

THE LAMB



St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 173



From the
Headmaster

Whilst Year 8 have been focussing on their senior school transfer exams the boys from Years 5, 6 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 the Year 7 boys who took their papers in an exam hall for the first time.

Assemblies have focussed on teamwork and the origins and traditions of Burns Night.

I spent some time in the Nursery igloo! I know they enjoyed playing in the snow this week. I was also able to see Year 4 involved with their mathematical discussions on angles and the grid method whilst the Robins and Squirrels were designing instructions for making a fresh salad as part of their five a day.

In sport both U11 teams played with real determination against Berkhamsted and the U10s and U11s had inaugural fixtures with Ashton House and Hampton Prep. I am looking forward to seeing how the U11s get on this afternoon in their hockey fixtures against UCS.

Please see page 12 where there is an invitation from the St John's Association.

S. Roberts

The show must go on



We were all taken slightly by surprise on Tuesday afternoon as, in no time at all, everywhere was covered in a thick blanket of snow. Fortunately our grounds and maintenance staff were at the ready with shovels and salt to clear the site so that the School could open as normal the following morning. The younger boys were delighted as they wrapped up in coats, hats, scarves and wellies and made the first snowmen of this winter. For Mr Phillips, who has spent the last six winters in the U.A.E., the wintry weather was definitely something of a novelty!





Healthy eating in the Robins and Squirrels



As we have been talking about keeping healthy we decided to make salad in Reception. We cut, chopped and grated lettuce, cucumber, red pepper, cheese and tomatoes. Everyone tried something, even if it was only a lick!





The Lambs conduct an ice investigation



This week we have discussed how we could turn water in to ice. We filled containers with water and put them into the freezer overnight. The next day we saw how the water changed from a liquid in to a solid. We had great fun playing with the ice whilst it melted in our warm hands. We were also lucky enough to have a snowy day!





PRE-PREP

Kandinsky art 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 16th 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. 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 paints, coloured card, sticky paper and crayons, mainly based on a painting called 'Squares with Concentric Circles'.





U11 A & B v Berkhamsted 18th January

U11 A v Berkhamsted Drew 2-2

Scorers: Nishil 1, Reece 1

Outstanding performances:

The whole team

The Berkhamsted side were a good challenge in terms of their athleticism and quick passing play. Short corners were introduced ahead of the Haileybury Tournament in February and our boys forced several through well-worked attacking play. A brace of goals from close range came courtesy of Nishil and Reece. At times our boys were beaten to the ball a little and at the end of the game there was a fair degree of frustration that the win had got away, but we look to work on becoming more clinical in training and our next fixture against UCS.



U11 B v Berkhamsted Lost 2-3

Scorers: Asikoo 1, Varun 1

Outstanding performances: Sam G

This was an improved performance compared to the first fixture which happened before Christmas. There are a number of boys here, eager to put their stamp down for the B-squad which is great to see, keep it up. St John's started well with many opportunities and managed to score first. Berkhamsted battled well and through slightly less possession managed to level on both occasions after we scored. It was a similar game in the second half with St John's having the bulk of opportunities and so perhaps it was a bit frustrating to lose this fixture by one goal. The boys did play better and they are creating chances which shows their development, so certainly reasons to keep their chin up. Well done.





U10 A & B v Ashton House 18th January

U10 A v Ashton House Won 2-0

Scorers: Oliver 2

Outstanding performances: Oliver

Our first match against Ashton House who gave us a good game. The opposition positioned themselves very well around the pitch and at times our marking at the back in the mid-field really needed to be much tighter when they had the ball. However, Oliver took his two chances very well and hit the ball powerfully past the opposition goalkeeper. At times, we tried to pass down the middle and the wide players must learn to stay near the touchlines to create the space for the whole team in attack and defence. However, a good effort from the team and well done.



U10 B v Ashton House Won 3-0

Scorers: Lucas 2, Hamza 1

Outstanding performances:

The whole team

The boys performed well in their first game of the season against an experienced Ashton House side, we started well with Lucas getting 2 quick goals; both from good attacking play where their defence made a few errors and we capitalised on them. Our constant pressure won us the ball on multiple occasions in the midfield however we were caught out a few times on the counter attack but Kian in goal claimed any ball that came near him and distributed it accordingly. We looked very threatening when we took the ball down the wings and looked for players around the goal but didn't use this enough which we will need to work on in training. Well played to all.





U9 rugby v Hampton Prep 22nd January

U9 Wales v Hampton Prep

Try scorers: Danyal 2, Kian 2, Remika 1, Kabir 3, Krish 2

Outstanding performances: Kian, Danyal and Kabir

Our first ever match against Hampton Prep and both sides were very evenly matched. We started very well by scoring a try from the start with some strong running from Kian. Kabir and Danyal also ran well with George showing glimpses of real flare in attack. Our passing and running onto the ball was good but on occasions we just need to pass the ball a little earlier before contact. In the second half when under pressure we tended to throw the pass back and lost a fair amount of ground.

However, the opposition certainly put more pressure on us which gave us less space to attack. This was a really good game by all the players and some things to work on for the next match. Well done!



U9 New Zealand v Hampton Prep

Try scorers: Rafi 4, Shane 3, Oliver 2, Jimi 1

Outstanding performances: Nishant

Both the boys and Mr Kruger really enjoyed this fixture. Two evenly matched teams although St John's were even stronger in the second half keeping Hampton pinned back very close to their own try line. Last week the boys had two good training sessions, linking really well to the wider channels, off-loading whilst running forwards to support runners also running onto the ball. In defence we are trying to step it up to not just tackling but wrapping the ball carrier's arms when possible and driving the opponent backwards until they go to ground. A lot of this new learning was evident in the match but not quite to the standard I've seen in training. Match play certainly brings the challenge of individuals wanting to score tries and we must realise that as a team we are stronger and can score even more. Keep it up chaps.





U9 rugby v Hampton Prep 22nd January

U9 England v Hampton Prep

Try scorers: James C 4, Anay 2, Mihir 3, Kian A 1, Aarav 1, Jamie 1, George 1

Outstanding performances: The whole team

An extremely solid performance saw the whole team get onto the score sheet as a result of our brilliant distribution and composure in attack. We threatened Hampton Prep in every area of the field with ball in hand and supported our teammates well in order to speed up the game. In defence we were a little bit lax on first up tackles but made up for this by our cover tackles led by Kian A. In the second half we struggled to keep our scoring rate up due to our fitness levels but the desire to score was still there and we just needed to keep the intensity up and concentrate on our passing to make sure the ball is easier to catch for our teammates. Well done boys, you deserve it!!

U9 Ireland v Hampton Prep

Try scorers: Armaan 2, Oliver S-E 3, Luca 1, Emeka 3, George G 1, Rehaan 1

Outstanding performances: Daniel A and Adam

A number of things fell into place in the first half; getting off the line in defence without leaving too many gaps in the line, and in the second half, running harder at the opposition before offloading in the tackle and passing to wider spaces. Oliver and George exceeded expectations with their ball carrying and offloads. Emeka exploited the wide spaces with his speed to get in behind their defensive line, whilst Daniel, Rehaan and Ahaan provided ample opportunities with their support lines. The players that stood out in defence were Kian J and Adam with their fast line speed and strong low tackles.





Year 4 learn about linkages



Abdullah: It was fun making the linkages and trying to make the animal move. They look amazing. I didn't know it was going to work and I've learnt a lot!

Jamie: I've learnt about fixed and loose pivots.

Luke: I've learnt that there are two types of pivots, one is called loose and one is called fixed. They control the linkages.

Kian: Since I've learnt about linkages I know that if something breaks I can fix it.

Alistair: I have enjoyed learning about linkages. I have seen linkages everywhere at home and at school.

George: I recognise linkages everywhere now we have done the topic!

Roshan: It's amazing how you first pull a thing and the other side moves. How cool is that!





1. **Panagiotis** in 6S has painted a beautiful winter birch tree picture, just in time for the snow!
2. **Edmond** in 7H has finished off his graffiti wall art which he created during portfolio club.
3. This Sakura branch is by **Shay** in 5K.
4. **Year 7** have been learning about the artist Michael Craig-Martin.
5. Here are some **Year 3** Egyptian necklaces.



OUTLOOK



**SAT 23 MAR 2019 | LONDON STADIUM
QUEEN ELIZABETH OLYMPIC PARK**

THE SARACENS ACADEMY EXPERIENCE

**INSIGHT INTO THE SARACENS
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- / ACADEMY MANAGER + GRADUATE Q&A**
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- / JUNIOR PRIZE DRAW WITH EVERY U16 TICKET**

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**TICKET PRICES ADULTS £58 | U16'S £42
FIRST COME FIRST SERVED - LIMITED SPACES**

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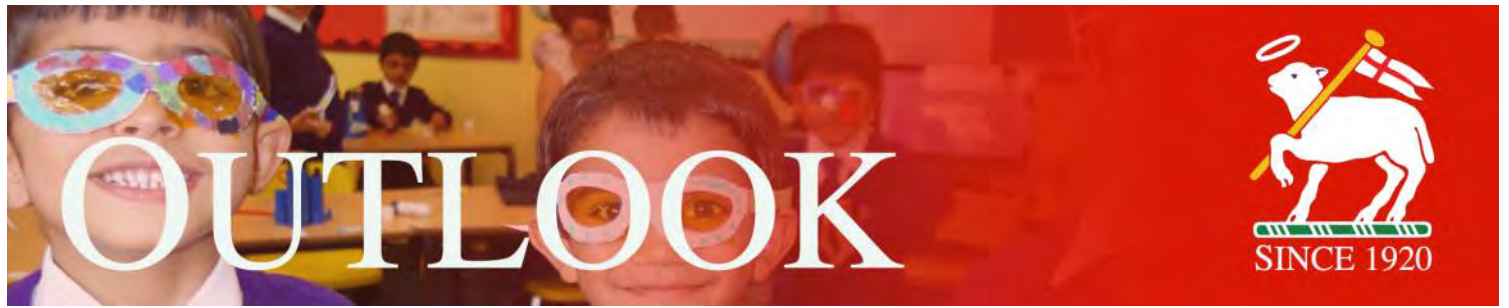
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SJA Lite

Have you always wanted to join the St John's Association, but just don't have the time to spare?

St John's Association are excited to announce "SJA Lite". A new way to help out but without the commitment!

We are looking for a team of parents that can help us on a more ad hoc basis, for setting up for events or help on the day, whatever time you can spare.

If you would like more information, please email our Chair of the committee Kara at Karaheward@gmail.com

Everyone is welcome.



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

Friday 15th 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 the charity,
Magic Breakfast



Calendar and important dates

Monday 28th January: St Albans Entrance Examinations
SATIPS General Knowledge Quiz Week
Hockey v John Lyon: U12 A, B (h) (3.00pm)

Tuesday 28th January: St Albans Entrance Examinations
Rugby v Wetherby Prep: U9 A, B (a) (2.30pm)

Wednesday 30th January: School Council
Hockey v St Martin's: U13 A, U12 A (h), U13 B (a) (2.30pm)

Thursday 31st January: Eco-Council

Friday 1st February: St Columba's Entrance Examinations
House Meetings
Year 6 History Competition at Davenies
Northwood Adventure Lecture for Years 7 & 8 (2.00pm)
Hockey v Haberdashers': U11 A, B (a) (2.15pm)
Hockey v Ashton House: U10 A, B (h) (2.15pm)

Contact details

Updates: please continue to visit www.st-johns.org.uk for all the latest information on sports fixtures and results. The website will have announcements in case of emergency. You can also follow us on twitter  @stjohnsnorthwood.

Mailings: if you have received The Lamb from someone else and would like to be sent your own copy direct each week, please email: [Lamb Editor](mailto: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

Mr Taylor's Christmas Quiz. If you want to enter your completed quiz in to be marked then you have until 1st February to hand it in to Mr Taylor. Winners will be announced in early February. Should you just wish to check it yourself then an answer sheet will be available from 4th February.

St John's Association Disco. After their exams I am sure Years 7 and 8 boys are looking forward to this event on Friday 15th February. Please see the flyer on the previous page. Tickets are on sale from the school office.

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 25th March at Merchant Taylors' School. The Director of Music at MTS, Mr Simon Couldridge, invites anyone who is interested in singing *Vivaldi's Gloria and Pergolesi's Magnificat* to contact Mrs Savage at jsavage@st-johns.org.uk for further details.

Saracens Academy Experience. Please see the flyer on page 11 which is exclusively for Saracens Partner Prep Schools. It is advertising special tickets for the London Stadium fixture against Harlequins on the 23rd of March. Please click [here](#) and use code **ACADEMY2019** to purchase tickets.

House Music Festival. This continues next week with beginner and Grade 1 boys performing. Please see the notices in your form room or in the music corridor for your precise time.

Attain Magazine. This is the IAPS official magazine which we now receive electronically to help the environment. Please click on the link to read: [Attain](#)

Sensible Clothing. During this particularly cold spell of weather please ensure that your son has a coat, hat and gloves and that he has a full tracksuit for games sessions.

Year 8 Bikeability Forms. Bikeability Week for Year 8 boys begins on Monday 11th February. All boys have received a consent form which should be completed and returned to Mr Lawrence by **Monday 28th January**. Don't forget to bring your bike to school on **1st February**.

Votes for Schools. Our question this week has been: **Are your local shops disability-friendly?** Yes: 68% No: 32%. Next week's question: **Will the new Holocaust Memorial make a difference?** Please discuss this at home over the weekend.

House Point Totals: Oates 7.00; Lincoln 6.24; Churchill 6.21; Lawrence 6.08

Enjoy a relaxing weekend now that the exams are over.