



St John's School Newsletter

12th July 2024

Values of this half term

Courage and Responsibility

'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go'.
Joshua 1:9



Class 4 PGL Residential Trip

Class 4 returned from their residential trip last week, tired but excited. They had a brilliant time participating in a wide range of activities. Apparently the food was particularly good! The children were a credit to themselves and the school throughout the week. Special thanks to Miss Ng for organising the trip and to Mrs Youngs and Mrs Kay who accompanied.



Visit from Quantum Care—Jungle Book

Some residents of Quantum Care, a home for the elderly visited us on Wednesday morning to watch a performance of Jungle Book performed by classes 3 and 4. In the interval they were served teas, coffee and cakes. We are looking forward to sharing the performances with families at the start of next week.



Move up day

On Thursday we welcomed to St John's the children who will be joining class 1 in September and their parents. We look forward to getting to know them all. Our other year groups joined together to form their new classes as well during the morning. Year 6 also visited their secondary school for the day, a taster of things to come in September.

SATS results

Well done to our year 6 children for their results in the SATs tests. Each of them should be proud of the progress they have made and the skills and knowledge that they have acquired. Very well done!

Beacon Pupils

Class 1 - Jaime has settled into class 1 so well. She is making friends and following our class rules really well. This week she has challenged herself to write a longer piece of writing about her treasure map, with finger spaces and brilliant use of her phonics. She is definitely ready for Class 2.

Class 2 - Hallelujah—for her kind and caring attitude to others. She has been a fantastic group leader when creating our 3D maps, ensuring everyone had a turn. In maths she has great knowledge of the time and shared this with her year 1 partner. Outside in the playground Hallelujah is always a brilliant friend, ensuring everyone joins in and showing a positive attitude. In our Sports day practice, she was loudly cheering on her friends and congratulating others on their achievements. Hallelujah is always a ray of sunshine and we are very proud of her achievements this week.

Class 3 - Jenson : He has thrown himself into learning this week, tackling all the activities we have been doing with enthusiasm and determination. He brought all this to his new classroom during transition activities, sharing his positivity and resilience. He has contributed fantastically to class discussions and worked well alongside his talk partner. Well done Jenson


Class 4 - Brogan - He was a real credit to the school on our trip to PGL. School adults, as well as PGL instructors and staff, commented on his impeccable manners, encouragement and support of other children, and positive attitude. He faced and conquered lots of fears too! Brogan has matured so much recently, and has embraced new responsibilities and roles. He has shone already as a warm and welcoming buddy, and he has really impressed us with his team work during our Jungle Book rehearsals. He is showing that he's definitely ready to be a Year 6!

"I came that they may have life, life in all its fullness."


John 10:10

Top Tips and Word of the Week - Terminology

Digraph: A grapheme made of two letters that represent one sound. An example is the 'sh' in 'shop'. Your child may use the mantra 'two letters, one sound' when they spot a digraph.

Word		Definition	Challenge
elegant		Stylish, graceful.	Pretend you are really elegant as you walk.

This week's word for younger children:

Word		Definition	Challenge
flabbergasted		Extremely surprised.	Look up the word flabbergasted in the thesaurus. What other words are like it? How are the two words different?

School Fete

The fete seems a long time ago and although the weather was dreadful we are grateful for all the effort and organisation that parents and the fete committee put into it. Despite the weather the fete brought in £3800 for the school. This year we would like to use the proceeds to continue to develop our school environment including the library, class rooms and the class 1 outdoor area.

THANK YOU ALL ONCE AGAIN!

Safe Visitors

This week we had another visit from Charlie the dog, some of our children have had some calm time reading to Vince and Linda with Charlie. Did you know that all visitors to school are required to sign in, read our Safeguarding Leaflet and wear a red Visitor lanyard or their own photo ID?

Parking

The safety of our children is paramount, there has been a noticeable increase in non-staff cars in our car park. Parents are **not** permitted to use the staff car park between 8.30 and 3.30 to turn around, drop off or collect your child.

Staff, deliveries and emergency vehicles must be able to access the car park at all times of the day.

Parents must use the pavement alongside Lemsford Road and into the side gate by ASC - not walk through the car park at any time.

Children that are late should come to the main office using the pavement only, never through the main gate/car park.

Piano player needed!

We have been very fortunate to have Mrs Beart play the piano for us each Friday morning Celebration Assembly. We have been very grateful for her playing and the way she has helped the children organise the sound system. Now that Harry will be leaving us at the end of this term we will also be losing Mrs Beart. We are hoping that there is a piano playing parent who might be able to take on the role. Please contact Mrs Boylan if you might be able to help

Hall Hire

Our school hall is available to hire for children's parties, extra tuition classes and a variety of other events. Please ask Mrs Boylan for more details.

Food Bank Fridays

For the start of the Autumn term we will begin the class collections again, however the box is always by the front door and we welcome all suitable donations. Thank you.

Nut Free School

A gentle reminder that we are a nut free environment, packed lunches and snacks must not contain nuts. Pesto is often overlooked but contains pine nuts and is therefore not allowed. Many thanks

Holiday Club

Confirmation letters have been sent out and invoices uploaded to Arbor.

DIARY DATES

15th July - KS2 Productions of Jungle Book 2.15 p.m. and 6.00 p.m.

16th July - KS2 Production of Jungle Book 6.00 p.m.

16th July - Piano Concert at 2.30pm (see below)

17th July - Class 2/3 STEM Science and Technology Workshops—trip to Stevenage

17th July—Class 1 stay and play 8.40 a.m.

18th July - Rock Steady Concert 10.00 a.m.

18th July - LSA Cake Sale Class 1 to provide the cakes please.

18th July—Year 6 leavers' treat

22nd July - Leavers Assembly 2.15pm (time changed)

23rd July - Last day of term (1.30pm finish)

2nd September - Inset Day

3rd September — Children back for the start of the Autumn term.

Piano Concert - a new date for your diaries

There will be a short concert given by children who have piano lessons in school with Ms Duerden. It will be on Tuesday 16th July at 2.30 p.m. and parents of those children who have lessons are invited to attend.

ASC role

We are presently looking to employ someone to work in ASC before and after school. If you know of someone who might be interested in working with us would you please ask them to contact us by ringing the school. The role is for the sessions before school Monday to Friday and after school Monday to Thursday. We would consider more than one person to cover the role.

Class 1 Stay and Play

Wednesday 17th July 8.40 - 9.40 a.m.

On Wednesday 17th July there will be a Stay and Play session for parents of children in class 1. It will be an informal opportunity to spend time together, reflecting on the children's first year at St John's before moving onto class 2 in September. Please let us know via Tapestry or an email to Mrs Lewis (admin@stjohns561.herts.sch.uk) if you are able to come along. Younger siblings are welcome

Sports Day—today!

We had perfect weather for our Sports Day today! Congratulations to all the children for their enthusiasm and good spirited sense of competition! It was lovely having the support of students from Stanborough School helping to run the carousel of activities. We enjoyed the parents' and toddlers' races as well! Thank you to the LSA for their donations of lollies for all the children.

Hello

Summer continues to elude us, but I have a new theory - for the first time in a very long time, it's actually going to wait until the school summer holidays to be warm and sunny for more than half an hour... Here's hoping!

All of this dark cloud prompted me to tell the story of Jesus calming the storm in collective worship on Thursday. With the aid of some excellent acting we wondered how we'd have felt in the storm, why Jesus stayed asleep in the boat when things were going so wrong, and what this story might mean for us today when we're feeling a bit nervous of moving to a new school or class.

Before we break up for the summer holidays, here's a quick reminder of the three great things happening at church for families in July.

On 13th July from 3:30 - 5:30pm, it's our strawberry tea fundraiser in the beautiful gardens of 13 Lemsford village, AL87TN. This will be a great event for all the family.

Not only will you be fed with delicious scones, cake, and strawberries, you'll have the opportunity to participate in (probably) the most exciting duck race of the year.

Sunday Club returns on July 14th, with a party before the summer holiday.

Our next **Connect@4** is on **July 21st**, and we'll be thinking about how God is always with us on our journey through life - whatever age we are. Connect@4 is a relaxed Sunday afternoon (4pm) event, offering community, food, fun, music, creativity and exploration for all ages. If the weather is kind, we'll be outside. Have a great weekend

Rev Kathryn



Governors' treat afternoon

The children who earned their Governors' award this year received their treat on Tuesday afternoon. A member of 'Captain Fantastic' visited school to give a show of magic and science. Treats, games, a snow machine, gloop were all part of the afternoon and each child went home with a gift of a magic set. A huge thanks goes to our governors for organising the afternoon, especially to Carrie Shannon and Donna Shepherd who spent the afternoon providing the snacks.

Just a reminder for the children to keep their merit certificates safely at home and to then bring them into school once 5 have been earned. Then a Governors' award certificate will be given to them, this usually happens in a Friday Celebration Assembly towards the end of a term.



PGL 2024 — Class 4

