



St John's School Newsletter

15th March 2024

Values of this half term

Love and Forgiveness

'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other.'
John 13: 34



Science Week

This week we have been taking part in British Science Week. Our activities culminated in a morning of Science experiments based on the lovely story 'Five Minutes Peace' by Jill Murphy. In their house teams the children carried out experiments to find the best, longest lasting bubble bath and the best biscuits for dunking for Mrs Large's much needed Five Minutes Peace! Very interesting results were produced, recorded and, finally, were presented in a sharing assembly at the end of the morning.



Saltmine Theatre Company Visit

On Wednesday the Saltmine Theatre Company visited St. John's to give a performance of Bob Hartman's 'Rhyming Bible.' It was an enthralling performance which included dancing, singing and acting; at one point there was even a rap battle between Moses and the Pharaoh! The performers took the children from the story of The Creation in the book of Genesis through to Jesus' Resurrection - quite a journey!



Beacon Pupils

Class 1 - Winter - has shown increasing confidence this half term. She has thoughtful ideas to share and is sharing more often in our group sessions. She is using her phonics brilliantly in her reading and showing thoughtful use of sounds in her writing as well. We love her helpful attitude in the classroom and are grateful for all her help each day. Keep it up Winter.

Class 2 - Hallelujah - for an excellent attitude to learning this week. She has shown great enthusiasm for our Science topic. She has shared her knowledge of the different parts of a plant and made great predictions about how our spider plant will grow. In art she has created a beautiful acrylic painting copying the works of Van Gogh. She recognised the different brush strokes that she could use along with the bright colours. Hallelujah always has a readiness to help especially around the classroom. She has been a great monitor ensuring that the classroom is neat and tidy. In the playground Hallelujah has also tried to be a great friend to others and make sure that she is demonstrating kindness.

Class 3 - Teddy - his enthusiasm and positive attitude have shone this week, he has challenged himself with his learning and used his understanding to support his learning partner. He has made fantastic links with previous learning to build on our new learning, and has shown fantastic focus and resilience. He has been thoughtful throughout the week, really embodying our school values with his care for others and the school/ class environment as a whole.

Class 4 - Charlotte - a thoughtful and caring member of class who embodies our School Values. She always works hard and shares insightful ideas and comments across all of our topics. Charlotte is a fantastic role model, in class and across the school, and can always be relied upon to be responsible and trustworthy. During the Science Week activity, she made sure everyone's ideas were valued and spoke with confidence when sharing the findings to the whole school. She is always kind and thoughtful towards others.


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

John 10:10


Top Tips and Word of the Week

When listening to your child talking, once in a while comment when they use a great word. If they tend to use simple words, then show them how they could use more advanced words.

This week's word for younger children:

Word		Definition	Challenge
cunning		Clever and sometimes trying to cheat.	Can you think of a book character who is cunning ?

This week's word for our older children

Word		Definition	Challenge
cosmopolitan		A cosmopolitan place or society is full of people from different cultures.	How cosmopolitan is our school? Which places can be described as cosmopolitan ?

Badminton

On Thursday three of our keenest badminton players, Tilly, Dylan and Lewis travelled to Birmingham to watch the All England Badminton Championship at the Utilita Arena in Birmingham. They really enjoyed the experience and we would like to extend our thanks Jo Moxham (Stanborough Sports Partnership) and Jo Stobo (our badminton coach) for organising the trip.

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.

Easter Holiday Club (2nd-5th April)

Emails have been sent to those who have requested places, to respond by 4pm on Tuesday 19th March.

We still have spaces, if you are interested please speak to Miss Lewis in the office.

Hours and costs would be:

8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.	£35
8.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	£25
1.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.	£25

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.thegrid.org.uk/hfl-online-safety-newsletter-spring-24-parents-or-carers)

Lemsford Fete - Monday 6th May

The count down for the fete has well and truly started! More information is in the letter attached to this email.

Children have been given a letter and some raffle tickets today.

A local estate agent will be letting us use their For Sale signs to advertise the fete. If you live on a road that has passing traffic and would be able to display one of these signs, would you please let us know, either via the school office, class reps or members of the LSA.

Mothering Sunday - Sunday 10th March

Thank you to those children who sang, led the prayers and readings. It was a lovely service and great to have you involved.

LSA NEWS

Planned LSA events

The following school events are being planned by the LSA:

Saturday 23rd March

LSA Parent Social at The Crooked Chimney

Thursday 28th March

Easter egg hunt after church service

TESCO Stronger Starts

Ends this month. Vote for St John's next time you are in any of these stores...

Hatfield AL9 5JY

Hatfield Express AL10 8FH

Shire Park Express AL7 1TW

Welwyn Express AL6 9EQ

Welwyn Garden City Exp AL7 2BQ

The project that receives the most votes will receive £1,500, your support would really help us to create our School Garden and enhance Science, Design and Technology for all our pupils.

DIARY DATES

Thursday 21st March

Rock Steady Concert 10.00 a.m.

Friday 22nd March

Chocolate Donation Day for the Fete

Sunday 24th March

Connect@4, St John's Church

Tuesday 26th March

School concert

Tuesday 26th March

Class 4 Dance Festival at Campus West

Wednesday 27th March

Class 3& 4 Young Shakespeare performance

Thursday 28th March

9am Easter Service at St John's Church - all parents welcome.

Easter Egg hunt after Church Service

Thursday 28th March

End of the Spring term 1.30 p.m.

Monday 15th April

INSET DAY—school closed to children

Tuesday 16th April

Children return to school for the start of the summer term.

Thank you to all the children who donated today, so far we have raised around £75.



Hello

It was fantastic to see so many of you in church on Sunday for other **All Together Mothering Sunday service**. The choir, readers, intercessors, server and crucifer, were all **WONDERFUL**. Thank you for making this such a special service. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

This week in **collective worship** we heard a lovely story by Max Lucado called 'You are precious in his sight'.

The world often tells people 'you're special if.. you have brains, looks, talent. But this book invites us to know that every person is special in God's eyes....just because. No qualifications necessary.

This felt like a great message to hear as we head towards Holy Week and Easter, which remind us again of God's love for us all.

We'll thinking about the events of this special week on **24th March at 4pm at our informal Connect@4 worship** gathering. With the help of lego, paper tearing, food, tree trunks, singing and more, we'll be heading off on an interactive journey towards Easter. This gathering is perfect for all families, including:

- families who have never been to church before
- families who normally go to another church on a Sunday morning
- families who worry about children sitting still or making a noise (you never have to worry about this, but as a parent I get it!).
- families who aren't really that sure about church, but are looking for a way to keep small people engaged during the school holidays.



Have a great weekend.

Rev Kathryn

