



St John's School Newsletter

17th November 2023

Values of this half term

Peace and Understanding

'Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased.'

Luke 2: 14



St John's School Fireworks Display

Many, many thanks to members of the LSA for arranging a fantastic firework display last Friday evening. It was a lovely event which offered a great range of refreshments, stalls, songs performed by Harry Beart (thank you Harry!) and, of course, the fireworks display itself. We are very grateful for the huge amount of time and effort that the LSA gave in making it such a successful event. Thank you, also, to our families that came along and supported the event. It raised over £1,400—amazing!



With the funds we have been able to replace the projector in the Hall. Now any visuals that we use are clear and colourful – thank you.

Cycling

This week children in class 3 and some from class 4 took part in a cycling workshop in the school playground. It was an opportunity for the children to build their skills and confidence in bike riding. The workshop was led by Herts Disability Sports Foundation who, as well as leading the session brought along a van with a range of bikes for the children to use – fantastic!

Safeguarding

Keeping Everyone Safe: 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 your 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.

Congratulations to our Beacon Pupils

CL1 - Micky - has had a brilliant week in class. He has shown so much curiosity in his learning, trying out mark making, puzzles and scooting as well as enjoying chasing games at playtime. He has shown great perseverance in finding out how to make things work and to solve problems in his play. Well done Micky, keep it up!

CL2 - Luca - for his compassion and kindness as a learning partner. He has shown a great ability to explain tasks to his learning partner as well as completing the work himself. During our money week Luca has shown great understanding of making amounts and was confident in spending his money at our Class 2 shop.

CL3 - Eva - has shown fantastic resilience in her learning, excellent focus and determination to work independently and also with her talk partner. Eva has been reflective and thoughtful in her English, thinking carefully about the key information she wants to include, the vocabulary that best expresses her ideas and the way it is presented.

CL4 - Brogan - He has really stepped up this term, showing great maturity and listening well to feedback. Always interested and engaged in all our learning, and asking interesting questions or sharing brilliant ideas. We have been impressed with Brogan's careful, methodical working in maths and how well his times tables are improving. We have loved seeing his creativity shine more in his writing, and he has worked hard on his sentence writing and spellings. Keep it up!



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


John 10:10

Word of the week


One of the areas of focus this year on the School Development Plan is the developing of oracy across the school. We are aiming to build on a range of areas linking to Communication and Language including correct grammar and the inclusion of a wide range of vocabulary when speaking.

As part of this we are introducing a Word of the Week to the children and will also have a regular feature in our Newsletters as a challenge for families to use at home! We will also be sharing top tips to help parents in extending spoken vocabulary.

This week's word for younger children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
ancient 	Really old.	If a building was ancient, what would it look like?

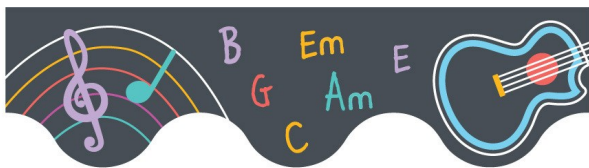
This week's word for older children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
aloof 	Someone who is not very friendly and does not like spending time with other people.	Sometimes people are aloof and sometimes they are shy. What's the difference?

Values and RE Parent Survey

Thank you to all the parents who have completed our Parent survey about our Values and RE. The responses are and will be helpful in developing this area of our school life further. If you have not yet completed the survey, would you please spare a few minutes to do so. Your responses are anonymous. The link is:

<https://forms.gle/xeeVWKh52UreiAUs6>



Music Tuition with Musicale

If your child is interested in playing an instrument and having lessons in school, please visit the Musiale website, who offer a wide range of instrumental lessons to children and adults to suit all abilities.

Musicale teachers visit many Primary Schools in the local area. If you would like your child to have the convenience of lessons during the school day please visit our dedicated page

<https://www.musicale.co.uk/st-johns-c-of-e-primary-school/>

HAPpy Camp

Happy Camps holiday clubs are available for children of families receiving benefits. Please follow this link to see what is on offer:

<https://thegrid.org.uk/news/happy-winter-camps>

Children in need

Thank you for the donations today. The school was an explosion of spots and bright colours.



Choir

It is a busy time of the year for our School Choir. Thank you to those parents who have returned letters giving permission for children to perform in a school concert with Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir and in the Christmas Candlelit Service at St John's Church. More information to follow.



Diary Dates:

Academic Year 2023/24

Friday 17th November
Children in Need

Friday 1st December
Occasional Day

Tuesday 5th December
Choir singing at Stanborough Lodge Care Home

Wednesday 6th December
Class 3 last swimming session of the term

Friday 8th December
Christmas concert at St John's Church given by the school choir and Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir.

Sunday 10th December
School choir taking part in the St John's Church Carol Service.

Tuesday 12th December
Nativity performances given by class 1 and 2
2.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Wednesday 13th December
Pantomime at Campus West

Thursday 14th December
Rock Steady Concert

Tuesday 19th December (change of date)
Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 19th December
Christmas concert (am)
Carol Service (2.30pm)

Wednesday 20th December 2023
End of the Autumn Term

See the attachment for full information about the 12 Days of Christmas Events organised by the LSA.

REMINDERS

Winter Clothing

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for outdoor play.

Money into school

Please put all cash and cheques into an envelope with your child's name, amount and reason for payment written on the envelope please. Money should be handed into the school office (or to Mrs K in Breakfast Club).

Christmas Lunch - Tuesday 19th December 2023

Responses were due back 13th November. Please remember to return the slip with consent to go to Pantomime and Christmas lunch order.

A message from Rev Kathryn..

This week in Collective worship we explored the value of peace with the aid of a duel (not a real one!).

There will be no duelling at our new informal gathering at 4pm on 26th November, but there will be lots of other fantastic things going on.

Just in case you missed it last week... here are the details.

Our new Sunday CONNECT @ 4 gathering is for those looking to connect with God, each other, the community and creation in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

There are no pews, not that many words and no pressure to 'sit still'! This is a space for all ages to have fun, explore, create, pray, worship and eat together in a way that works best for them.

For our first gathering, we'll meet outside the Church Annexe for marshmallows and hot chocolate around the fire, before heading indoors to explore our theme for the afternoon - 'Light in the Darkness.'

Come along and be part of something new at St John's - we can't wait to see where this is going to lead us!

Whether you're new to faith, not really sure about faith, looking for somewhere to belong, or perhaps attend more traditional worship on a Sunday morning and want to also try something new....then this is the gathering for you.

Finally, Christmas plans are now afoot - please see the attached flyer for further details.

We can't wait to see you at some of our services.



Best wishes

Rev'd Kathryn