



From the
Headmaster

All the staff have been incredibly moved by the tribute that the Year 6 boys sent to their teachers. Their "Clap for Teachers" message has given us all a great boost. I am very proud of each and every one of you. Together we can achieve great things.

Mr Russo led this week's assemblies on Respect which were timely as we remembered Holocaust Memorial Day on Wednesday. Being respectful is so important to us at St John's that our values have been printed on page 5.

The snow last Sunday was a great excuse to get outside and enjoy the wonderful wintery scenes. I had a lovely walk and really enjoyed looking at the pictures of boys from Nursery to Year 8 having fun in their gardens.

This week I have had the chance to teach Geography and investigate squares with boys in Year 3, spend time with the key worker children and observe a daffodil dissection by Mr Newman, Kian and James in a Year 6 Science lesson. Everyone in school is engaged and working hard but we are really looking forward to having all boys back in school and getting back to normality as soon as is possible.

There are two more weeks until the half term break. Keep working hard and taking those screen breaks and do some exercise when you can. The whole St John's community is working brilliantly together. Keep up the good work everyone.

S. Russo

CLAP FOR TEACHERS

For our school, our Headmaster, our teachers and all the staff.
A tribute from all the pupils of Year 6, St John's School.

People across the UK have taken part in the Clap for NHS tribute, saluting them and other key workers dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. We all agreed that their service has been invaluable, and we all took part. For us, there's another group of inspiring people we need to salute...

From embracing remote learning to providing emergency child-care, they have stepped up with dedication, inspiration and patience. They more than deserve our appreciation.



TEACHERS ARE OUR HEROES



TEACHERS ARE OUR HEROES

Thank you so much for helping me through this lockdown. I really appreciate what you are doing for us, I also like the fact that you are flexible and responsive to all our queries and questions. Thank you, a lot, once again – *Aarav*

Clap for the teachers! Thank you – *Abdullah*

I just wanted to thank you all for your hard work in making online school possible during the lockdown. I really miss being at school and seeing all my friends. Hopefully we will all see each other soon – *Adam*

Thank you so much for teaching us so kindly over these past few months that we have been in lockdown. In these trying times, we thank you for lifting our spirits every morning all the way through to the afternoon. All of my teachers are so supportive and kind, thank you! – *Ahaan*

I count myself lucky. St John's got my back! Despite all the interruptions and disruptions, the broadband outage and slow wi-fi, the glitching and camera and microphone not working, our teachers and all the staff keep going, working like Trojans through everything. We can't go to school but that does not seem to stop the SUPERTEACHERS... BAMM! Superheroes came to my rescue! A million thank yous for the immense dedication, effort and patience – *Alistair*

Dear all the teachers and all the people who helped at the school, you have been very supportive over this hard time. I just want to thank you very much. You have been amazing in keeping us going! – *Anay*

Thank you so much for trying super hard for learning to be the best as possible, even if it is at home. You are all doing an amazing job. I like 6V's form time where we have fun together online by playing Kahoot. In Maths, Mr Colgate has helped us by doing notes on a smartboard with a pen while still being able to see us. I want to thank you for the superb teaching you are doing – *Archie*

Thank you, teachers, for all your hard work and patience. I am grateful for your guidance and support during these difficult times, and I can't wait to get back to school – *Armaan*

Thank you, teachers, for your determination to teach us through lockdown and being so patient – *Danyal*

Thank you for the commitment shown to ensure online learning works well for me and my classmates – *Emeka*

Thank you for continuing to teach me during lockdown, this time is a lot easier and I appreciate how much work you have put in to keep lessons as near to normal as possible. Looking forward to seeing everyone in person soon! – *Emerson*

Thank you to all our amazing teachers for making sure we could continue to learn throughout this pandemic and still have fun too! – *George G*

Thank you teachers for teaching me during this tough year. And to support staff too for keeping the online learning going. I can't wait to get back to school! – *George L*

Thank you so much for all your hard work in helping us to learn even in the tricky situations of the lockdown. I am very grateful to you for everything that you do for us to make sure that we stay healthy and happy and keep us learning even when there are problems with the internet, or the system is not working, by making sure we have something to do. Thank you for supporting us and showing us you care – *George R*

Thank you, amazing teachers! You are truly outstanding! – *James Co*

I want to say thank you for teaching us online so well. I can see all the effort you have put in. I don't know if I can repay you all with all the help you have given us during this lockdown. We are all so lucky to have such dedicated, hardworking teachers – *James Cu*

Thank you so much for the amazing teaching in lockdown. We are really lucky to have such brilliant teachers. I look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible – *Jamie*

Thank you to all the teachers for being so patient, kind and helpful during the lock down. Thank you for guiding us each day through our lessons patiently. We hope to be back in classes with you soon, but until then a big thank you – *Jimi*

You help us, inspire us, without you we would be lost. If God did not make teachers, then there would be no one to guide us in life. Thank you, for all of you make us do. You make us live up to our dreams. You have a great reputation, you fill us with admiration. Thank you – *Kabir*

I would like to thank all teachers for working very hard to teach us online. I would also like to thank them for helping me be organised and do work at the right time and be a good student – *Kian A*



Thank you for helping us during the COVID Pandemic. In the lockdowns you have been immensely helpful with online learning providing never ending support to all the children. You continue to make learning fun and I appreciate all the hard work that you put into looking after all the kids. Thank you, super stars – *Kian D*

Thank you to all the teachers, support staff, maintenance staff, cleaners and groundsman for keeping everything as normal as possible. Thank you to the teachers for giving us the vital education we need even if it is online. Thank you support to the staff for dealing with all the absentees during the pandemic, from start to finish. Thank you to the maintenance staff and groundsman for keeping the school ready for when we do get back. And finally thank you to the cleaners for keeping everything safe and in line with the government guidelines – *Kian J*

Thank you for delivering all the online lessons and always being in the class on time. It must be extremely hard and take a lot of effort to set up the lessons, but they are always perfect. I am really grateful for everything you are doing for us and would like to say a big thank you to you all – *Kian P*

I wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to all my wonderful teachers. Not only have you got me through the exams last term, but you've also made online learning possible and fun which is brilliant. I know how much hard work you have put in to prepare the lessons online in lockdown, so I am really thankful for this – *Krish*

Thank you to all the teachers at St John's. As much as I'd like to see you in person in the classroom and sports centre, we are still very fortunate to have teachers that prepare such brilliant and fun home-schooling lessons. Thank you – *Kush*

Teachers and assistants, thank you very much for all the help and support you've been giving us. You have been very supportive during these challenging times and I appreciate all that you have done and continue to do. Hopefully we can see you in person soon! – *Luca*

I can't thank all of you enough for the endless efforts you have put in for our online lessons. I feel very lucky to have wonderful support and love from all so many thanks from the bottom of my heart. I am really looking forward to going back to school to see you all – *Luke*

Throughout this remote learning period, you have continued to be fun, supportive and enthusiastic. You have been guiding us during this period and have helped us all cope extremely well. You are all amazing teachers – *Mihir*

Teachers, you all have been great and encouraging. You have helped me stay positive and motivated in these uncertain times. I will forever be grateful to you all. Loads of best wishes and a big thank you to you all – *Mithil*

Thank you to all the wonderful teachers and staff at St John's who have help me to continue learning during lockdown and for making the lessons enjoyable. I know there are many children who are not so lucky, and I am grateful you have all made it possible for us to have proper lessons – *Nishant*

Teachers, thank you for all you have taught me this year through these hard times and for being so supportive and patient – *Oliver*

Dear teachers, over these lockdowns, you have always been supportive to me in these difficult times. Your lessons are inspiring, and I appreciate how much thought is given to virtual learning. To every one of you, I am grateful for everything and want to say thank you very much! – *Rafi*

Thank you for your smiles. Your kindness and your praise Thank you for caring and for your helpful, happy ways! You're one in a million, a scholarly treasure. Being part of your class is a genuine pleasure. I'm glad my teachers are you. We're really very lucky for everything you do – *Rahul*

Thank you so much for all your hard work. It has been a pleasure to be a student in your online classrooms as you make the subjects interesting and enjoyable. I am looking forward to seeing you again face to face – *Rehaan*

Teachers have been absolutely amazing during lockdown. They have gone the extra mile to attend every lesson online and not just set tasks offline. They have encouraged, helped and even spotted when I am struggling with something. They have been very patient as wi-fi is not always great...! I am grateful for everything they have done for me. Thank you – *Roshan*

Thank you for continuing to teach us during this lock down. We watch on the news that there are many children that do not have an online face to face class every day. We are so lucky to have a full day of classes to help us learn. This must also be hard for our teachers; many also have children at home that need looking after. Clap for our teachers – *Satyen*

A special shout out to my funny, interesting, knowledgeable and motivating teachers! Everyday they arrive on screen with a smile ready to fill my day with learning. From fun art lessons with Ms Gillen, to Miss Vale who has a dog and horse also looking for attention! My teachers always are ready to give 100% without any distractions. Thank you, Merci, Gracias and Go raibh maith agat! – *Shane*



Happy Birthday boys

Congratulations to this week's birthday boys. We hope you had a lovely day. If you'd like to help us celebrate your birthday do send a picture to lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk.



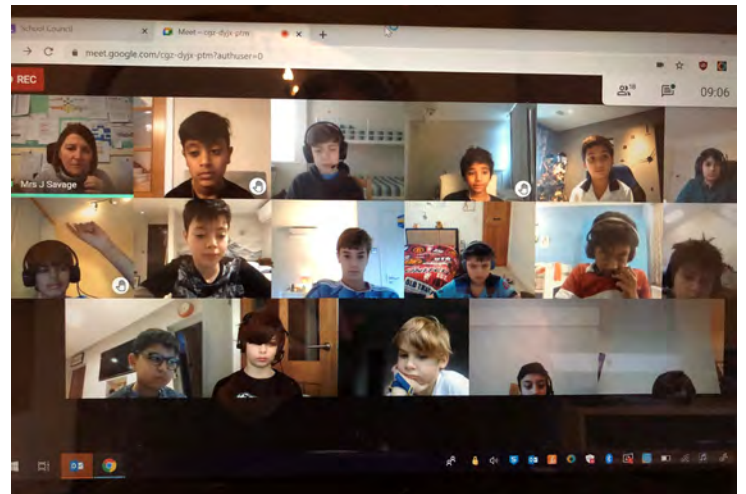


School Council meets for first time in 2021

We held our first School Council of the Spring Term on Wednesday this week. Class representatives from Year 3 to Year 8 met with Mrs Savage on a Google Meet. The representatives in the Pre-Prep will have a chance to read the minutes with their teachers. It was really good to come together as a community across the Year groups and to discuss issues such as the viability or not of school trips in 2021, the Year 8 post exam curriculum – debating, cooking and philosophy are already on the list – and, most importantly, on-line learning.

We discussed the importance of our ten-minute screen breaks. Boys asked, on behalf of their classmates, whether in certain suitable subjects they might have some “non-Meet” lessons when they could work on tasks alone to reduce screen time. This was popular with all except the Year 8 boys. The boys also talked about how they might be able to keep in touch with their classmates safely at this time and there were several useful suggestions. Mrs Savage reminded boys without mobile phones that the old-fashioned landline was also a good means of communication.

An important agenda item was to discuss the St John's Code of Conduct. At St John's both pupils and staff have agreed to the ten principles of how we wish to be. We aim to create an environment in which everyone feels safe, secure and valued. In order to create this environment it is important that everyone follows the principles in our Code of Conduct. We talked through the list of words and agreed that they all represent how we wish to be, although there are possibly some words we could change or substitute. We are grateful to all the boys for their ideas which will be on the agenda at the next management meeting.



My dog Stanley: by Mrs Green

My dog Stanley is a Grand Bassett Griffon Vendeen. He is from the Bassett Hound family and his breed originated from France. He is 12 yrs old now and unfortunately he is beginning to lose his sight and his hearing. However, for quite a few years, Stanley has worked as a Pets as Therapy dog. Once a month he goes with my husband to the children's ward at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital. Sometimes, children are scared to go to hospital or perhaps they have been there for a while, recovering from operations. Stanley visits them to provide comfort and is often a welcome distraction. The children and their parents love having a cuddle with Stanley and hopefully they will remember his visits. Perhaps you might have a pet who could be a Pets as Therapy animal?





Respect assemblies this week

Mr Russo led our assemblies this week on respect. Being respectful is very important to everyone at St John's and our good manners and respect for each other is often commented on by our visitors and prospective parents. He reminded us of the sayings "Treat others how you would wish to be treated" and "Actions speak louder than words." In order to gain respect we need to give respect.

Respect is one of the key words in our school Code of Conduct. Respect is shown in different ways, to ourselves, to others and to the School. Here is a reminder of what we agree to do at St John's:

To ourselves we will: • Be honest and truthful • Take

responsibility for our own actions • Take care in the presentation of our work and always do our best • Wear our uniform with pride

To others at school and at home we will: • Treat everyone with kindness • Act with consideration towards others, making sure that our words and actions do not cause offence • Behave courteously, being polite and helpful to others • Treat others how we would wish to be treated • Value the differences in others

To our School we will: • Represent our school with honour • Care about our school's reputation • Take care of our school's environment; buildings, grounds and equipment • Keep our school clean and tidy.

An inspiring idea from Ayaan in 5C



Tissue box: I made a mini tissue box with normal printer paper. It is simple but I felt proud to make it. It was raining outside and I was so bored as I couldn't go out to play. An idea struck my mind! I could do some craft. I checked a lot of videos and some were surprisingly hard and discouraged me but later I found a video for a DIY tissue box. I decided to make a start. After a hard-working thirty minutes, it was complete and was working perfectly. It looks very cool the way another tissue pops out after



the other.

Advice for craft: I have been doing craft for a long time but some videos discourage you as you either don't have enough resources to make it or it is complicated and you might give up. So, try to find something for which you have resources and something of your level. If anyone is interested I used this link : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAcTQetbBUw>



Home economics: food, glorious food

Boys are using lockdown to learn some fantastic new skills and the best thing of all is the result is the most scrummy food. Emerson definitely has potential as a pastry chef, Aarav decided to make his own lunch, Rafi's white chocolate and mango cheesecake looks like an amazingly indulgent dessert and Arnav is getting a headstart on Chinese New Year with his cucumber prep. Well done boys.





THIS WEEK

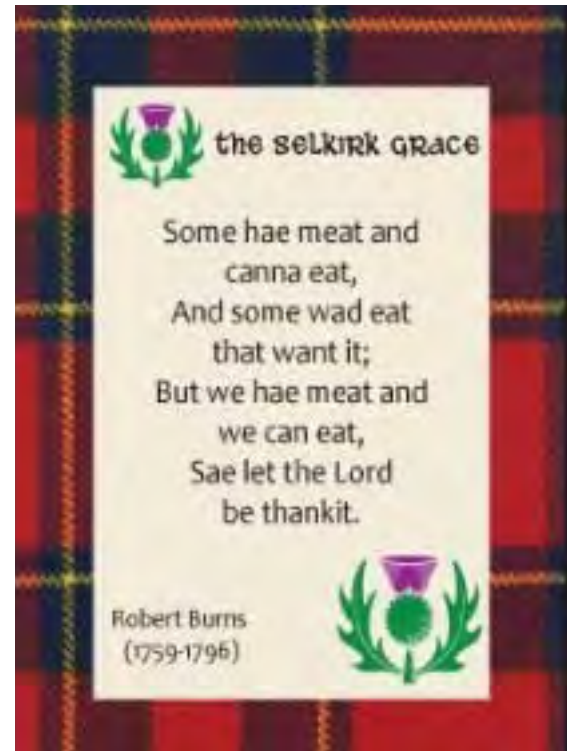


Burns night: celebrating Scottish culture

Burns Night is held annually on the 25th January in honour of the Scottish bard (poet) Robert Burns, who died on this day in 1759. He is most famous for writing Auld Lang Syne, which is sung by many people at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve. The English translation of the title is "For the sake of Old Times."

A traditional Burns Night supper consists of a baked haggis (a large sausage full of mince meat), neeps (mashed swede)

and tatties (potatoes.) At the beginning of a traditional meal the Selkirk Grace, also thought to have been written by Burns, is said before the Haggis is piped in by a piper wearing a tartan kilt playing the bagpipes. The host then performs the "Address to a Haggis", a humorous ode to the Scottish delicacy written by Burns. Once the speech is over everyone drinks a toast to the Haggis.



For all of you boys who play an instrument and sing, here are the words and the music of Auld Lang Syne.

Should auld ac-quain-tance be for-got and ne-ver brought to mind? Should
 5 auld acquaintance be forgot and auld lang syne? For auld lang syne, my jo, For
 1 auld lang syne. We'll tak a cup o' kind-ness yet for auld lang syne



Birdwatch: tropical visitors and native species

The parakeet became established in the wild in the UK in the 1970s after captive birds escaped or were released. Their natural habitat is in arid tropical countryside stretching from west Africa across lowland India south to the Himalayas where they are common birds.

Despite their tropical origin, parakeets are able to cope with our cold British winters. They are colourful and frequent visitors to bird tables and garden feeders, particularly during the winter months. They roost in large flocks and the population has been steadily increasing. There are some concerns that due to their rapidly expanding numbers, they are a potential threat to native bird species such as woodpeckers, starlings and nuthatches, through competition for nesting sites. The RSPB believes it

is important that the spread of the ring-necked parakeet is monitored and its potential for negative impacts on our native bird species assessed.

The RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch will take place between Friday the 29th and Sunday the 31st January and you can take part in this important survey.

Taking part: It's very easy to take part, you just choose any hour on 29th, 30th or 31st January and count the birds that land in your garden, ignore the birds that are flying over. You can submit your results online at rspb.org.uk/birdwatch from 29th January until 15th February, using the code BH30. Every count is important so even if you don't see anything, please still send your result in.



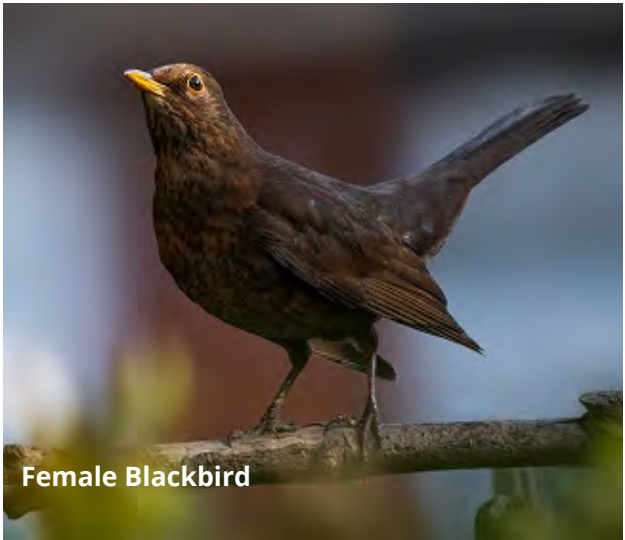
Green parakeet



Greenfinch



Magpie



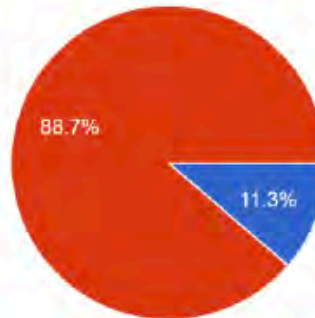
Female Blackbird



VOTES FOR SCHOOLS

Results of last week's poll are...

Do we need to learn more about how vaccines work?



● No
● Yes



Be curious.

This week we have been discussing the hot topic of American politics and how it has been influenced by social media. Many of the boys were well informed from what they had been seeing in the news and had strong opinions which they wanted to share with their classes. (Juniors get to vote on this topic next week.)

Our question of the week has been, 'Is Donald Trump guilty of encouraging violence at the Capitol?'

Is Donald Trump guilty of encouraging violence at the Capitol?

Ahaan, Year 6 states, 'Donald Trump is completely responsible for the tragic violence because he has made many tweets such as "Go onto the streets of Washington and go into the Capitol," also, he said "The election was stolen by the democrats. These words by the Former President in sighted violence to the Trump supporters. Overall they put hundreds of lives in danger at the capitol building in Congress. We know now that Trump is always going to capable of coaxing the Protesters into doing what he wants...'



Amos, Year 7 reflected, 'Trump might have annoyed the public making them want to attack the capital but it was their choice to do it...'

Next week we discuss...

Will learning ever be the same again?



Word of the Week...



Impeached:

If you are impeached, you are accused of "misconduct" (inappropriate behaviour).



Be informed.



Be heard.



A snowy day for the Lambs to enjoy

Monday was a sparkling day in Northwood with snow on the ground, brilliant sunshine and a clear blue sky overhead. This was an opportunity too good to miss for the Lambs who pulled on their wellies and got outside for some fun.





Reception boys have been getting creative



Patchwork Elmers in Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about different types of materials and their properties. They have learnt some new vocabulary and had fun looking for different materials to create their patchwork Elmers. The boys (and mums and dads) were very resourceful finding things to stick onto Elmer. I can see quite a few buttons, paper clips and pieces of blue tack. I particularly liked the super hero pictures and the chocolate coin wrappers!



More Patchwork Elmers and a look at a Matisse



Mrs Wilson has been talking to the Badgers about Matisse and the beginnings of abstract art. They looked at Matisse’s painting ‘The Snail’ (below left) before creating their own pieces. Henri Matisse was a French artist. Towards the end of his life he was prevented from painting by ill-health, but he produced a number of works by cutting or tearing shapes from coloured paper. The pieces were then placed and pasted onto paper to make the artwork. ‘The Snail’ is very large 2.87m x 2.88m. After lockdown, you could go and see the picture in the Tate Modern Collection in London. To make his giraffe picture, Milan used a copy of The Week magazine, which featured Joe Biden’s win on the front page. He cleverly cut out Donald Trump looking angrily out of the window. Can you spot him?





Miss Morgan's invitation to dance

This week I asked you all to get dancing, maybe with your family. In School we've been using Just Dance and practising our moves to One Direction's "What Makes You Beautiful." I hope you've all had fun.



No business like snow business

As you can imagine, everyone has been joining in the fun outside in the snow. Here is a selection of Pre-Prep pictures we have been sent featuring a number of snowmen in school uniform. Thank you all and we can see how much fun you had.



No business like snow business



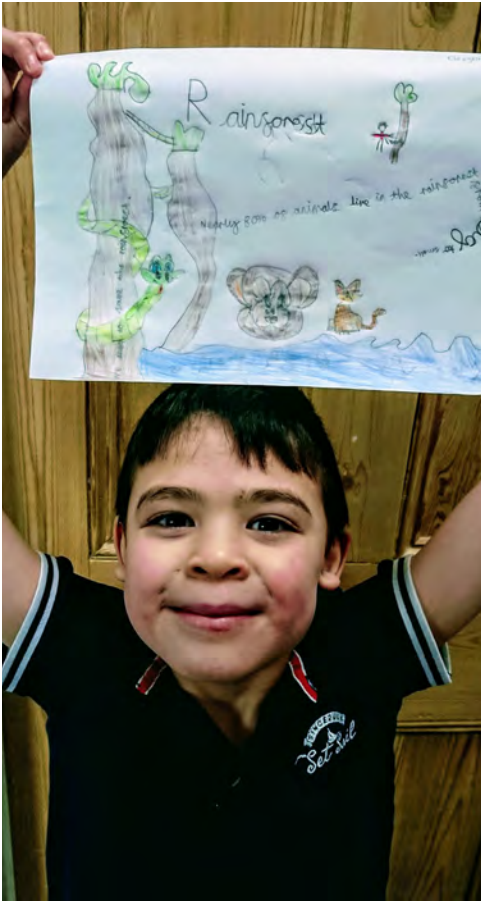
No business like snow business





Year 3 have been learning about the Rainforest

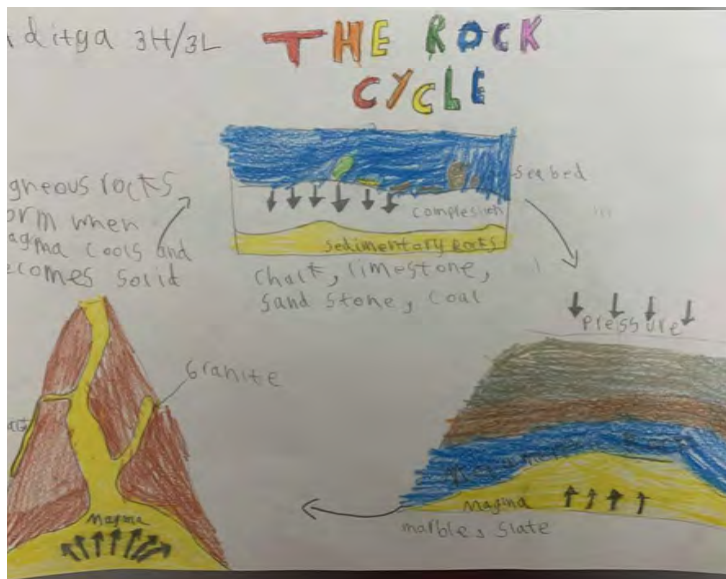
Year 3 have been inspired by learning about deforestation in their rainforest geography topic. They have created some posters to try to encourage others not to cut down trees as it destroys the habitat for many endangered animals. We also need trees to provide us with oxygen. Mrs Wagemaker was very impressed with the research Year 3 did and the quality of work that was submitted. Here are some examples:





Year 3 have been studying the rock cycle

Year 3 enjoy their science lessons and have been working independently in lockdown to produce posters about the rock cycle. They were encouraged to describe the rock cycle in different ways, some boys made videos - we have taken stills from their work. It was good to see such creative work.



Iraj is a junior journalist

Iraj in 4S has been working as a junior journalist for First News, the children's newspaper. He wrote an article on vegetarian cooking and his article was published last week. He was happy to see his work published. His cooking looks delicious! Well done Iraj!

VEGGIE COOKING

by Iraj Sharma

DURING the pandemic, my sister and I developed an interest in cooking and baking.

Together we made a variety of main meals, healthy snacks, cakes and cookies.

We are vegetarians, so we also took the opportunity to learn more about how this is a positive life choice. Only around 6% of the UK population are vegetarian, according to one survey.

The Vegan Society say if the UK population was killed at the same rate farm animals around the world are, there would be no-one left in the country in just 11 hours!

We are very passionate about the environment and want to preserve it, not only for ourselves but for future generations. Remember that the environment belongs to all its inhabitants, not just humans. Investigating, creating and making delightful meat-free treats has been very interesting.

In my opinion being vegetarian is one of the best ways to save the environment and be healthy. Not only that, it's great to discover unique ways to create a scrumptious meal. Yum!

Iraj's meat-free burgers

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

SUBSCRIBE FOR SCHOOL - FIND OUT MORE



JUNIORS

Year 4 poems and photographs

Year 4 have been writing poems using abstract nouns. The boys wrote very heartfelt poems. Here are a few of them:



Happiness is being engrossed in an interesting book such as Harry Potter.

Fear is seeing a scary insect in my cosy bedroom and I can't get rid of it.

Joy is when I do all my homework and have time to play on my gameboy.

Courage is when you help your sibling with something that you find difficult.

Hope is when the Covid pandemic has stopped and we can normally socialize.

Annoyance is when my brother keeps pestering me and stopping me doing my work.

Love is when my Mum and Dad spend time and play games with me and my brother.

Success is when I get a Study Skills question correct and Mr Haley is pleased.

Aarush 4H



Happiness is relaxing on a calm beach and swimming gently in the sparkling sea.

Fear is being near insects and venomous snakes.

Joy is lifting heavy weights, press ups, burpees, squats doing the cross trainer and boxing.

Hope is winning the lottery and my mum's leg getting better.

Courage is my mum and dad supporting me in everything I do.

Taarun 4H

Happiness is going on holiday and spending time with your family.

Bravery is fighting your fears.

Talent is a gift and a speciality.

Charity is people in need.

Anger is expressing your emotions and feelings.

Luck is what a four-leaf clover gives you.

Patience is a waiting game.

Hamza and Yuvraj 4S



Perseverance is an ability.

Stupidity is a sign of silliness.

Trust shows good leadership.

Yearning shows love.

Happiness is playing with my dog and playing Lego.

Bravery is stopping a robber.

Hope that climate change will end and animals will stop becoming extinct.

Talent is doing well at something.

Truth is dark thoughts and deep thoughts.

Tragedy is sad.

Friendship that is true is for life.

Anger is a weakness.

Evil is a thing to avoid.

Wit is from the heart.

Theodore 4H, Rafay 4H and Cato 4S





Year 4 poems and photographs

Fun is building Lego models of cars and houses.
 Happiness is walking in the park with my dad.
 Excitement is getting my bronze award when I thought I
 wouldn't get it.
 Relaxation is reading in between lessons in my spare time.
 Joy is having a boat trip in St Lucia.

Raphael G 4S



Fun is going camping and telling spine-chilling stories at night.
 Happiness is when my tedious and dull homework is finished.
 Joy is when my meticulous sister listens to me.
 Beauty is when I look at the picturesque sky above me.
 Excitement is when I join the amusing maths lesson and do
 my maths.
 Anger is when I kick the football at the goal and miss.

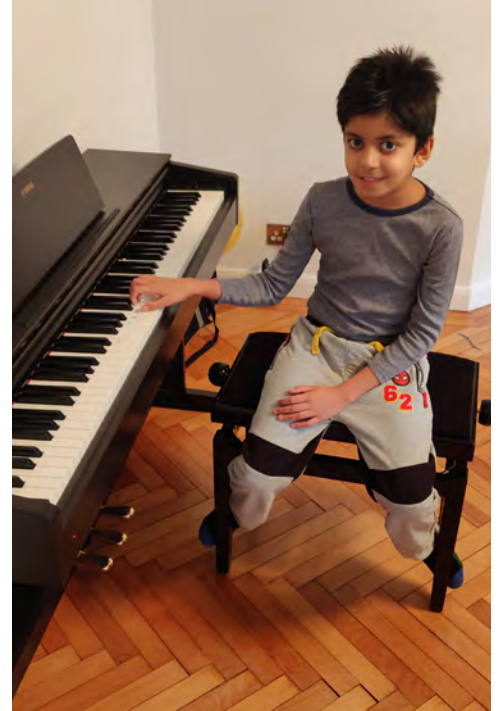
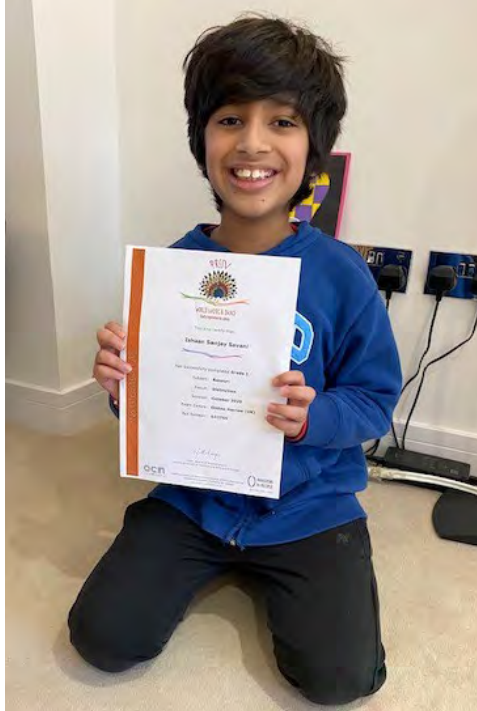
Shrey 4H



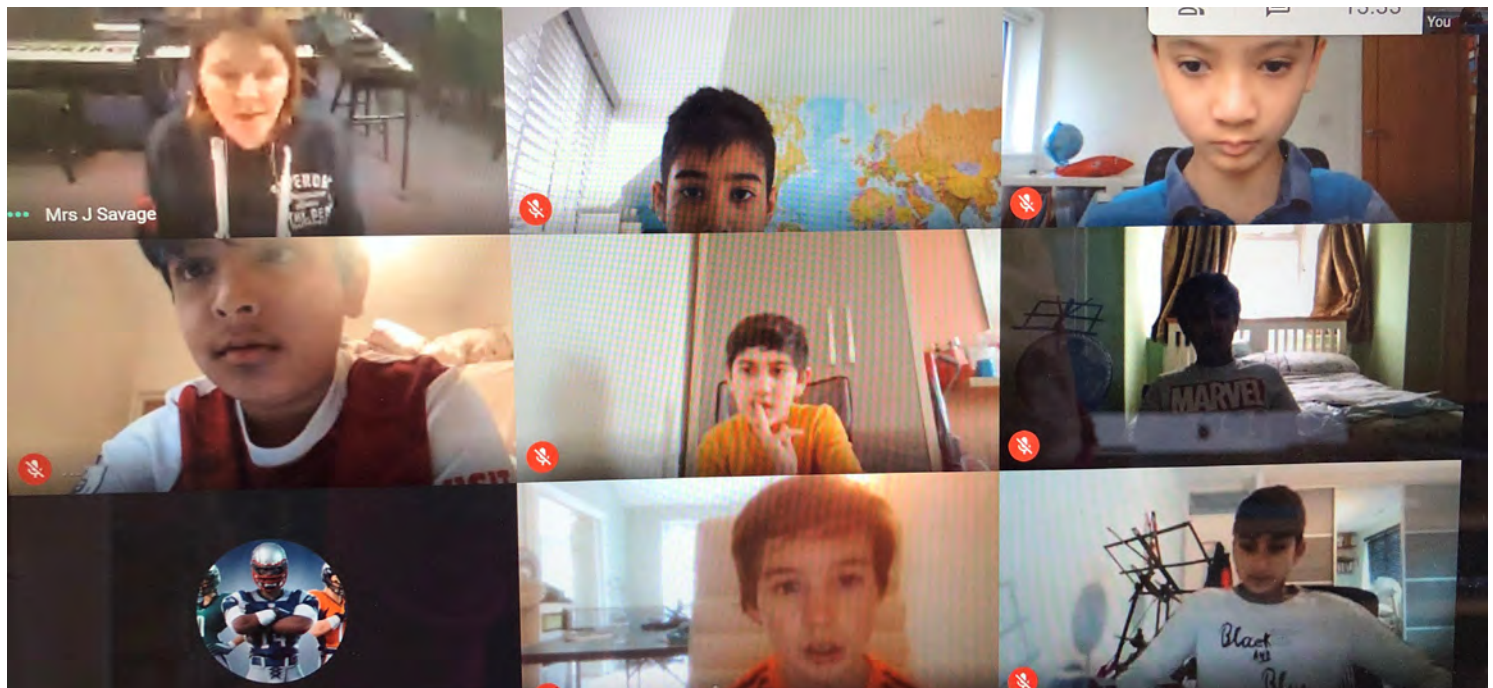


Exam success for Year 4 and 5 boys

Well done to Rishi in 4S for achieving a distinction at Grade 1 Electric Guitar, to Ishaan in 5M for a distinction at Grade 1 Indian Flute and to Tanay in 4S who took his Grade 3 Piano and achieved a merit.



Choirs are still happening with some wonderfully enthusiastic singing and big smiles. If you're like to join in it's not too late. You can find a backing track and the words to the songs we are learning in the Google Choir Classroom for your year group.





This week's snowy creations

Year 4 have been creating polar bear pictures. Milan has used blue tints and shades to create a cold, evening sky. Hamza has used warmer colours to create a sunset effect. Theodore has drawn his polar bear immersed in icy water. Brrrrrr! 1. Milan B Year 4, 2. Hamza A Year 4, 3. Theodore H Year 4





Snow scenes from parks and gardens





P.E. and Games this week

One of the key areas that has been raised in regard to pupil welfare and wellbeing at this time is the amount of screen time. Whilst the Games and P.E. sessions for Years 3 to 8 have primarily been opportunities to get away from computers, there were still elements that required online attendance and completing activities at set times. From this week we will not be holding any Google Meets for P.E. and Games lessons.

We will continue to encourage boys to remain active and independent with challenges, through form time and assembly time and publish photographs of boys attempting different activities in the Lamb. We also felt it important to create some flexibility as to when these tasks are completed during the day. Therefore as a family there might be opportunities to step outside during the day and go for a walk without having to wait until the end of the school day.





Who has been sporty this week?

This week we can see Aary 4H skipping, Alexander, 5M, working out with Joe Wicks, Krish 6A, Dillan Badgers and Deven Eagles managing to get some rugby practice in and Armaan 3W doing his exercises (previous page). Then there is

Emerson 6V enjoying a really good workout, Yash 3L managing to cycle through the slush, Christopher 3H after a very muddy football session, Teddy 3W skipping and Thomas 7H off for a run on Saturday morning – 4.5 kilometres.





My hobby: Parkour by Charlie

I am a member of a parkour academy in Hammersmith. Since lockdown I have been able to carry on by doing 1-2-1 sessions. If you don't know about Parkour it is all about movement. It is a bit like gymnastics because it involves jumps and rolls. I used to do gymnastics but found it a little repetitive because it is all about doing something over and over until it looks perfect. Parkour is not about being so precise and repeating things. It is more free, in fact it is also called free running.

Parkour is meant to be practised outside and people are encouraged to run and jump in a fast and fluid way where ever they like. The founder of Parkour says that it is about connecting with the land, challenging yourself and self expression, so it is probably close to something like hiking, skate boarding or biking, but with Parkour you can practice anywhere and you don't need any equipment. Lots of people who do it are in cities. They use walls, gates and bollards to

jump on or leap over. It can be very exciting. I am learning to run up walls and walk along on handrails. Parkour is also fun to watch. One of my teachers, Sebastian, has lots of video on YouTube.

Some people think Parkour is dangerous, but a lot of the training is about how to be careful with it. I have learnt precision jumping and lots of balance to make sure I don't fall. Parkour is not competitive – it is a very free activity that you can do alone or with friends. It takes a lot of energy and I am always tired and hungry at the end. Although it began in France, the UK was the first country to recognise Parkour as a sport. All of the main sports councils are behind it now including Sport England, the Youth Sport Trust and even the Association for Physical Education, so hopefully one day it will become part of our PE lessons at St. John's! Just don't try it at home without an instructor.



OUTLOOK



E-meet, Google Meet, Zoom In, Zoom Out....

Virtual learning? Working from home?

Internet running beyond capacity....

devices everywhere!

**How about the pupils, who are
sharing phones at home while
learning in lockdown?**

**If you have old devices and wish to donate them
to schools to help children with their virtual
learning, below is some information on this:**

**For local arrangements of laptops/devices, please contact
Sukaina Karim-Hussein: sjaitdrive@gmail.com**

***All devices are wiped and donated via
<https://ladyfatemahtrust.org/give-it>**

**Alternatively, below is a full list of companies and charities
who are able to help:**

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5SqHJMTKZx5sYhlltXJvB1Q/give-a-laptop?fbclid=IwAR0yPDca0Qr9_oEj8uv6anHAJ46q0BrnL3-B1EUdYIUeKIKV-AMompStdO4

Calendar & important dates Contact details

Monday 1st February: 7H Parents' Evening 5.30-8.00pm


Monday 1st February: IT Strategy & Development Sub Committee 4.15 pm

Wednesday 3rd February: 7J Parents' Evening 5.30-8.00p

Below: Picture of the week a socially distanced snowy play-date for school mates and neighbours, Albert and Leo.



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 and our sports department @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: 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

Covid-19 testing. Rapid Flow Covid-19 tests for staff in school on Mondays and Thursdays at 7.45am

Hearing from you in lock-down. Boys, during this period of lock-down we would really like to hear from you, you can tell us about any projects you are working on, or about your hobbies, interests and achievements out of school. Please send any photos or articles to LambEditor@st-johns.org.uk

Sport and PE. Mr Kruger says please send him photos of your daily exercise and sporting activities if you can.

RSPB Birdwatch 29th-31st January. If you take part, please remember to send your results to LambEditor@st-johns.org.uk, as well as to the RSPB and we will print our own results in The Lamb.

Cameras and Microphones. A reminder that your camera and microphone should be on for the duration of any Google Meet lesson. This ensures that learning is more

effective for the whole class. Thank you.

Lunchtime Choirs. Boys, we are singing again! Mrs Savage is running lunchtime choirs for Years 4 to 6 at 13.30 on Google Classroom. Year 4 Tuesday at 13.30, Year 5 Wednesday at 13.30 and Year 6 Thursday at 13.30. Come and join us, the boys had fun this week. You can find a backing track and the words to the songs we are learning in the Classroom. We're hoping to start up some small lunchtime instrumental ensembles in the near future. Mrs Savage looks forward to seeing you next week.

Votes for schools: Please see the article on page 10 for an up-date on how we are running Votes for Schools during lockdown. You can also discover the results of the questions.

House Points: Lincoln 54.08, Lawrence 51.98, Churchill 49.72, Oates 47.24

Have a very enjoyable weekend