



From the
Headmaster

It's been an exciting week for everyone at St John's as we have had the chance to step into our new Centenary Sports Hall for the first time. It is a spectacular building with fabulous facilities and I am really looking forward to seeing all the boys enjoying sport and P.E. in this amazing new space after half term.

This week was also the Hunter Jones Poetry Recitation Competition which was thoroughly enjoyed by all of the boys in Years 3 to 8. I would like to thank Robert Russo, an experienced performer and Music Graduate from Birmingham University, who judged the competition, and congratulate Zain and Reece who were the overall winners.

School Council met last week and I was interested to hear the many points the boys raised on behalf of their forms. I am proud of boys who have taken part in the Moor Park Virtual Fun Run. Thank you Christopher, Ieuan, Eric, Riyan and Niam for sharing your achievements with us. St John's staff have also been fund-raising – see more on page 7.

Finally I would like to congratulate Khyan, in Year 5, who is the first recipient of a Bronze Award for House Points in 2020-21. Well done Khyan!

I hope you have a good holiday and I look forward to a busy and productive second half of term.

S. Robinson

First view of the new Sports Hall

It's been the week we have all been waiting for at St John's. We have watched the new Centenary Sports Hall being built and developed over the last year and a half and this week every pupil who was in school from Reception to Year 8 and all members of staff have had the opportunity to take a sneak preview inside to see first-hand the beautiful design of this amazing structure. (Year 6 will have their tour after half term.) The creative thinking and attention to detail which has been lavished on this building is exceptional.

Each class thoroughly enjoyed the 20 minute visit with a member of staff and were amazed to see the fantastic facilities on offer on both floors. The boys were particularly impressed with the retractable seating, the digital score board, the automated basket-ball hoops, the artificial turf and nets for cricket and the amazing sound system. They were excited to find St John's logos throughout the building – on the carpet, etched on the glass and on the tiles in the changing rooms and in the kitchen. I am sure we would all like to thank the Headmaster, the Bursar and the building contractor for all their hard work on this project which will provide so much for St John's boys, staff and our local community (more pictures overleaf).





Our new Sports Hall





Our new Sports Hall





The Hunter Jones Poetry Competition

The 2020 Hunter Jones Poetry Recitation on Tuesday was as exciting as ever. Boys watched the final in their classrooms on Google Meet and performed to their classes. Boys in Year 6 and others isolating watched and took part from home. All students from Years 3 to 8 learnt a poem of their choice and entered the early rounds of the competition in their English lessons. The commitment and determination of all the boys impressed all teachers, who commented on the use of language, choices of poems and recitation skills that the boys have shown.

Our judge, Robert Russo (bottom right), recently graduated from Birmingham University and currently works at Belmont School. He found it extremely difficult to decide on the winners

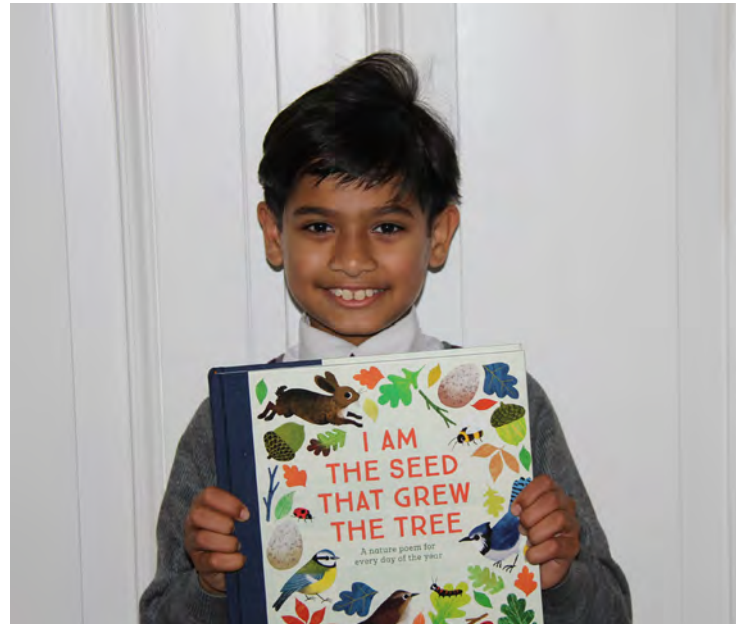
this year, as the finalists were all of such a high standard. He commended the boys on their clear voices and noted that they emphasised every single word of the poem. He was impressed with the boys' confidence and enjoyed the wide range of poems chosen and performed so passionately. Very well done to everyone involved.

Junior School Results (Year 3-5)

Winner, Zain Year 5, Runner up, Tristan Year 3, Highly Commended Hari Year 3, Rishi Year 4, Darsh Year 5

Senior School Results (Year 6-8)

Winner, Reece Year 8, Runner up, Alexander Year 8, Highly Commended, George R Year 6, Aryan Year 7, Neal Year 8





School Council meets again

The School Council held its second meeting of the year last Wednesday, again via a Google Meet. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and boys had many new points to raise on behalf of their forms including requests for extra

clubs and different playground equipment. All the boys contributed enthusiastically and represented the School with pride. We look forward to our next meeting on Wednesday 18th November.





Autumn jobs for Gardening Club

Over the past few weeks the boys have been busy planting and tidying up the garden, especially the falling leaves, which we have in abundance. Every week they have diligently swept up and topped up the leaf composter, so much so that our composter is virtually full and this time next year hopefully

we'll have some lovely compost. Pictured are the boys attending to their beds, weeding and tidying up. In addition Anay is potting some broad beans in pots inside the green house as an experiment to see how they come on.





Staff support the Think Pink campaign

Friday 23rd October was Think Pink day and St John's Staff were pleased to support the campaign for breast cancer awareness by wearing something pink. All staff made a big effort and I'm thrilled to announce a fundraising effort of £115. Thank you to everyone involved. If you would also like to donate to the cause, go to: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stjohnsthinkpink>. Details of all our fundraising efforts can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/st-johns.org.uk/st-johns-site/just-giving-links>.





Poets & artists enter a competition

Years 3 and 5 have taken part in a Poetry and Art Competition run by the Borough of Hillingdon this term. The theme was “Happy Shoesday” and it was part of The Walk to School Campaign. The boys were inspired by the October weather and their journeys to and from school. Years 3 and 4

Painted the colourful shoes. The Hillingdon Borough winner will receive a kindle and their work will be displayed for everyone to see. Good luck boys!

Mrs Rizava and Ms Gillen

Here are some of the boys’ lovely poems and colourful shoes.

Year 3

Sometimes when I walk to school as I step
out of my door
I feel the cool breeze
My shoes like it, too!
As I walk on the grass my shoes get
tickled
Then when I walk on the gravel
My shoes get grumpy
Because it is bumpy!
As we wait on the stone,
My shoes pick up the phone
It is funny that shoes get grumpy and pick
up the phone
Once again as we walk HOME!

Aubrey 3H

I am a shoe, as good as new
My owner’s going to school with me and
you
When we step out of the house we meet
a snail
The snail goes pale
I ask the snail: “Why have you gone
pale?”
But suddenly, CRASH!
The snail goes MASH!
Now my owner’s finished school
And he is outside playing in the pool

Dhruv 3H



Year 5

Walking to School

My shoes always run away
It feels like they are not here to stay
Football shoes, rugby shoes and trainers
I have them galore
However, they don’t follow the law!
They love rain, snow and mud
But when it comes to being cleaned
They run away with a THUD THUD
THUD
Then one day they just disappear
In the bin I find them thrown
Because my feet have grown!

Rohan 5C

The Black Start-Rite Loafer

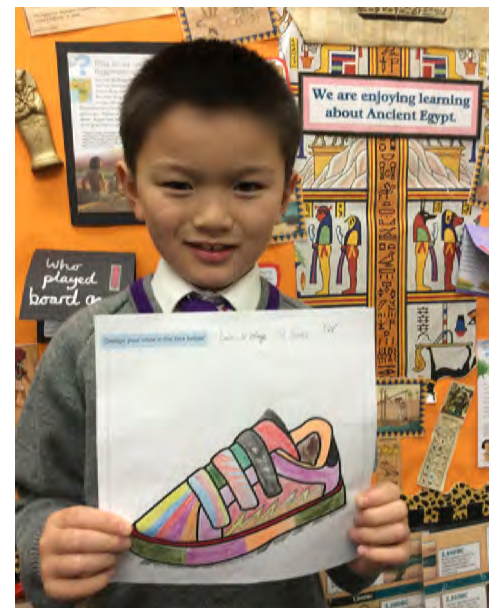
I am a Start-Rite black Loafer shoe,
And I am a lion guarding your feet,
Although I love going to the zoo,
I will happily go to school and greet other
fellow feet.

On the journey to school I shall be a
warrior,
And endure the pain of the pavement,
I will take the torment, and it will occur,
Although I shall lament.

When my owner reaches the classroom,
Me, The Start-Rite Loafer, loyal as could
be,
Because I am the shoe of the prince,
Aiden, although he does not see,
The pain of rubbing on the carpet that
feels like a loom.

Now seven hours later, I am in the car,
When I am rejoicing that I am on my
way home,
Even though I haven’t been far.

Aiden 5C



Walking to school

Walking to school,
Is an environment tool,
That helps us all to save on fuel!

Jogging to school with my friends,
Racing wildly round the bends.

My walking friends aka my shoes,
Are a cool shade of blue
They protect my feet from shards of glass,
And also help me run fast!

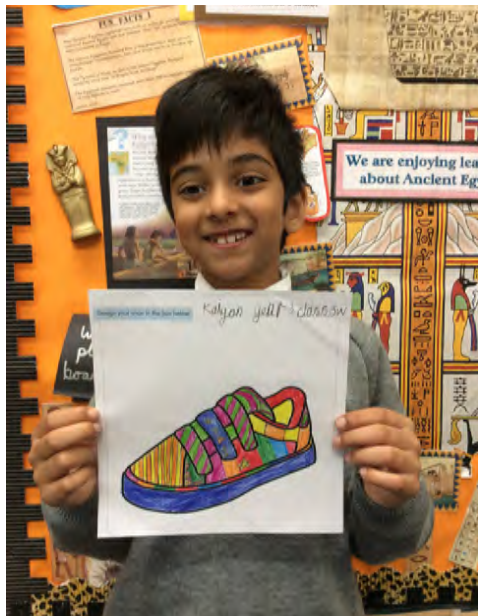
I can jump over puddles, run through the
grass,
Despite all the fun, I’m always on time to
class,
Walking to or from school is all the same
to me,
As long as I am out there and free,
I am as happy as can be!

Mehul 5C



Walking to school

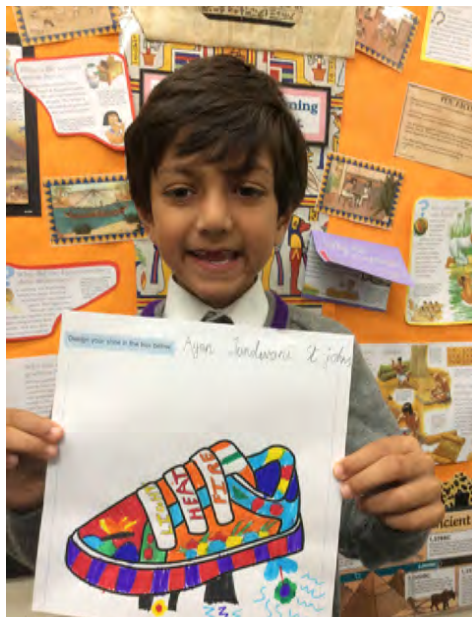
Get out of your cars, get out of your cars
Get out of your cars,
You're not driving to Mars.
Human technology,
What a waste of energy,
You will feel like a jewel,
If you walk to school
Breathe some fresh air,
While you enjoy a tasty pear,
Throw away that old car.
It's like throwing an old chocolate bar.
Cars destroy the ozone,
And all they do is make a clone,
It's all the earth can manage.
So walk to school,
And you will feel so cool.
Just don't forget, if you drive to Mars,
You'll never make it through, without
breaking down your car.
Zain 5M



Hey you!

Hey you! Yes, you over there,
This green and blue ball needs great, great
care!
So don't just jump in your car and drive,
Get your feet up, exercise!
Walk to school is what I say

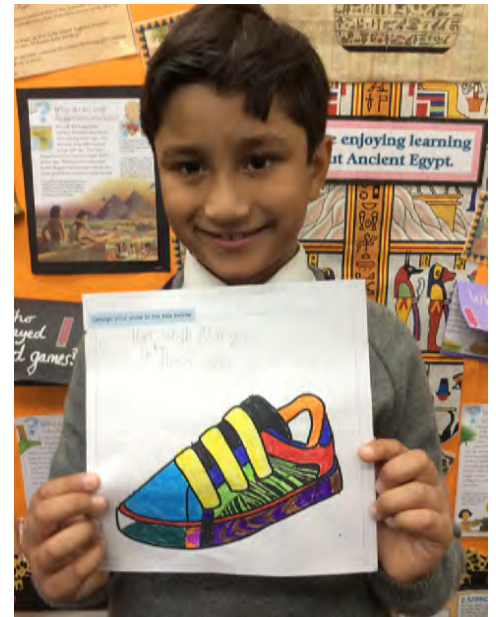
Come on, we'll have fun along the way!
Yeah, go on, great work mate!
We've just helped to decide Earth's fate
Because when you walk to school, you
don't pollute the air
You have definitely taken great, great care
Of your beloved planet here,
No cars, no buses, no fumes from the rear.
So keep it simple and just walk to school
No, don't go on your motorbike you fool
That won't help at all
You'll just make Earth crumble and fall
Because if you never walk to school
You can call yourself a bit of a fool!
Joshua 5M



Walking to school

Walking to school. Yes! Yes!
I will save the environment,
And be the best in the test.
I love walking to school,
Smelling that ever fresh air
Like I would ever dare,
To go in the lair of the flare.
I will always care for the environment
affairs.
It should have its place
In everyone's taste.
Walking to school would be the best thing
For everyone, and be the environmental

King
Walking to school,
Oh, Mother Nature is proud,
At last,
I was found.
Harry 5W-S



Walk to School

I walk out of the house,
Into the pleasant fresh start of the day
It is a bit chilly but sunny spring spells
The chilly frost seeking through my shoes
Trying to nibble my toes.

As soon as I read Potter Street Hill
The cars glide past me like flying geese.
As I get higher it gets colder and I get
Dragons' breaths!
My ears start going red
My hands getting colder
Going through my gloves.

When I walk up to the small hill of St
John's
The little school bus driver passed
Then I get to the muddy St John's road
banks
Finally, into the classroom as warm as fire.
Leo 5W-S



Versatile vegetables in the Lambs

The Lambs have been learning all about vegetables. We looked at lots of different coloured vegetables then chopped them up to make soup, it was delicious! The boys were truly amazed to see that popcorn originally started as corn on the cob. Most preferred the popped variety to the cooked kernels.





Where does our food come from?



Following Harvest the Robins and Squirrels have been thinking about where food comes from. The boys worked in groups to sort some of the foods and then we combined our groups



and worked as a whole class. We sorted the food items into two groups – food from plants and food from animals. Did you notice the food we chose to be in both groups? Fruit yoghurt!

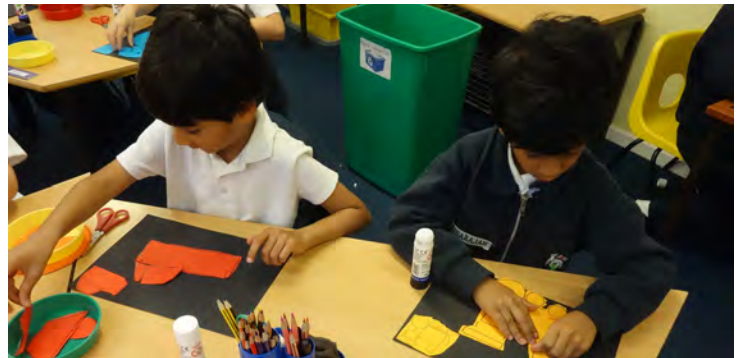




2D Shapes in Year 1

Year 1 boys have been exploring the names and properties of 2D shapes. They have been using shapes to make some 2D pictures. Once the shapes had been cut out, the boys had to plan where each shape should go, to match an illustration, before sticking them down to reveal the finished object. We have also been searching for and making shapes in the school grounds.

Which 2D shapes can you find in your environment?



PRE-PREP



Floating and sinking in Year 2

The **Badgers** and **Eagles** have been investigating the force of buoyancy. They made boats from play dough and kitchen foil. The boys thought about the weight and shape of their boats and then made predictions about which vessel would float the best. Some of their creations managed to carry a weighted object – others predictably sank!





Hunter Jones in the Juniors

This half term the sounds of poetry have been heard throughout the School. Mrs Wagemaker and Mrs Hallett were very impressed with the efforts from the boys in Year 3. Each pupil chose a poem which they had to memorise and then perform to the rest of the year group. Well done to everyone for taking part. Our finalists (pictured below) were Rohan, Hari, and Khyan in 3W and Aubrey, Rahul and Tristan in 3H.





Year 3 working together to build pyramids

Year 3 enjoyed making pyramids as part of their investigations into Egyptian life. They pretended they were stone masons and labourers. They showed good team work and had many completed pyramids by the end of the session. Great fun was had by all!





Preparing for the unexpected in Year 3

Year 3 are sharpening their IT skills at the moment. This will undoubtedly prove useful in later life and should enable them to cope with whatever unusual circumstances 2020 throws at us in terms of attending school. They have spent this half term familiarising themselves with the various programs that we use in school.

So far they have had a go at Google Classroom, Docs, Slides, email and have learnt how to vote on Votes for Schools. Let's hope the only time we have away from St John's between now and Christmas is the holiday. The boys have settled into the Juniors really well and are ready for a much deserved break. Well done.





Mixing wax and watercolours



Year 6 have been having fun this week with watercolour paints. They drew detailed cityscapes then coloured them in using wax crayons. The waxy barrier then resisted the paint. Do you like the final results?

1. Kush
2. Roshan
3. Rafi
4. Emerson, Archie and Kian J
5. Jamie and Remika
6. George R
7. Arav





Designing against crime

We've had some excellent prototyping going on in the D&T workshop from our older boys. Could you design a bag that prevents thieves getting to peoples' belongings? Dippers, slashers and snatchers beware... Year 7 have been designing against crime!





DT Lamp Project by Sam

My aim was to upcycle old materials that could be re-used to create a lamp. I used materials such as an old plumbing copper pipe and aged wood from an 80-year-old cabinet. The “lamp shade” is actually a baked bean can (Heinz of course!). I fitted an LED strip inside which can be operated via remote control to change colours, brightness and effects.

I was aiming for the “industrial look” so I polished the copper, brushed it to give it a dulled look, then coated it with

varnish to lock in the patina. I designed, cut and prepared the wood to create a ‘sandwich’ effect with the light glowing from the middle ‘filling’. I hammered out the copper pipe to make the C-shaped arm to hold the lampshade. The project combined woodwork, metalwork (copper pipe) and the lighting system. I used various materials and techniques and am very pleased with the finished lamp, which now has pride of place in my bedroom.





Hurray for hockey: clubs still having fun

I am thrilled to say that despite all the restrictions we are currently living with, we have been able to carry on with the hockey clubs within year group bubbles at school this term.

England Hockey has announced that outdoor organised team sport continues to be a low-risk activity for the transmission of Covid-19. The weight of evidence across sports - allied to the excellent work clubs and schools have done establishing safer environments - demonstrates the confidence that the Government has in the precautions we are all putting in place.

From an England Hockey perspective, the endorsement that clubs and schools are able to continue with hockey at a very low level of risk is fantastic for the pupils taking part in this sport.

The interest and enthusiasm of staff and pupils in hockey

has really enabled our players to attain even higher levels of individual skill and improved team play. A number of boys play for outside clubs and numerous pupils have gone on to represent their club teams and Middlesex County squads and this provides fantastic opportunities for them to improve their hockey skills. If your son would like to enjoy more hockey opportunities outside of school, he could consider attending local clubs such as OMT's, Eastcote, Harrow, Watford or Rickmansworth.

We have visited the new Sports Hall this week and it looks superb. We cannot wait to see the boys having the opportunity to enjoy the sports curriculum in this new building.

Mr Pawson





Hurray for hockey





Moor Park Virtual Fun Run: entries coming in

Several St John's boys have used the autumn sunshine to complete their Moor Park Virtual Fun Run. You have until Saturday 31st October to complete your run and donate using this link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stjohnsmoorparkfunrun>

Badgers Eric and Riyan running for Mount Vernon

Eric and Riyan from the Badgers and Eric's sister Emily took part in the 'virtual' Moor Park Fun Run over the weekend. They managed to run one kilometre in around five minutes and have pledged to raise at least £100 for Mount Vernon.



Christopher and Ieuan's Virtual Fun Run

Christopher (Squirrels) and Ieuan (Robins) took part in the Moor Park Virtual Fun Run on Sunday 18th October. It was quite an adventure. They walked a 5Km route through Ruislip Woods in aid of Mount Vernon Cancer Centre and have raised an amazing total of £290. Very well done boys. On their walk they were intrigued to find Isla stones, painted with ladybirds. Isla Tansey suffered from a rare disease.

When she became ill, she began painting stones and asked others to paint them too, share photos on social media and hide the stones for people to find. Thousands of people took part and stones were found as far away as America, Australia and Antarctica. Isla's idea has helped raise awareness of this disease and helped to look after other children.



OUTLOOK



FOLLOW US ON   @MOORPARK10K

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1053338

MOOR PARK
10k & funruns

MOOR PARK

VIRTUAL

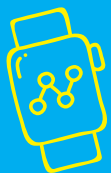
10K & FUN RUNS



In aid of the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre and Lynda Jackson Macmillan Cancer Centre.
Providing the best care for local patients with cancer by funding medical equipment,
research and support services

From 1st October – 31st October 2020

For all ages and abilities!



To see where you finish
on our virtual leaderboard,
make sure you record
your time.

CHOOSE YOUR CHALLENGE



10k, 5k, 2k or 1k
run anytime, anywhere

SIGN-UP:
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East & North
Hertfordshire
Hospitals'
Charity 

East and North Hertfordshire Hospitals' Charity, funding services at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre and Lynda Jackson Centre.
Registered Charity No. 1053338. www.enhhcharity.org.uk

Calendar & important dates Contact details

Thursday 29th October – Sunday 8th November: Half Term

Monday 9th November: School resumes 8.25am
Year 8 Parents' Meeting online A-L (6.00pm)

Tuesday 10th November: Annual Travel Survey
Reception Reading Meeting (8.00am)
7+ Assessments (9.00am – 12.30pm)

Wednesday 11th November: Year 3 Pedestrian Training
Year 3 & 4 Parents' Meeting online (4.00pm – 6.00pm)

Thursday 12th November: Governors' Meeting



Spooky Mask

Year 4 were delighted in their Science lesson, to see that all visitors to St John's are adhering to the rule of wearing a face mask!

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 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

Annual Traffic Survey. Please be advised that on Tuesday 10th 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.

Poppies. Poppies, wristbands, reflectors, friendship bracelets and snap bands will be on sale after half term on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th November for Remembrance Day which we will mark on Wednesday 11th November.

Year 3 Pedestrian training. This takes place on Wednesday 11th November. Boys should bring a warm coat in case of inclement weather.

Parents' Meetings. These will take place via Google Meet. Parents will be sent a code in advance of the meeting times.

Fireworks. Sadly we are not able to organise our popular display this year.

Moor Park Virtual Fun Run 1-31 Oct: Don't miss this creative way to raise money for cancer care. Details on p20.

Merchant Taylors' Photography Competition Well done to all the boys who sent in a photo. The images have been submitted. *Ms Gillen.*

Votes for Schools. Last week's question was 'Have we forgotten about the environment this year?' 66.3% said yes and 33.7% said no.

This week's question requires a crystal ball.

"Will cinemas disappear in your lifetime?" Please discuss over half term. To review the arguments before giving your answer click the photo for more information.

House Points: Totals so far: Lincoln 24.40, Lawrence 24.38, Churchill 23.40, Oates 21.60

Have a super half term break. We look forward to welcoming the boys back to school on Monday 9th November.

