



From the Headmaster

New Year, new goals

Staff and boys alike have enjoyed a strong start to the term, both in the classroom and in the broad range of extra-curricular clubs on offer. Working towards personal goals, seeking new challenges, and developing skills and knowledge are characteristics all St John's boys are encouraged to embrace.

This edition of The Lamb celebrates our boys' enthusiasm for learning, their curiosity, energy and perseverance. Aary in Year 7 led an excellent assembly focusing on New Year's resolutions to start the term, challenging us all to set smart goals for ourselves. Our youngest boys have been enjoying creative challenges. The Lambs used their observations of the natural world to help them paint winter trees using a palette of brown paints, while Year 1 have replicated the stunning Art of Mondrian with their rectangular shapes in primary colours.

Music and Drama rehearsals have commenced, and the boys have all been inspired and challenged by the after-school clubs and activities they have attended with their friends. A significant number of boys from Years 3 to 8 boys battled freezing conditions as they competed in Cross Country competitions, with strong personal performances. It's great to be back into the swing of term.

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Broadening horizons with our co-curricular programme

The new after school clubs programme has started with a bang this week and the boys have enjoyed all their new clubs and activities. These opportunities to develop new passions, take on extra responsibility and enhance their skills are all integral to the education offered at St John's. There really is something for everyone.



It may have been cold outside, but the Year 6 footballers were happy to get out and play under the lights



Year 1 & 2 artists were keen to get creative in Mrs Wagemaker's Art Club



THIS WEEK



Touch typing is a core skill to learn in Years 3 and 4



Lego is fun and educational



French Club for Years 7 and 8 is the chance to add some *je ne sais quoi* to vocab and comprehension



Years 1 and 2 always enjoy some extra running around in PE Club



Senior Drama performances start with a read through of the script



Two of our Year 4 boys in Junior Reading Club

THIS WEEK



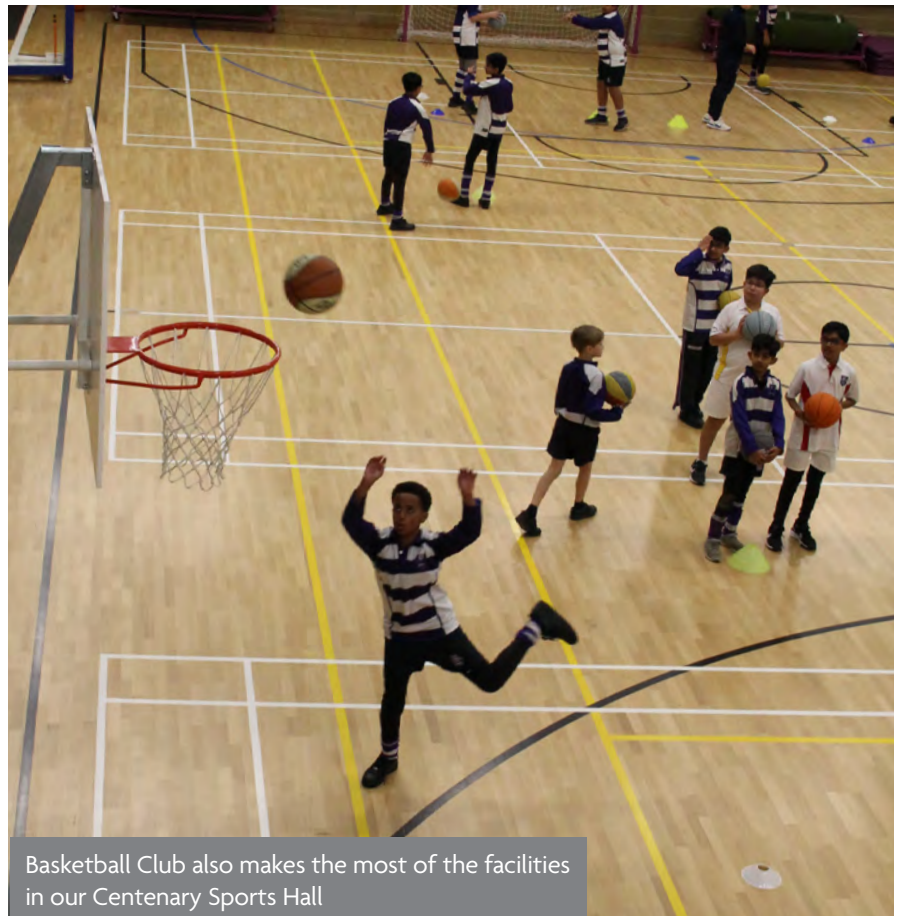
Art in Years 5 and 6 is getting really accomplished



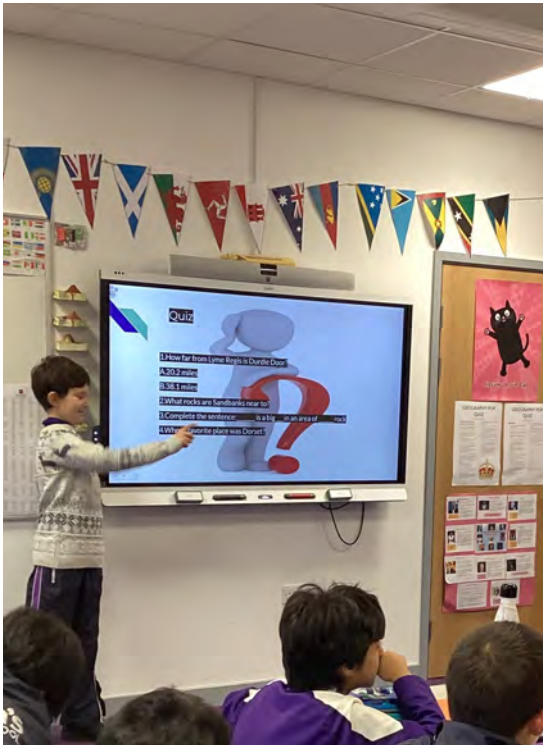
But there is always a sense of fun



Badminton Club requires skill and delicacy



Basketball Club also makes the most of the facilities in our Centenary Sports Hall



At the end of last term, Hugh and Benji presented their slide shows on coastal features, which tied in with our Geography topic in Year 5



Aary encouraged us to make our resolutions SMART during his excellent assembly on New Years' Resolutions



Debating Club may be where the next generation of orators will come from



Happy to be back!

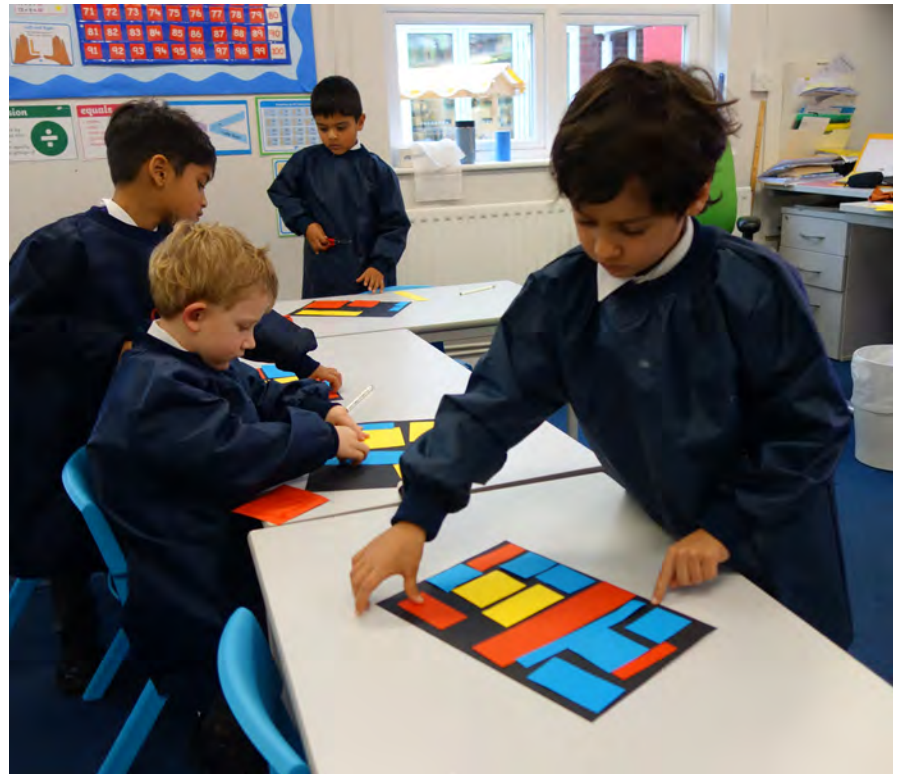
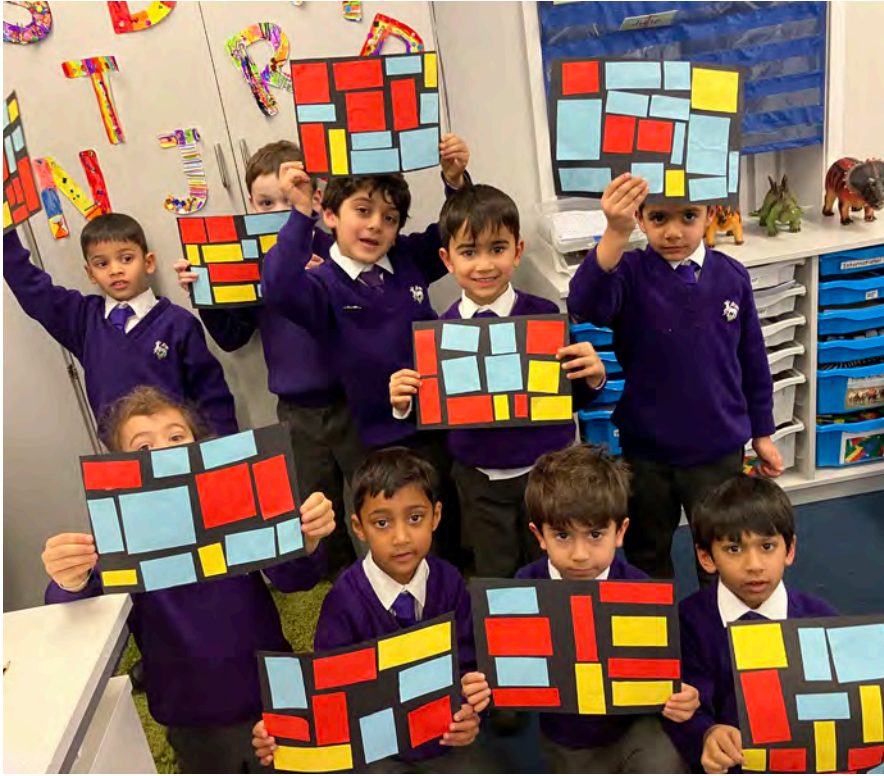
The Lambs were delighted to return to school this week. They have quickly settled back into classroom life and loved playing with their friends again. The boys have been sharing their holiday news and recalling what presents they received. We have also been looking at winter trees and talking about the cold weather. The boys used their fine motor skills to make winter trees, dabbing cotton buds in brown paint. In music, we had great fun copying and tapping out rhythms.





Art inspiration

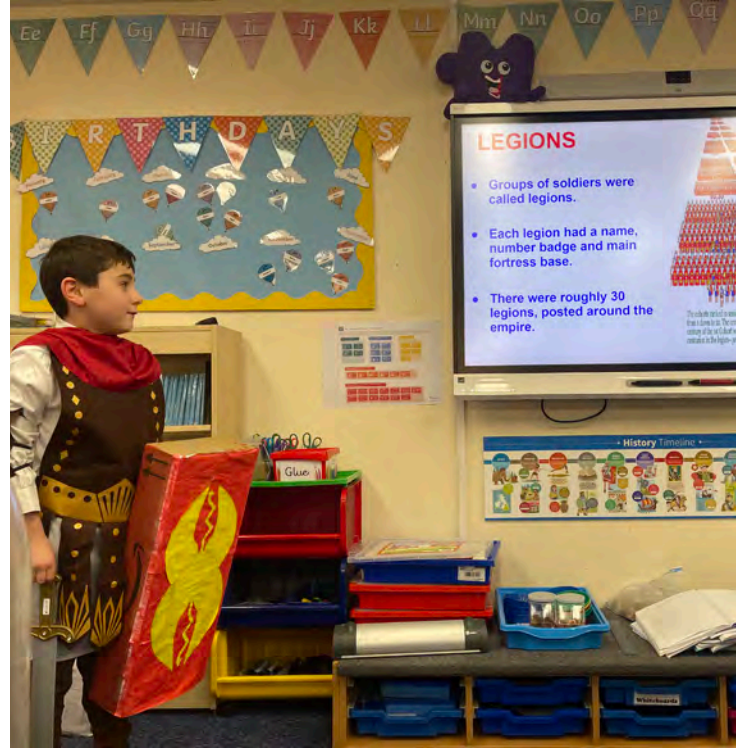
This week Year 1 have been learning about Piet Mondrian in their art lessons. After looking carefully at some of his famous paintings, the pupils created their own works of art using black paper and primary coloured rectangles.





Busy week back for Year 4

Year 4 have returned to school full of enthusiasm for learning and eager to collaborate with their friends. This week's challenges included negative numbers, assessing whether sand is a solid or a liquid and imagining life in Roman times.





The Art Room has seen a whirl of activity this week

The boys have been busy in the art room this week. Year 3 have been learning about the abstract artist, Janet Skates. Year 5 have been printing Dragons in preparation for the Chinese New Year and Year 4 have enjoyed cleaning the tables!





A week in Music

Our Year 5&6 Choir are preparing for their Young Voices concert this term, senior wind players have been learning to play the Suona ready for Chinese New Year, Second Orchestra had sectional rehearsals this week and younger boys enjoyed exploring the mellifluous sounds of the cello.





Cross Country at York House this week

Our boys braved the cold, running against some strong opposition at York House. The Under 11 team finished 5th out of 8 teams with Teddy achieving the lowest position of 19th out of 66 runners. Vivek finished 4th and Leo 10th out of 52 runners in the Under 13 category. Vivek also competed in the Middlesex County Championships over the weekend

and finished in an impressive 12th place out of 37. In the Under 9 event, our Year 3 and 4 boys did themselves proud, with a very strong 3rd place team finish. Reuben finished 1st with a fantastic and almost effortless run. All boys clearly enjoyed the wild and windy event and put in great effort across all teams.





Important dates & contacts

Tuesday 16th January: DTE and Art Open House (6 Austen)
(4.00pm - 4.30pm)

Wednesday 17th January: Quiz Club Semi-Final (10.00am)

School Council

Friday 19th January: Football v Chesham Prep: Colts A, B, C, D (a) (2.30pm)

Football v St John's Beaumont: U10 A, B, C, D, E (h)
(2.30pm)

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 [@stjnsnorthwood](https://twitter.com/stjnsnorthwood) and our sports department [@StJohnsNwSport](https://twitter.com/StJohnsNwSport)

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.



The heat of competition spurred St John's boys along at the York House Cross Country this week

Notices and reminders

Year 5 Revision Guides: Year 5 examinations in English and Maths will take place on the morning of Monday 22nd January in the Norman Hall. Revision guides have been sent out and you can find a link to the guide in this week's Weekly Bulletin.

Year 7 Revision Guides: Year 7 examinations will take place on Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th February. You can find a link to the guides in this week's Weekly Bulletin.

Year 6 DT&E and Art Open House: We look forward to welcoming you to the DT&E and Art Open House sessions. These will take place from 4pm until 4.30pm in our studios. Boys will be asked to collect you from the car park and navigate you through our new gated system. 6A – Tuesday

16th January; 6D – Tuesday 23rd January; 6S – Friday 26th January.

St John's Association Quiz on 16th March from 6.30pm:

This event is always extremely popular with an excellent quiz master, good food and a bar. Please save the date and more details about purchasing tickets will be sent out soon.

Votes for Schools: Last week's question: "Do you think alien life exists?" 93.3% said "yes"

Next week's question: "Would you feel comfortable having a conversation about your mental health?"

House Points: 1st Churchill 68.16, 2nd Lawrence 66.34, 3rd Oates 66.30, 4th, Lincoln 65.32

Have a great weekend.