



# St John's School Newsletter

## 1st 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



### Beacon Pupils

**Class 1** - Carter-Jay - has settled into Class 1 and is so enthusiastic about his learning each day. He has shown wonderful focus in his phonics sessions and is using his phonics to help with his reading and writing each day. We love his great attitude to learning, his sense of humour and his creative ideas in his play.

**Class 2** - Raf - for coming back to school with great enthusiasm for learning. Raf has contributed to discussion and has confidently added his own inputs during small group learning and whole class. Raf's kind and caring nature has shone through this week and he has been a great learning partner and friend to those in Class 2. His growing confidence has been seen this week and he has been very interested in our new Plants topic where he enjoyed studying apple seeds using a magnifying glass.

**Class 3** - Miley - has shown so much enthusiasm for her learning and determination in her work. She has been confident throughout subjects in asking and answering questions, thinking deeply about the topics we have been undertaking and furthering her understanding. She has grown in confidence tackling our new fractions unit of work in maths, working independently to find both unit and non-unit fractions and showing fantastic focus. Thank you for being such a kind and caring member of our class Miley.

**Class 4** - Sofia - shows brilliant attention and focus in her learning and we have been really pleased to see the role model she is becoming. We have been particularly impressed with her hard work in Maths when converting measures; she has used resources brilliantly to help her and made great links to previous learning. In English, she shared creative and imaginative ideas, and was able to write a beautiful description including personification.

### Art Show

It was lovely seeing the children's artwork displayed in the school hall on Tuesday. It all looked very professional! If you have been unable to see or purchase your child's art, please contact us and we will arrange a time for you to have a look. Many thanks to the LSA for dealing with payments and for providing refreshments.



### Lemsford Fete - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

The count down for the fete has well and truly started! Today you will have received an email with information about donation and non-uniform days.

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 10<sup>th</sup> March

Members of the school choir will be singing in the Mothering Sunday service at St John's Church. Thank you to parents who have given permission for their child to take part. If any children who are not in choir would also like to take part, please let us know - there are prayers and readings for the children to lead.

### Welcome

We would like to welcome Pemisere, who has joined class 1, to our school community. We look forward to getting to know her and her family.


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

John 10:10


## Top Tips and Word of the Week

20 questions. One person thinks of an object. Others try and guess what it is by asking questions. The original player can only answer 'yes' or 'no' or 'maybe'. Give a clue if they are on the wrong track. Can they guess it in 20 questions?

This week's word for younger children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
courageous 	Brave or not afraid.	When have you done something that was <b>courageous</b> ? Something that is very brave.

This week's word for our older children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
colossal 	Really big.	What things would you call <b>colossal</b> ?

### Reminders

#### **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.

#### **Absence Reporting**

Please ring the School Office on 01707 322589 or email [admin@stjohns561.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohns561.herts.sch.uk) BEFORE 8.50am if your child is absent from school. We ask that you ring or email **daily** until your child returns.

#### **Lateness**

Please note, if the gates are closed, and your child needs to come through the main entrance, they will be marked as late.

#### **Requests for Absence**

Please collect a request form from the office and return it giving at least two weeks notice of any planned absence.

### **Badminton Tournament**

Before half term, 8 of our badminton players in years 3-5 took part in a tournament at Ridge-way. Well done for placing 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the tournament, and for showing great sportsmanship and skill on the court!



**Safe Staff** - Mrs Boylan, Miss Ng and Mrs Gammon are our Safeguarding Leads, ensuring all staff are well trained in safeguarding matters. Our strong emphasis on nurture means that we have a very joined-up approach to keeping our children safe - the same staff support our children from Breakfast Club, through lunchtimes and at ASC so information is easily shared and we know our pupils well. Our Safeguarding policy is [here](#), and Mrs Boylan is always at the gate in the morning if you would like to talk.

### World Book Day

Miss Ng has prepared a letter giving all the details, which is attached to the Newsletter email

### Mrs Maher

Mrs Maher joined us in in September 2023 initially to work as a learning support assistant with children in class 1. In her time with us she has also led Forest School sessions with each class and has worked with children from the other classes. She is beginning a new job next week.

We have appreciated her cheerfulness, kindness and empathy very much. We will miss her but wish her all the very best in her new role. We will keep in touch!

### Miss Dunkley

We welcome Miss Dunkley on placement who is undertaking her teacher training with Herts University. She will be with us until May 2024.

## 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

#### **Monday 4th March**

Year 5/6 Football Match at Swallow Dell - after school club foot ball is cancelled.

#### **Thursday 7th March**

World Book Day - please see the letter attached for all the details.

#### **Sunday 10th March**

Mothering Sunday

#### **Wednesday 13th March**

'Rhyming Bible' performed by Saltmine Theatre

#### **Friday 15th March**

Red Nose Day

#### **Thursday 21st March**

Rock Steady Concert

#### **Friday 22nd March**

Chocolate Donation Day for the Fete

#### **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 as 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.

Hello all

We've got lots coming up at church in the run up to Easter for children and families and we'd love to see you!

Here's a quick run down...

#### **3rd March, 11am (this weekend!) - Sunday Club**

Our rapidly growing Sunday club is meeting during the 11am service this week. Come and have fun learning about Jesus calming the storm as part of our thinking about 'the amazing things that Jesus did'.

#### **10th March, 11am - Mothering Sunday service for all ages**

This popular, interactive service of Holy Communion for all ages has plenty of opportunities for the children to participate. We're really looking forward to hearing the school choir, as well as listening the children read, pray, and join in in lots of other ways.

#### **24th March, 4pm - Connect@4 Easter Adventure!**

A fun, informal, active worship gathering, where we'll be exploring the events running up to the cross and resurrection, with the aid of craft, stories, creativity, music, food and much more. Ideal for children of all ages who like to be active!

#### **31st March, 11am - All-Together Holy Communion for Easter Day**

All-Together Holy Communion for Easter Day, followed by AN EASTER EGG HUNT!

A 'lighter' service of communion, designed to be particularly suitable for families.

Come and join in with the celebrations on my favourite date in the Christian calendar!

Have a great weekend whatever you're doing.  
Rev. Kathryn

