



From the  
Headmaster

Welcome to The Lamb. We had a special visit from the Merchant Taylors' Chaplain who gave an inspirational talk on what is important in life. Years 2 to 8 have been working hard to prepare for the Centenary Thanksgiving Service before half term and the Pre-Prep have been finding out about Chinese New Year.

Whilst Year 8 have been focussing on their senior school transfer exams the boys from Years 5 and 7 have completed their own assessments. Having spoken to many of them they have found the papers fairly challenging but felt they have benefitted from this important experience especially with Year 7 who took their papers in an exam hall.

Year 4 have been expanding their knowledge of levers and linkages in D&T. One boy even lifted me with little effort and no broken wood in the process! The Otters and Owls have been completing complex sentences and Year 2 visited St John's church in Northwood as part of their R.S. curriculum.

In sport the U11 and U12 hockey teams have been in action and the U9 rugby teams enjoyed their first matches of the year against Hampton Prep.

Finally, congratulations to Vivaan on his selection for the National Children's Orchestra.

*S. Roberts*

## MTS Chaplain visits St John's



**On Monday we were delighted to welcome the Reverend Fields** who is the Chaplain at Merchant Taylors' School. He gave an inspiring assembly to Years 3-8 about vision, the journey of the wise men and different star formations. He even brought a Nautical Star Chart used in the 1950's by his father at sea. Reverend Fields will give the Address at our forthcoming Centenary Thanksgiving Service on 14th February.







# Centenary Events

With our School Centenary now in full swing we report on the series of special events being organised to celebrate 100 years of St John's. At the start of term boys were given badges and a commemorative book. Mr Robinson took the opportunity to read extracts in assembly to help boys discover more about how and why the School was founded. But that is not the end of the story. Keep reading The Lamb to follow developments as they take place. Meanwhile here are some dates for your diary.

**Centenary Thanksgiving Service** at Emmanuel Church, Northwood on Friday 14th February at 11.00am.

This service of thanksgiving, singing of the School Song, readings and prayers is for all boys in Years 2-8, staff, invited guests and parents. The service will finish at 12.00pm when our half term holiday will commence.

**Centenary Dinner** at Merchant Taylors' Hall on Thursday 26th March from 6.30pm. This black-tie event in the City of London is primarily for Old Boys but is also open to parents of boys in Years 6-8. Tickets for the dinner can be obtained by visiting [www.st-johns.org.uk/centenary](http://www.st-johns.org.uk/centenary).

**The Centenary Ball** at St John's on Saturday 27th June. Organised by the St John's Association, this event

is for all current and past parents and staff.

Interest is already intense so make sure to buy your tickets early - full details coming soon.

**Old Boys' Day** at St John's on Sunday 28th

June. A special day for all Old Boys to visit and celebrate our Centenary.

**Centenary Charity Day & Pageant** on Monday 29th June. This is an all-day event for pupils, staff and parents (in the afternoon). Join in the celebration of ten decades of St John's.







## Meet our youngest weathermen



**The Lambs are learning about different types of weather.** This week we have looked at whirling, twirling wind where we chased bubbles blowing in the breeze. Later on in the week we snuggled up in our igloo, cooking fish for dinner after playing in the chilly snow.





# PRE-PREP



## Year 2 visit a Northwood church



**Year 2 had a terrific trip to the United Reformed Church yesterday.** The boys have been learning about churches in Miss Morgan's R.E. lessons and the visit brought everything to life. They were able to explore the building, ask the Minister questions, listen to his talk and some even managed to stroke his very friendly black Labrador. The trip was short, enjoyable and educative, ideal for a gloomy morning in January.







## Learning about Kandinsky in Year 1



Otters and Owls have been learning about the famous artist 'Wassily Kandinsky' and these are some of the facts the boys found out about him: Kandinsky was a Russian painter. He was born on 16<sup>th</sup> December 1866 in Moscow. He liked painting abstract paintings. This means that the picture is more like a pattern than a proper object or scene. He used geometric shapes for some of his ideas. When Kandinsky was young, he went to a painting class in Germany. He was 30 years old when he started the class. He used colour to show his feelings and likes to use geometric shapes in his designs. He was a creative person. When he was a child he liked to play the piano and the cello. He also wrote poetry. The boys experimented by creating their own 'Kandinsky' designs, using different types of paints, based on a painting called 'Squares with Concentric Circles'. Some boys also used pastels and used another Kandinsky design for inspiration.







# Code of Conduct in PSHCEE



Year 4, in PSHCEE, have been discussing our Code of Conduct and how the meaning of the words should impact on them both in and out of school. Here is a selection of the new words they individually thought of for a new decade and the next century of our amazing school.







There's been some friction in Year 4!



**The Year 4 boys have, this term, been learning about Forces and Friction.** This week's experiment was a 'Top Secret Mission' to discover how much force was needed to move the trainer across different surfaces. After testing each surface three times, we were able to get an accurate reading off the Newton Metre and record the results. This was great fun. The boys have also been using different websites to find interesting and relevant facts about our topics.







## U11 hockey v Ashton House 17th January

**U11 A v Ashton House Won 1-0**

**Scorers:** Blake

**Outstanding performances:**

The whole team

The majority of the game was spent in the Ashton House D but it proved difficult to shoot as players bunched up. Calls went round to spread the play and use the full width of the pitch to lure the defence out so that quick counter-attacks might yield some success. After a brief and foiled Ashton House attack the St John's players transferred the ball quickly up the pitch and created three shooting opportunities, the last of which was scored. We look forward to our next fixture against UCS.



**U11 B v Ashton House Won 4-0**

**Scorers:** Shay 2, Zian 1, Lucas 1

**Outstanding performances:**

The whole team

This was a strong performance from the U11B's against Aston House. The boys know that an improvement on passing as a team is a key focus right now. Scanning before the pass in order to find a teammate and when opportunities arise in the 'D' to not panic and not to become selfish. They started to respond really well to this feedback on Thursday evening at Hockey Club and this clearly transferred into this fixture the day after. Clearer glimpses of linking up and team play means that they are playing with more excitement and joy for the game. Keep it up!







# U9 rugby v Hampton Prep 21st January

## U9 A v Hampton Prep

**Scorers:** Owen 2, Alex 1, Bailey 1, Leo 1, Aubrey 1

### Outstanding performance: Marcus

After quite a long break from school rugby this was a good first match back! We had the first pass-off for the game and were unlucky not to score within the first 10 seconds of the match. What was evident from the word go was boys running forward and passing where the space was. Occasionally the odd player was still cutting inside unnecessarily but lots of positive signs heading in the direction of playing 'heads up' rugby. The rush defence and tackling was immense although we must respond to feedback from the referee immediately when asked to tackle lower. Marcus defended well and was key in sucking in defenders and shifting the ball wide in attack at just the right time before the tackle. All six tries scored by St John's were team tries which involved at least three or more phases of play and with a lot of players and hands shifting the ball accurately. A coach can't ask for more. Well done!



## U9 B v Hampton Prep

**Scorers:** Thomas 1, Matthew 1, Mehul 1, Mustafa 1, Ali 2

### Outstanding performance: Ali

The team started well in attack recycling the ball out of tackles efficiently which lead to an early try by Arjun. Defensively they were understandably rusty but this improved with better line speed and lower contact points.. The match swung to and fro between the teams with both sides producing good scores and tighter defence. Ali popped up twice on the wing for his tries and Matthew produced a very powerful run through the opposition for his. The team did well to achieve 7 scores and managed to complete 3 turnovers through the 7 tackle rule.







# U9 rugby v Hampton Prep 21st January

## U9 C v Hampton Prep

**Scorers:** Freddie 1, Hrishi 2, Harry 3, Vineel 1, Thomas 2

### Outstanding performances:

Freddie and Harry

Both teams were very evenly matched with St John's and Hampton Prep scoring on a regular basis. In the first half it took us a bit of time to get into the match but once we got running onto the ball we started to score some good tries. In the second half, our game really improved with Freddie making some great tackles. In attack, we started to support the ball carrier and Thomas gave a super pass from a tackle for Vineel to score a very good try. Harry used his pace to beat a number of defenders and run the length of the pitch to score some tries. In defence, we still need to move up and tackle lower. However, this was a great team effort. Well done!



## U9 D v Hampton Prep

**Scorers:** James 2, Kayhan 1, Michael 1, Ahmed 1, Keshav 1

### Outstanding performance:

James

The boys started the new year with a lot of energy and enthusiasm. We kicked off the game with some powerful runs from James and Ahmed. Our support play was getting better throughout the game which created more options to score more tries. Overall it was a promising start but we need to concentrate on tackling lower to create more pressure in defence, well played boys good performance from all.







# U12 hockey v Bedford School 22nd January

## U12 A v Bedford School Won 9-5

**Scorers:** Arian 4, Rodrigo 2, Ethan 2, Nishil 1

**Outstanding performance:** Arian

This was the very first time that the St John's U12 A team had played against Bedford School. It was an excellent game played in a great spirit between two equal teams. The play went from end to end and there were some outstanding plays in both attack and defence, which led to some great goals. The defence was strong throughout and the communication through the team was noticeable. The team played a wider passing game which constantly stretched and challenged the Bedford team. The midfield maestro Arian orchestrated the attack with Ethan, Rodrigo and Nishil benefitting by scoring. Raffi was great in goal and Arian showed his class with four goals. Well done and congratulations to all the boys!

## U12 B v Bedford School Lost 7-5

**Scorers:** Yusuf 1, Rohan 1, Alexander 1, Charlie 2

**Outstanding performances:** Hilkesh and Vishwadrik

Our first ever match against Bedford proved to be a very good match with both teams scoring lots of goals. Bedford were able to keep their attacking shape and they moved the ball well around the pitch. In goal, Hilkesh was excellent making many saves for the side. At the back in defence, Vishwadrik played very well, defended solidly and moved the ball well in attack. There were moments when we had some scoring opportunities but good defence from Bedford stopped us. However, Charlie was on hand to score two goals and Yusuf's skill on the ball always put the opposition defence under pressure. This was a very good effort by the side against an athletic opposition who could have scored many more goals. Well done!







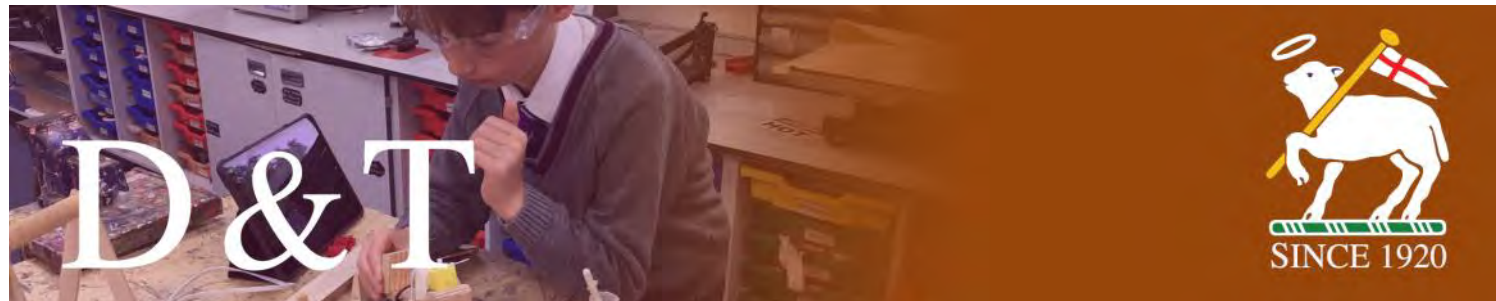
## National Children's Orchestra success



**Vivaan (6M)** has joined less than a handful of St John's Old Boys in being accepted into the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain. This is a huge achievement which reflects his talent on the viola. He will perform with the U11 orchestra which has a week long residential course in the summer at Port Regis School in Dorset culminating in a concert on Saturday 29th August. Very well done, Vivaan!







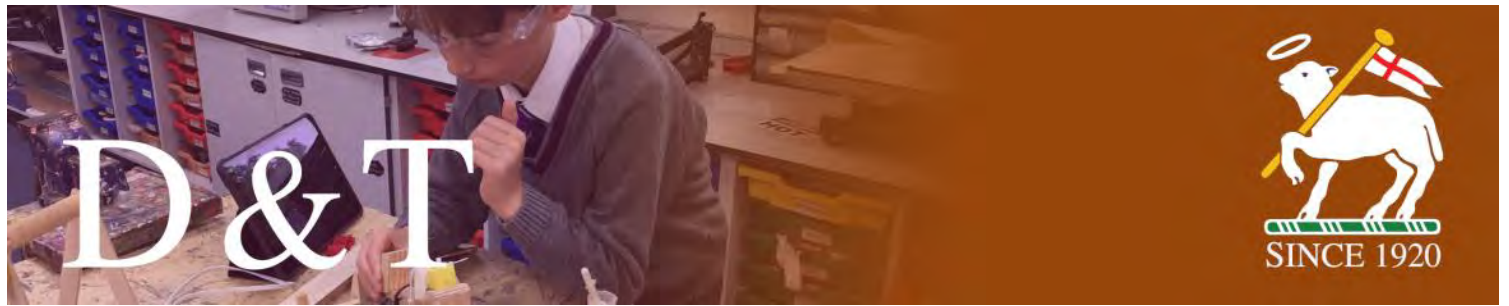
## Stop Motion Club news



**Its early days for the Stop Motion Club** as they start to learn how to have fun animating objects found around the classroom including modelling clay. We look forward to working in teams to make more complex stories and learning the tricks of the trade from watching professional animators at work.







## A hive of activity in the workshop this week



**Year 8** have been completing their **Bottle Coats** and working on a 'Product in a Tin' whilst **Year 3** have tested their Egyptian shadufs to see if they will hold water, pivot and if the counterweights work.







Congratulations to our Artists of the week; **Marcus, Shay and Kian**.

1. **Marcus** in Year 4 has been working very hard on his design for his Roman shield.
2. This Mona Lisa has been drawn by **Shay** in Year 6. He is working hard in his group to create this masterpiece.
3. **Kian** in Year 8 is thinking carefully about the design for his mosaic trivet.

Other work going on in the art room this week.

4. **Year 4** have been painting their shields red.
5. Some boys in **Year 5** have made good luck envelopes to celebrate the Chinese New Year.
6. The boys in **Year 3** have been threading beads to finalise their Egyptian collars.

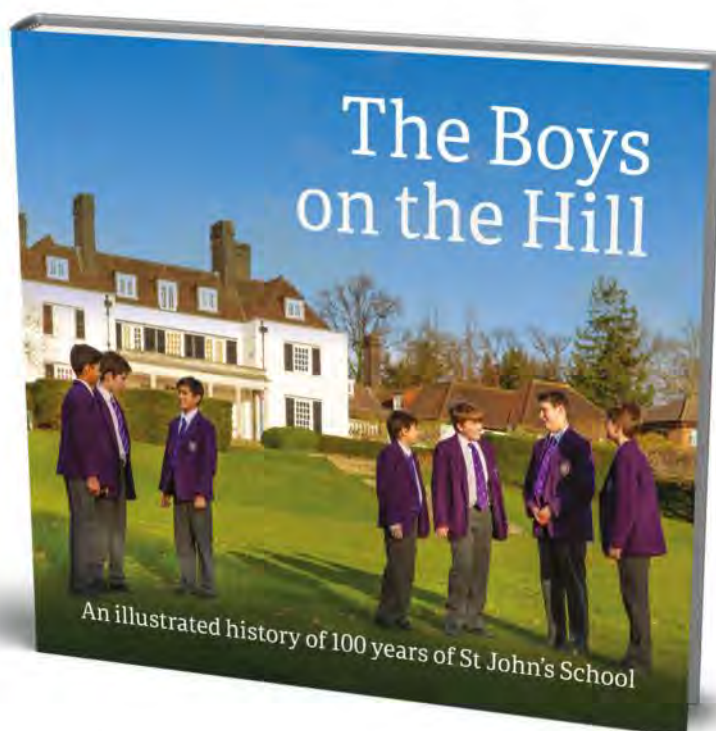


Please spread the word.....

## NOW AVAILABLE

### The Boys on the Hill: an illustrated history of 100 years of St John's School

As part of St John's Centenary celebrations, we have produced a fully illustrated 224-page history of the School. **The Boys on the Hill** traces the journey from the spare room of a Pinner vicarage to the spacious campus we enjoy today. Along the way we meet the visionary founder of the School, and the Headmasters, teachers and pupils who have made up the St John's community over 100 years.



Written by former Headmaster Chris Kelly and former parents, Phil Savage and Caroline Cooper, **The Boys on the Hill** contains dozens of photographs and reminiscences from every era. With a foreword from the Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, it also describes St John's today as it continues in its second century to provide the best education for pupils.

To order your personal copy of this wonderfully illustrated hardback book, please complete the online order form on the St John's website by visiting [www.st-johns.org.uk/centenary-book](http://www.st-johns.org.uk/centenary-book)



# OUTLOOK



**Years 7 and 8 are invited to  
St John's School Disco!**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February**

**7.00 – 9.30pm**



**Norman Hall, St John's School**

**Potter Street Hill**

**Northwood**

**HA6 3QY**



**There will be a DJ and light  
refreshments**

**Tickets: £10**



**All proceeds will go to our  
charity, Play Skill**



# OUTLOOK



## RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch How to take part



If you have a chance, encourage birds to come to your chosen spot by putting food out in the weeks leading up to the Birdwatch. You can get ideas for making bird feeders at [rspb.org.uk/youth/makeanddo/activities/index.aspx](https://www.rspb.org.uk/youth/makeanddo/activities/index.aspx) or you can buy ready-made food and feeders.



On the big day, find a good place to watch, then use our simple counting sheet to write down the birds you see. You could do this at lunchtime or make it part of a lesson.



Now, the really important bit – tell us your results, even if you didn't see anything. You can do this online at [rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch](https://www.rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch). The online form can be used on a whiteboard so that your class can help enter the information.



You then get to see a whizzy chart breaking down the results nationally (great for numeracy work!), followed by one displaying your school's results. Choose how you want to see your information displayed: from pictogram to pie chart! You can also download a certificate for taking part.



We'll send you a poster to say thanks for taking part. All of the results, from schools all over the UK, will help to give us a picture of how birds are faring.

To find out more or register,  
please visit [rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch](https://www.rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch)





# OUTLOOK



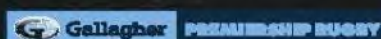
**TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR STADIUM**

**SATURDAY 28 MARCH 2020**



**SARACENS VS HARLEQUINS**

**GROUP TICKETS SELLING FAST.**  
EMAIL [THERESABOUCHIER@SARACENS.NET](mailto:THERESABOUCHIER@SARACENS.NET) TO BOOK NOW







**Saracens v Harlequins ~ Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> 2020 KO 15.00**  
**Tottenham Hotspur Stadium**  
**Silver Adults @ £28 / U16's @ £18**

If you would like a **Premium Experience** on the day instead, follow link  
<https://www.saracens.com/theshowdown/hospitality/>  
 Or contact [dominicfraser@saracens.net](mailto:dominicfraser@saracens.net)

As a partner school, Saracens would like to invite you to take advantage of this great promotional offer to their Showdown #1 game at this iconic stadium in North London. It will be the first ever Gallagher Premiership Rugby game to be held at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium and promises to deliver a mouth watering Showdown. There is a limited amount of tickets available at these prices and will be issued as first come first served. This ticket offer will close on **15<sup>th</sup> December 2019** or earlier if these discounted tickets sell out.

- Click link: <https://tickets.saracens.com/list/events/> (NOTE - This is a generic booking page)
- Enter the code **STJOHNS20** in the box for **Promotional Code** on RHS and press **OK**
- Click the **VIEW** button within the **TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR STADIUM** Page
- A map of the seats will appear – your tickets will be blocked out in **Silver**
  - Zoom in on your block of choice
  - Click on a seat in the map for U16's then click the **C&S U16 ticket** on the dropdown box on RHS, repeat for every U16 ticket required. **All U16's including babies will need a ticket**
  - For Adult tickets select the number of seats required on the map then add to basket.
  - Please **DO NOT** leave **SINGLE SEATS**
- Once you have chosen your seats click **Add To Cart**
- This takes you to your cart where you can view your seats and amend if necessary. Please check your seats are all together and you are happy with their location.
- Click **BUY NOW** button
- Follow the instructions on screen to set up/open an account and make the payment

**Please note your tickets will be PRINT@HOME tickets and available to download straight away**

**Social Media:** Don't forget to follow us on Twitter [@Saracens](https://twitter.com/Saracens), Facebook [@saracensofficial](https://facebook.com/saracensofficial) and Instagram [@saracensofficial](https://instagram.com/saracensofficial) and let us know you're coming to the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium! **#TogetherSaracens**

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require further information: [theresabouchier@saracens.net](mailto:theresabouchier@saracens.net)

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind regards,

Theresa Bouchier



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## Calendar and important dates

**Monday 27th January:** SATIPS General Knowledge Quiz Week  
Hockey v John Lyon: U12 A, B (h) (3.00pm)

**Tuesday 28th January:** Rugby v Wetherby Prep: U9 A, B, C, D, E (a) (2.30pm)  
D&T Open House (6M) (3.50pm-4.30pm)

**Wednesday 29th January:** School Council  
Quiz Club Science Challenge (2.00pm)  
D&T Open House (6A) (3.50pm-4.30pm)

**Thursday 30th January:** D&T Open House (6R) (3.50pm-4.30pm)

**Friday 31st January:** House Meetings  
Hockey v Haberdashers': U11 A, B (a) (2.30pm)

## Contact details

**Updates:** please continue to visit [www.st-johns.org.uk](http://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  @stjohnswood.

**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: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

**St John's Association Disco.** This event for Years 7 and 8 on Friday 7th February is fast approaching. Please see the flyer on the previous page. Tickets are on sale from the school office. It is worth noting that there has been considerable interest from other schools, RMS in particular!

**Merchant Taylors' Choral Society** is made up of parents and friends of Merchant Taylors' School. It meets on a Tuesday evening from 8.00-9.30pm and is about to start preparing for a performance on 23rd March at Merchant Taylors' School. The Director of Music at MTS, Mr Simon Couldridge, invites anyone who is interested in singing *Mozart's Coronation Mass and Britten's Rejoice in the Lamb* to contact Mrs Johnson at [kjohnson@st-johns.org.uk](mailto:kjohnson@st-johns.org.uk) for further details.

**Mr Taylor's Christmas Quiz.** If you want to enter your completed quiz in to be marked then you have until 31st January to hand it in to the school office. Winners will be announced in early February. Should you just wish to check it yourself then an answer sheet will be available from 3rd February.

**D&T Open Classroom.** A reminder to Year 6 parents that Mrs McSween's Open Classroom sessions are next week.

**Votes for Schools.** The question this week has been: **Would you go vegan for a month?** Yes: 34.3% No: 65.7%. Next week's question: **Should under 18s be given criminal records?** Please discuss this at home over the weekend.



**RSVP Big Schools' Birdwatch.** Please see the flyer on page 18. Mr Lawrence is encouraging all boys to take part.

**Natural History Museum event.** Please click [here](#) to find out more about a very exciting event coming up for dinosaur enthusiasts.

**House Point Totals:** 1st Lincoln 67.13, 2nd Churchill 66.13, 3rd Oates 63.82, 4th Lawrence 59.48

Enjoy the weekend and remember that the 6 Nations starts next Saturday.