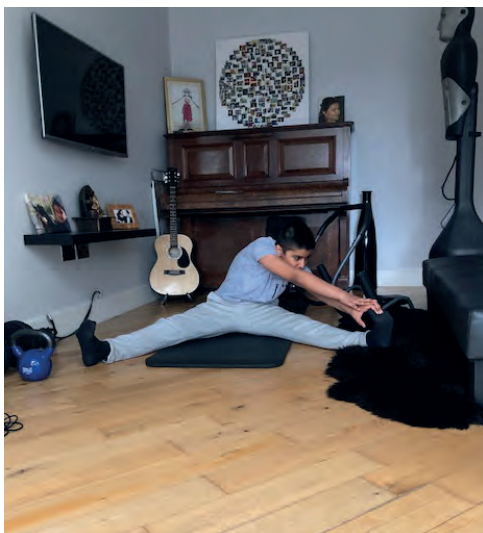
Home Activities

Staying at home but not stuck for things to do, boys have been using their time creatively as these photos show.





Home Activities





Miss Vale and Missy

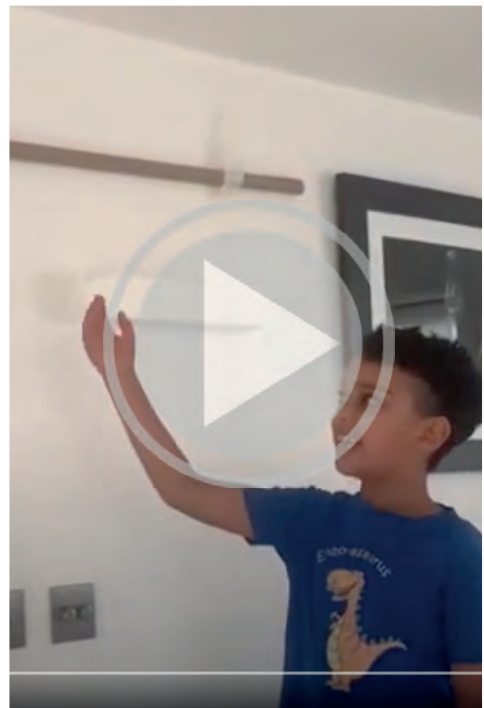
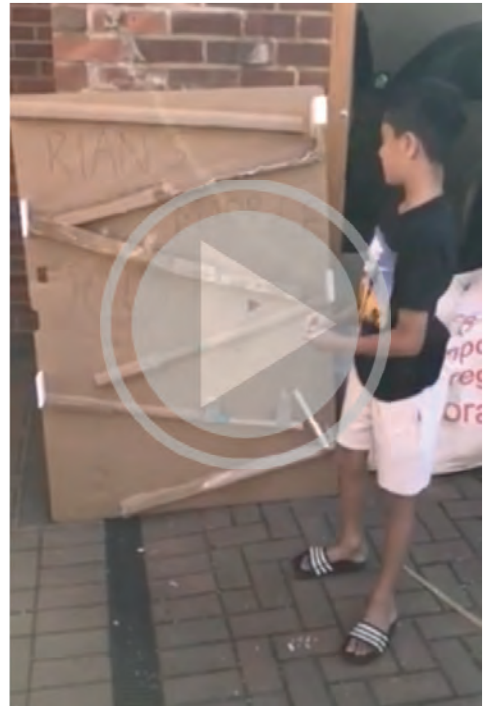
Miss Vale surprised her class this week as she appeared to them at Form Time sitting on a horse. A keen rider, she has managed to juggle her school work with restricted access to the stables and the boys loved their Google Meet with her. They especially enjoyed meeting Missy, Miss Vale's horse.





Marvellous marble runs!

I have been totally overwhelmed by the effort families of Year 3 and 4 have gone to to make their marble runs for D&T over the last few weeks. Each one being very different, some incorporating kits and some made from reclaimed materials from around the house, some indoors, some outdoors. They all show they have been tested many times to make sure the marble runs perfectly and it has been delightful to watch how the problem was solved in so many different ways. Huge congratulations to all of you, I am pleased you have had so much fun building them!





Year 4 virtual travellers

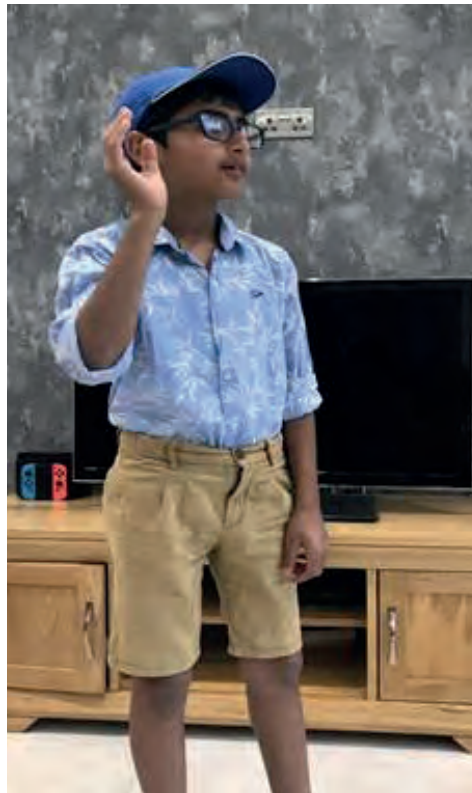
As **part of** their Geography topic this term, Year 4 boys were encouraged to look in their wardrobes, and those of other members of the household (with permission) and dress suitably for a specific climate zone. Photographs and a description of where they were and what they were doing there were sent in and the rest of us guessed which climate zone each boy was visiting. Great fun!



JUNIORS



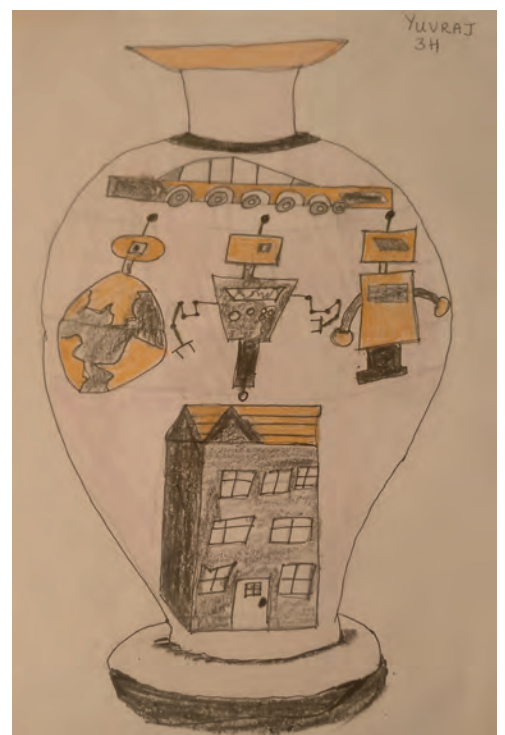
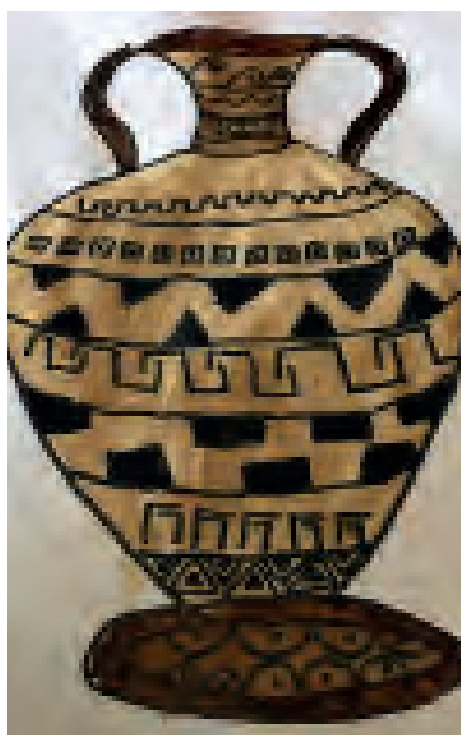
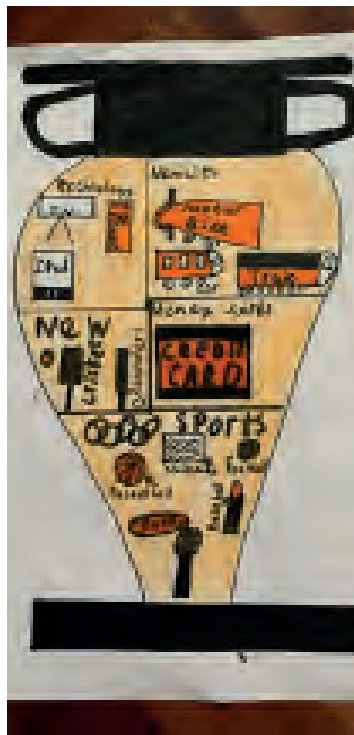
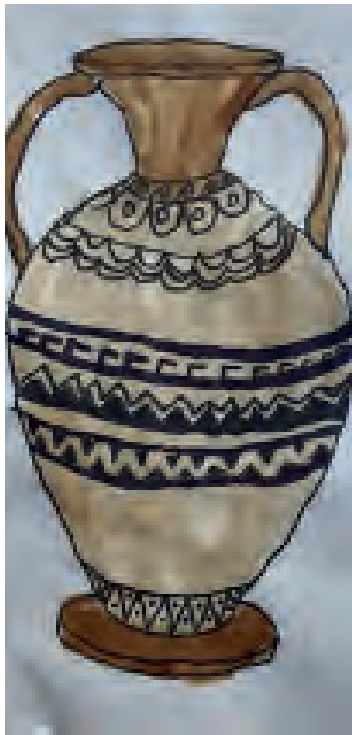
Year 4 virtual travellers continued





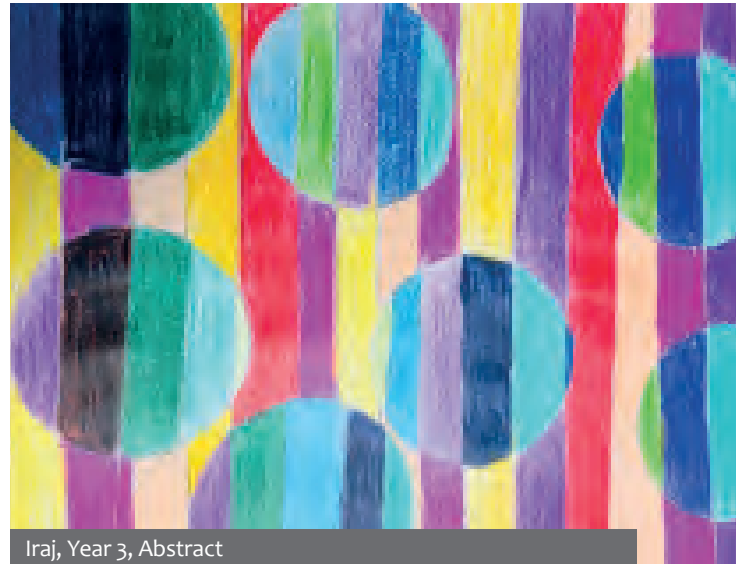
Pottery ancient and modern

Year 3 have been looking at Ancient Greek pottery this week. Some boys enjoyed using pencils and felt tips to colour their vases, others enjoyed making their own paint out of instant coffee granules. What a fun lesson that was! Well done to Milan, Enzo, Liam, Rafay, Zachariah, Aariz and Yuvraj for some excellent pots.

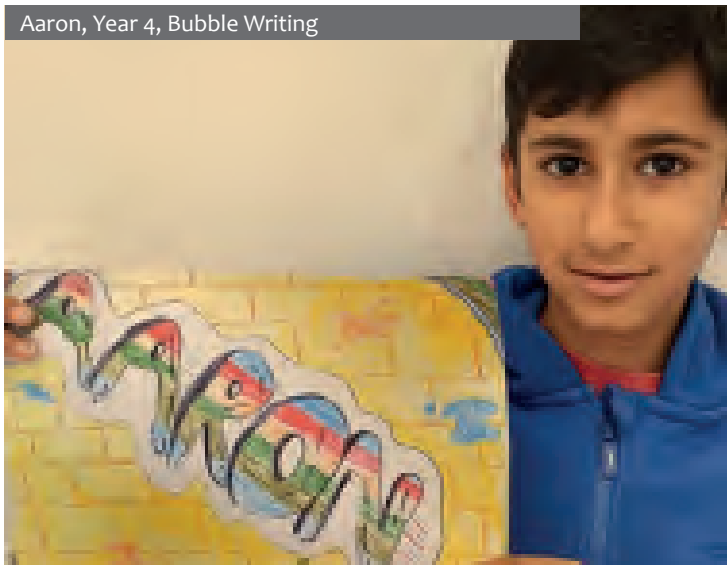




Anek, Year 6, Optical Illusion



Iraj, Year 3, Abstract



Aaron, Year 4, Bubble Writing



Aaron was inspired to create something to do with the NHS because of all the lives they are laying down to help us keep safe. Thank you NHS. You are truly inspiring and we are eternally grateful for everything you do!



Leo painted using acrylics for his mum's Birthday



The finished product

OUTLOOK



Photo of the week



This week's photograph is of Kabir (5WS) who, this week, achieved his Platinum Award. He is the first boy in the School to do this and deserves very many congratulations on such a great achievement.

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 [@stjsnorthwood](https://twitter.com/stjsnorthwood) and the new Sports Department Twitter: [@StJohnsNwSport](https://twitter.com/StJohnsNwSport).



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. 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

Big Schools' Birdwatch 2020 results

The birds have been counted, the numbers crunched and the 2020 Big Schools' Birdwatch results are in! The blackbird is still king of the playground, with 85% of schools reporting at least one in their grounds. The starling is down two positions this year, from second to fourth with the house sparrow moving up from fifth to third. This year, the feral pigeon was up by 23%, knocking the jackdaw out of the top 10. You can see the results in full [here](#).

Hay Festival 18th May-31st May

Hay Festival goes digital this May and will run a series of talks and presentations with some of the world's greatest authors and thinkers. The events are separated in Primary and Secondary Talks. Advanced booking is required for some of these events. Please visit the [website](#) to have a see events and authors you and your families are interested in. It is an opportunity not to be missed and will enhance the boys reading comprehension and creative writing.

Face shield productions still going strong

Cyrus has produced even more face shields for NHS workers. These will soon be delivered to 3DCrowd UK Watford Hub.

Votes for Schools. Last week's question was: 'Should every country follow the same Coronavirus advice? Yes: 29%, No: 71%. This week's question which will run until Wednesday 20th May is 'Could you be a settler on Mars? Please discuss at home and then vote.



Raspberry Pi: the journey goes on

Congratulations to Darius and Cyrus who have made it to the finals of this year's Raspberry Pi competition. The judges loved their automated plant watering system and the video they made to introduce it. Find out what they said [here](#).

House Point Totals: 1st Lincoln 108.29, 2nd Churchill 105.10 3rd Oates, 104.61, 4th Lawrence, 97.37. House Points are currently being awarded for good work so do continue to try your very best, both for yourself and for your House.

Don't forget Mr Taylor's quiz: deadline extended until next Friday. Download the [questions](#) and the [entry form](#).

Have a good weekend!