



From the
Headmaster

A trip to magical Narnia

Today, our Year 4 boys enjoyed a wonderful day of activities inspired by the land of Narnia. The highlight may have been the hot chocolate and Turkish Delight. You can enjoy photos of the activities in the Junior section of The Lamb. Thanks to everyone who made this day special for the boys.

Many of us are starting to count the sleeps before Christmas – twenty-four to be precise. At St John's the tree is up, and the lights are twinkling. Year 4 boys have been reading "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe" and today they all came in dressed as characters from the story to enjoy an activity day. The heavy frost this morning added to the illusion that we had all walked through the wardrobe to the magical kingdom of Narnia.

Continuing the wintery theme, Pre-Prep have been working hard to prepare Christmas treats for you next week and older boys have been inspired to create festive Art. Our instrumentalists are practising diligently for their prestigious ABRSM music examinations at the end of term. On a different note, Year 8 were challenged to get to the heart of the matter in Science.

As we come towards the end of the rugby season, the boys continue to inspire us with their determination and courage on the pitch. Finally, we would like to say good luck to all the Year 6 boys who are sitting the Merchant Taylors' Qualifying Examinations tomorrow – we shall be thinking of you.

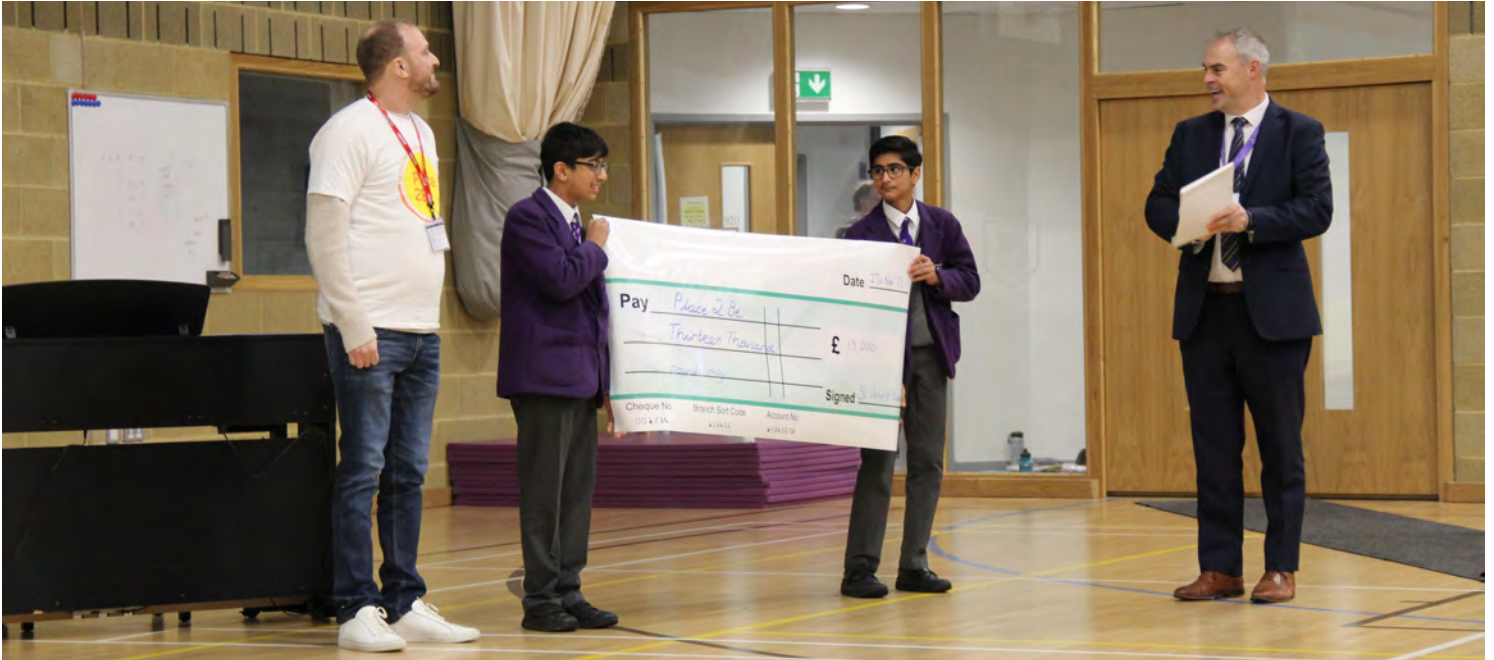
T Jenkins





Making a difference with our Charity work

On Monday we welcomed back Matt Charlton from Place 2 Be. He spoke in assembly about Children’s Mental Health Week 2024 which will take place from 5–11 February 2024. This year’s theme is ‘My Voice Matters’. We were very proud to present Place2Be with a cheque for £13,000 from St John’s for the total amount of our fundraising over two years. Huge congratulations for making such an amazing difference!



City Harvest Christmas Collection

On Wednesday, the City Harvest van was back, this time to collect our Christmas donations. All the Houses did really well in the competition last week, but the winners were Lawrence. The van drove off full to the brim, with food to make 856 meals. Churchill collected custard and rice pudding; Lawrence peas and carrots; Lincoln potatoes and Oates fruit. The Pre-Prep provided the chocolate treats.





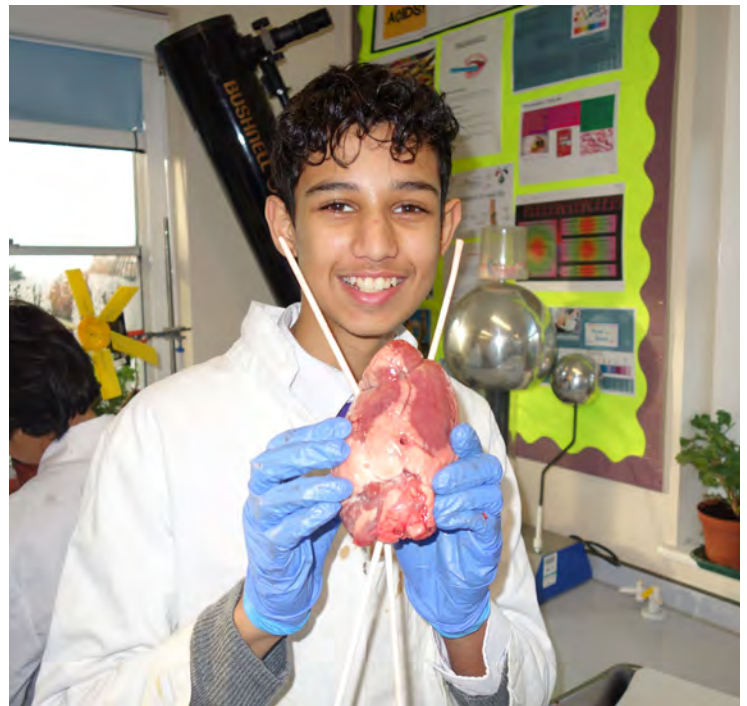
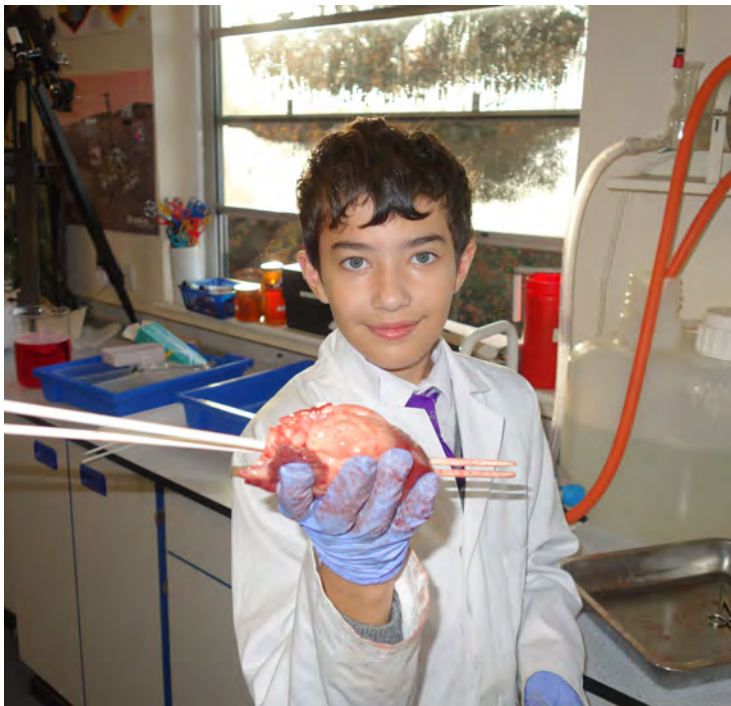
Not for the faint hearted!

As part of their Human Body topic in Science, Year 8 have been dissecting lambs' hearts. The boys, although a bit squeamish at first, all got stuck in and learnt a lot about the structure and working of this amazing organ. The experience will be one that they'll not forget in a hurry!

"It was very interesting to see the real inside of an animal. The

heart had one hard and one soft side. We cut a hole in the heart so that when we put out fingers through the aorta, they would come out the other end." Khyan

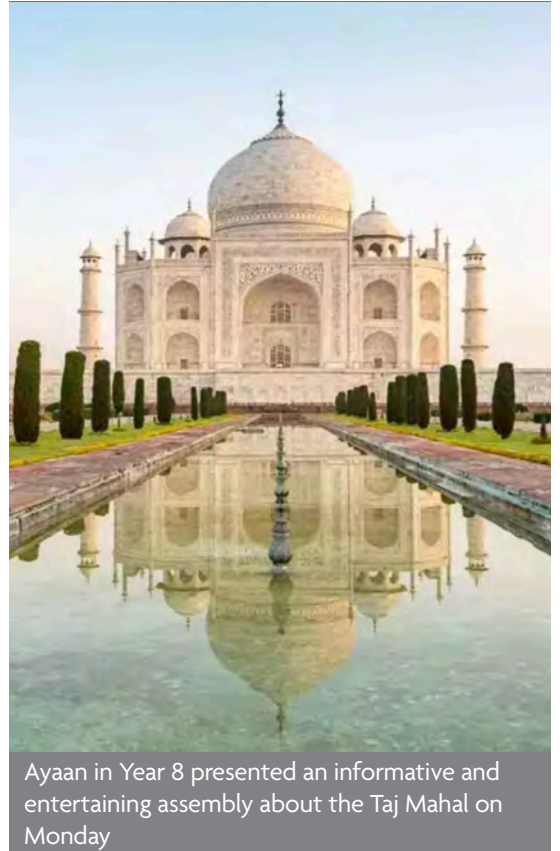
"We made a deep incision into the lungs and searched for the bronchioles. We then made two cuts into the heart. Mr Lawrence blew air into the lungs, it was very exciting." Rian



AROUND SCHOOL



Year 4 posed the questions in the Lawrence Assembly last week



Ayaan in Year 8 presented an informative and entertaining assembly about the Taj Mahal on Monday



Thanks to Mr Doughty and Mr Horgan for putting up this enormous Christmas tree



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. How exciting!



The Lambs have been writing letters to Santa

This week the Lambs got the festive season well and truly up and running. In their classroom they all wrote letters to Santa then we all walked down the hill to post them.





Hedgehogs: nocturnal animals

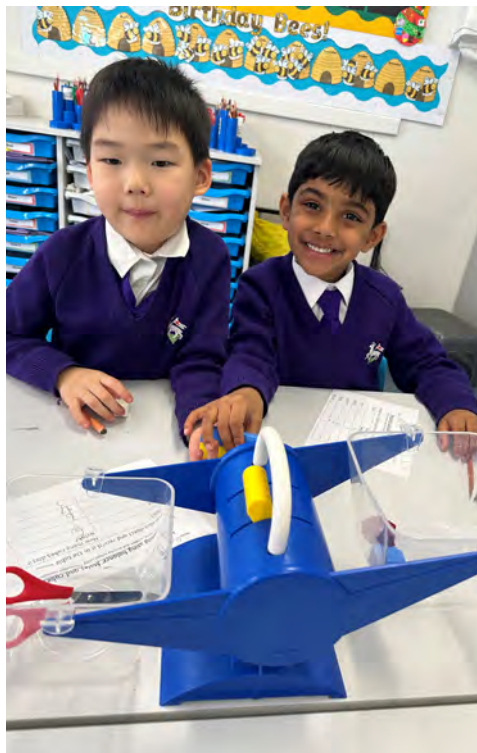
As part of our Night-Time topic, the Lambs have been learning about animals who are awake at night. Previously we looked at owls and this week, we have focused on hedgehogs. We have described what hedgehogs look like, thinking about adjectives we can use. We have spoken about where hedgehogs live, what they like to eat and how they behave. Creative and open-ended activities have included playdough hedgehogs, chalk pictures and a red lentil sensory tray.





Practical Maths in the Otters and Owls

Which is heavier – the scissors or the glue? It is always fun investigating in Maths and the boys have been working in groups and pairs to weigh a variety of items using non-standard measure. Their investigations have included comparing and describing weight as well as learning to record this data in a table





Today, Year 4 journeyed to Narnia!

We have been reading the story, *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* this half term and today it was finally our turn to travel through the magical portal. Some highlights of our day were performing in our own drama productions, creating our own Narnia settings and enjoying some delicious hot chocolate and Turkish Delight.





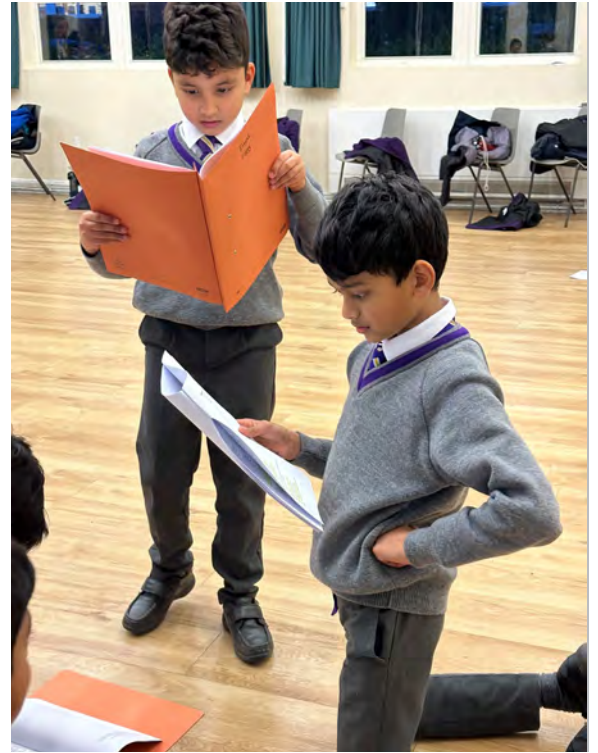
Narnia cont...





Junior Drama Club

This week in Drama club the boys were handed their scripts for the Junior Drama production of the Jungle Book. Some boys could not believe how many lines they had to learn and one shouted, "I can't possibly remember all that!". The boys enjoyed reading their lines and were very excited about the prospect of wearing a costume.

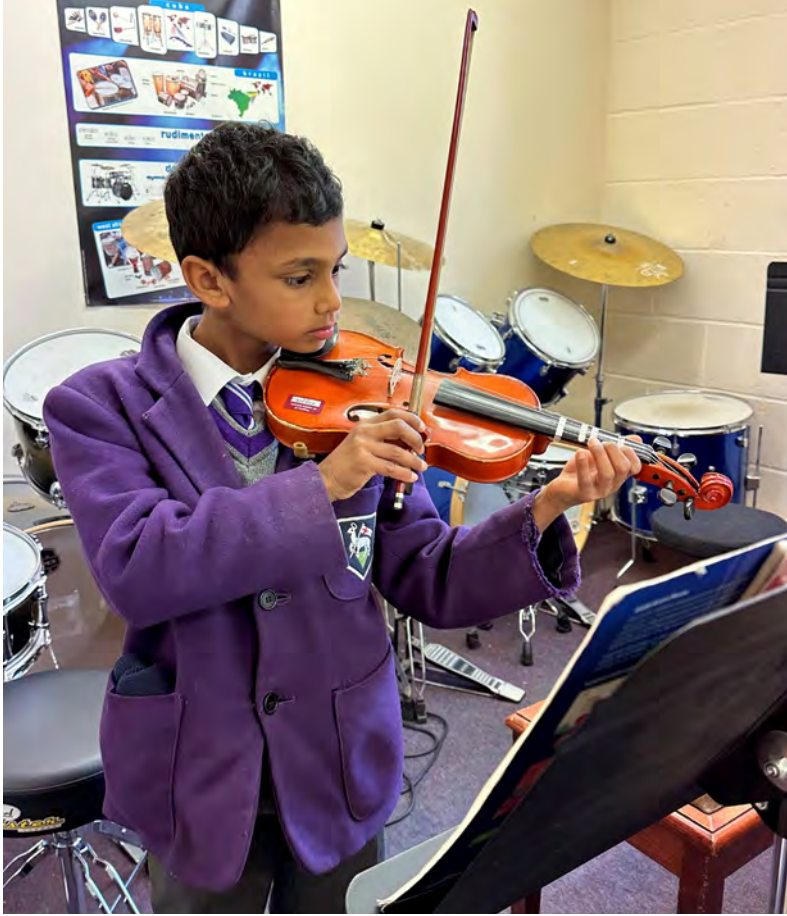


MUSIC



Keep practising boys – nearly there!

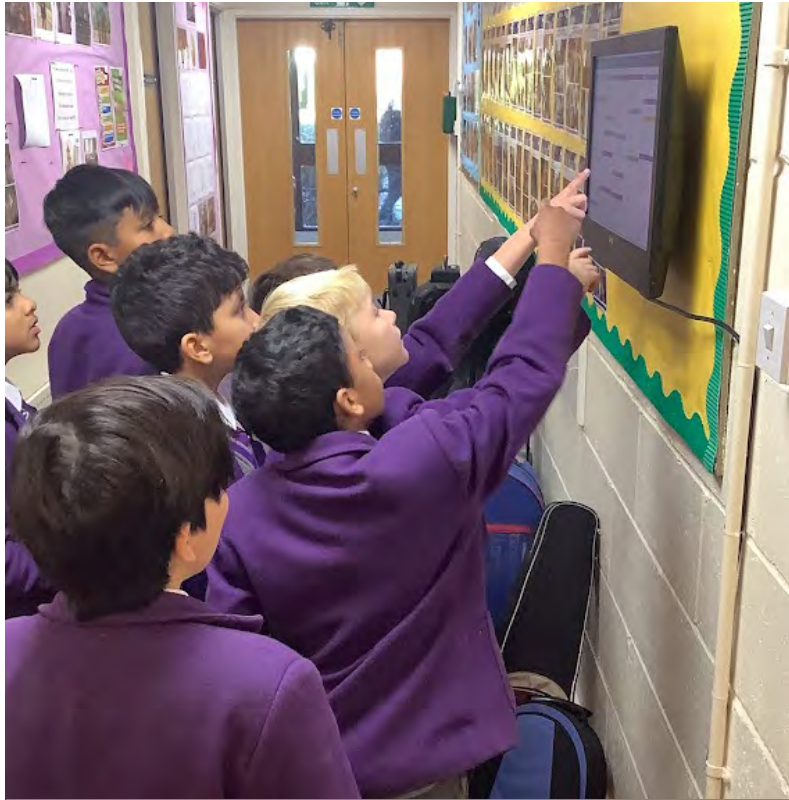
Our instrumentalists are practising hard in preparation for their ABRSM Music Examinations on 13th December. Keep practising those scales boys and remember the top tips your teachers have given you. Most of all, enjoy showing the examiner what you can do. Many thanks to our dedicated team of visiting instrumental teachers. We look forward to another excellent set of results.



MUSIC



A busy week around the Music department



A new screen in the Music Department displays the times of all instrumental lessons through the week. Timings are generated through Practice Pal, our new scheduling and communication system.



Music making with the Junior Ukeleles



Christopher serenaded Year 3 with Christmas Carols



Year 5 boys have been creating their own compositions



ART



It's getting very Christmassy in the Art Room





DT&E news

Last Friday, four Year 4 boys proudly represented St John's at a STEAM afternoon at St Martin's School. They had lots of fun programming a Sphero BOLT to collect recycling. It was hard to work against the tough time restrictions, but it was fun working with children from other schools. Thank you to Mrs Butler-Cox for all of her hard work putting together a fantastic event. Well done to Neelan, Rory, Riyan, Aaron for their enthusiasm and innovative thinking.



STEM DEN

HANDS ON! MINDS ON! EDUCATIONAL CAMP FOR 5 -13 YEAR OLDS

- fantastic workshop & tools, including CAD/CAM
- solve festive themed practical problems
- robotics kits - Lego & Vex Go!
- outdoor play area and woodland
- Book early to avoid disappointment!

DECEMBER 18TH, 19TH AND 20TH 2023

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL, NORTHWOOD. HA6 3QY

See our program and book on www.stemden.co.uk

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U10A v St Albans

The U10As travelled to St Albans School to have some fantastic coaching in the morning with Saracens Academy Head of U18 Rugby Jack Pattinson, St Albans School staff and Sixth formers. Boys then had an exciting afternoon festival with rules they had devised collectively from all the boys that were present. Kicking was a popular rule addition and flair manoeuvres such as side steps earned teams points. We played 4 mini matches and had a blast!





U9 Haberdashers' Rugby Festival 25th Nov

The U9 A boys played at Haberdashers rugby festival on Saturday. It was an awesome day of rugby, where all teams showed their skill and passion. The boys played some excellent rugby and learnt so much over the course of the morning. We ended the day with two wins, and three losses, one of which was extremely close and, on another day, would have been a draw.





Under 9 v Caldicott, SJB and Davenies

The U 9 ABCD teams boys braved the cold to play in a quadrangular with St John's Beaumont, Davenies & obviously Caldicott. The afternoon was full of tries, tough physical contests and was a resounding positive afternoon.





Under 10C v The Beacon

It was **very** competitive and we just lost by two tries in a high scoring match. Special mentions to Riaan (5 tries), Rishi L (3) and Ayaan M (1).



New Facilities in Sport

We are very excited to announce that we have installed a lovely new electronic notice board in the Centenary Sports Hall. It is our hope that the boys will be able to take ownership of viewing the sporting information they need for fixtures in the week ahead. This will increase their independence and ensure that they are fully informed and

prepared. Boys who have happened upon the screen have universally branded it “cool” high praise indeed! St John’s has also recently invested in new portable flood lights for afterschool training and events. As the evenings have drawn in, we have found them to be invaluable and the boys were heard to say it was like “playing at a stadium!”





Krüger Sports Camps



For more information go to

www.krugercamps.co.uk

CHRISTMAS SPORTS CAMP

MON to WED, 18th to 20th December

MON & TUE = FOOTBALL

WED = COURT SPORTS



www.krugercamps.co.uk



Important dates & contacts

Saturday 2nd December: Merchant Taylors' Qualifying Examinations for Year 6

Monday 4th December: Lambs, Robins & Squirrels Dress Rehearsal (9.00am)

Tuesday 5th December: Year 5 Trip to Westminster Abbey and the National Gallery

Otters & Owls, Badgers & Eagles Dress Rehearsal (9.00am)

Quiz Club Science Challenge (Semi-Finals)

Junior House Cross Country

Year 8 Parents' Meeting (L-S) (6.00pm)

Wednesday 6th December: Lambs, Robins & Squirrels Christmas Plays (9.30am)

Rugby v The Beacon: U13A, B (h), U12A, B(a) (2.30pm)

Thursday 7th December: Otters & Owls, Badgers & Eagles Christmas Plays (9.30am)

Friday 8th December: Nasal Flu Sprays (Reception to Year 8) Nursery to Year 4 Pantomime Trip

Pre-Prep Open House (Reception & Year 1: 2.15pm, Year 2: 2.40pm)

Updates: Please continue to visit www.st-johns.org.uk for all the latest information on sports fixtures and results.

You can also follow us on twitter [@stjsnorthwood](https://twitter.com/stjsnorthwood) and our sports department [@StJohnsNwSport](https://twitter.com/StJohnsNwSport)

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Let's Get Connected for Our Latest News & Updates



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on Youtube at St John's Northwood

Mailings: To be sent a copy of the Lamb each week, please email: Lamb Editor with your contact details.

Photographs: Do please continue to send in pictures to lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk for inclusion in The Lamb.

Notices and reminders

St John's Association AGM: This takes place on 4th December at 6.30pm in the Norman Hall. All are welcome.

SJA Christmas Party Saturday 9th December: Please note that this event has been cancelled.

Carol Service at Emmanuel Church: Monday 11th December at 6.30pm. This is a compulsory event for boys in Years 3-8 unless written permission is obtained from the Headmaster. We look forward to seeing you there.

Early Warning! Christmas Jumper Day, Thursday 14th December. Make sure that you have a jumper ready. Any festive design, homemade or otherwise is absolutely fine.

[Click here to donate](#) to Save the Children Christmas Jumper Fund.

Cycle storage: We would like to let you know that we have cycle storage at St John's for anyone who would like to arrive at school by bicycle. Please inform the school office in advance if you would like to use this facility.

Votes for Schools: Last week's question: "Is more help needed for people who are homeless?" 93.2% said yes
Next week's question: "Is technology the answer to improving accessibility?"

House Points: 1st Lawrence 53.79 2nd Churchill 53.18
3rd Oates 51.72, 4th Lincoln 50.96

Good luck to all our Year 6 boys who are sitting Merchant Taylors' Qualifying Examinations tomorrow.