



St John's School Newsletter

19th April 2024

Values of this half term Dignity and Respect

'Treat others as you like to be
treated yourself'
Matthew 7:12



We hope you had a lovely Easter and holiday. We have had a very good start to the summer term with the children settling well into their new learning. Clubs start next week.

Grant Shapps Visit to St John's

Following on from Parliament Week in November, Grant Shapps will be visiting St John's on Friday 26th April. Grant will enjoy a guided tour of the school with some of our Year 6s, followed by a short Q&A session with Classes 3 and 4 where we hope to find out more about the role of an MP and what happens in Parliament. Due to this being a short visit we will not be inviting parents to join this time, however please do email the office if you have any questions you would like passed on.

Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to two new children who joined us this week - Prosper in class 2 and Reuben in class 3. We look forward to getting to know them and their families.

John Lewis donation

We are very grateful to Faye Dave who secured a donation from John Lewis for us. We were able to purchase and have installed a new oven and hob for the kitchen in the school hall. This will hugely benefit the cooking part of the Design Technology. Thank you very much, Faye. We are still waiting to hear about how we did with the Tesco token scheme - thank you to everyone who helped to collect those little blue tokens!

Year 2 enjoying learning about capacity in Maths



Beacon Pupils

Class 1 - Kalia - has been working hard on her confidence and is now sharing so many thoughtful ideas with the class. She listens carefully and enjoys taking on challenges in the classroom and is beginning to use her phonics to write thoughtful sentences. She enjoys playing with her friends and has fun creating for games they can play together. Keep it up Kalia.

Class 2 - Will - for a fantastic and productive first week back. He has shown great organisation in finding resources when working independently. Over the course of the week he has written some excellent sentences and used the words in the classroom to ensure accurate spelling. He has also taken the time with his presentation and remembering capital letters and full stops. During our reading sessions he has taken an active role, making great contributions to discussions. As always Will is a kind and caring member of the class and is always looking out for those in Year 1 and Class 1.

Class 3 - Bernadette - her love of learning has shone through throughout our topics this week. She has really challenged herself to extend in her activities, recognising areas that she wants to come back to adjust or try a different method - particularly in maths where she was able to look back at her work and recognise a better strategy to completing whole numbers. Bernadette has shown great care for her classmates and others in the school and has a fantastic sense of responsibility to look after the classroom, recognising and offering help where needed.

Class 4 - Mylah - a really thoughtful member of class who always readily helps others. A kind and caring friend whose infectious smile and giggle always lifts the spirits of her friends! We have been impressed with her growing confidence in speaking up and sharing ideas in class, especially with sharing her knowledge and skills in maths. A wonderful class member who really embodies our School Values - well done!


"I came that they may have LIFE and have it abundantly"

John 10:10


Top Tips and Word of the Week

Explore your local Library. As well as books they will have audiobooks and events to develop speaking and listening. Find your nearest Library at <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/libraries-and-archives.aspx>

This week's word for younger children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
damp 	A bit wet.	Imagine your clothes are damp . How do they feel?

This week's word for our older children

Word	Definition	Challenge
curiously 	In an interesting way.	Think of fictional characters that behaved curiously . What did they say or do?

Parking

Parents are not permitted to use the staff car park between 8.45 and 3.15 to turn around, drop off or collect their child, unless you have a pre-booked appointment with a member of staff. Parking is available by the Church or Village Hall. Please be considerate to other road users and also ensure that children stay on the paths and pavements rather than walk through the carpark. **Please also be mindful of those that need to travel through the village and park considerately at all times.**

Maypole and Country Dancing

There is a Parent Preview Performance on Friday 3rd May at 2:15pm. This is for parents who will be on stalls during the main performance on May 6th so it gives them the chance to see the Maypole and Country Dancing and the singing.

Attendance

As you know good attendance at school gives children the best possible start in life. Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results. We would encourage all families to aim for the highest attendance at school that is possible. Missing a few days here and there soon mounts up and impacts the children's ability to socialise, progress and achieve.

Being Safe online - please follow [this link](#) to our website to see a great range of parent info posters on the various Apps and games your children might be using. At the bottom of this page are 2 different games your children can play to support their understanding of being safe online. This is also something we regularly cover in our PSHE lessons, see what you child is learning in PSHE this term [here](#). As always, if you are worried about your child's safety for any reason, please contact us straight away for support.

Here is the link to the latest online safety newsletter from Herts for learning: [hfl-online-safety-newsletter-spring-24-parents-or-carers \(thegrid.org.uk\)](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hfl-online-safety-newsletter-spring-24-parents-or-carers)

Lemsford Fete - Monday 6th May

Raffle tickets have been sent home with children. If you would like some more, please see Miss Lewis in the Office.

Please remember to bring back your ticket stubs and any money raised - into the school office.

Grass cutter

We are looking for someone with a ride on lawn mower who would be able to regularly cut the grass on the school field this summer. If you know of anyone, maybe someone who has a gardening business, would you please ask them to contact the school office.

DIARY DATES

26th April - Visit by Grant Shapps MP
29th April - Lucky Dip Bag Week
3rd May - Maypole Dancing Parent Preview at 2.15pm
6th May - Lemsford Fete
13th May - SATs week
16th May - Census Week, help by having a school meal
23rd May - LSA Cake Sale (Class 2 to provide cakes)
27th-31st May - Half Term
3rd June - Inset
4th June - Children back to school
6th June - Class Photos & Whole School Photo
10th June - Phonics Screening Week
13th June - Class 1 trip to Mill Green (am)
17th June - Arts & Outdoor Learning Week
19th June - Class 4 Cathedral Away Day 10-2.30pm
21st June - Book Fair 3.15pm in Hall
12th July - Sports Day
19th July - Reserve Sports Day
23rd July - Last day of term (1.30pm finish)

Building work

We are having the flat roof at the front of school replaced in the coming weeks. Work will begin in the Easter holidays with the roof above classes 1 and 2 being impacted first, however by the start of the summer term, although the project will continue, the rooms will be back to normal.

Count down to the Lemsford Fete - Bank Holiday Monday 6th May

There are just over two weeks until the Lemsford Fete, thank you for all the donation of chocolate, bottle and bric-a-brac that you have brought in so far. The children have been busy practising their singing and dancing, please return permission slips for your child to take part if you have not already done so.

Important dates

Friday 26th April Chocolate and Bottle Donation Day in exchange for non-uniform.

Week beginning Monday 29th April Lucky Dip Bags donation week, please see the email attachment letter from Katie Wardle.

Friday 3rd May at 2:15pm Parent Preview Performance. This is for parents who will be on the stalls when the children are performing their dances and singing.

Hello

I hope you had a great Easter break. Has anyone got any Easter eggs left?

A big theme of Easter is new life, and so this week in **Collective worship** we thought about the new life offered in baptism.

With the aid of my 'baptism backpack' we thought about the symbolism of the different parts of the baptism service, and how baptism is the start of a new journey with God through the whole of our life, not just a one off service.

Because of the school holidays, we delayed our **monthly Sunday club to this Sunday - 21st April, 11am**. We always love to see new children, as well as familiar faces, so why not give it a go this week. Lots of fun to be had with stories, crafts, conversation and much more. Parents and carers are welcome to remain in church for the service, or join their children if they're under school age.

Whilst I'm telling you about dates, I'll also trail our next **Connect@4 service, which we're holding on 19th May at 4pm**. Hopefully the weather will be kind, so we can hold an outdoor gathering focussed on exploring the theme of 'Pentecost' (the birthday of the church!). Connect@4 is an informal worship gathering that explores faith through 'doing' rather than sitting on pews. It's great for children of all ages.

Have a great weekend. Hopefully Spring will return soon!

Rev'd Kathryn

