



## From the Headmaster

**What a beautiful** sunny day we had for our Red Nose walk around the School grounds. The walk was enjoyed by all the boys from Nursery to Year 8 and I was very impressed at how sensible they were in their bubbles. I am sure you will enjoy the photographs and thank you for your support with the fundraising.

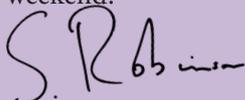
This week was Eco Week and 6V led our thought-provoking assemblies which focussed on the impact that Covid-19 has had on the environment, both positive and negative. The boys have also enjoyed nature walks investigating the variety of ecosystems we have in the grounds of St John's and Year 6 went on an amazing virtual safari in Kruger National Park.

I feel very inspired looking at the work of the Gardening Club and the Reception boys planting potatoes and look forward to seeing the produce.

The Year 8 Business Enterprise programme is underway and I am really excited to watch how the boys will develop their entrepreneurial skills in the coming weeks.

Our new St John's Charity Indoor Football League has been a huge success with the Year 5 and 6 boys. It's great to see them back playing competitive sport.

Have a lovely weekend.



## Red noses for Comic Relief

**What a day** of fun we have had! It was lovely to see all the boys dressed in their own clothes and thank you to the many boys who wore their Red Noses. Those of you who have been following Eco Week carefully will be thrilled to hear that the red noses are no longer made out of plastic, but instead are made out of bagasse, a natural by-product of sugarcane, which will bio-degrade quickly and naturally. There were lots of smiles during the annual walk around the school in bubbles. All boys from Nursery-Year 8 took part and we were grateful that the weather held out. Thank you once again to the SJA for donating tuck to the boys which I know they all enjoyed. A final thank you to everyone who has donated to this worthwhile cause. If you are yet to donate and would like to the link is [here](#) and it will be live for the next week. We hope this selection of photos gives you a good insight into our day!





# Red nose day at St John's: Pre-Prep





# Red nose day at St John's: Juniors





# Red nose day at St John's: Upper school





# Year 8 Business Enterprise

As part of their new post-exam curriculum, Year 8 have begun a programme of Business Enterprise, designing and creating products that they will later launch and sell to family and friends. The teams have been decided, the discussions about good business are being had. Terms such as 'expenses', 'revenue', 'pricing strategies', 'shares' and 'dividends' are becoming more than just words on a page as our

entrepreneurial Year 8 boys take on the challenge of running a business in their ten week course. Which teams will make the most profit for our charity this year? All will be revealed in the next few weeks as we see which teams collaborate well and develop the next must have product we all can't wait to get our hands on!





# THIS WEEK



## New School Council meets for the first time

**Our School Council** is made up of pupils from Pre-Prep (Year 2) Junior (Year 3 & 4) and Senior (Year 5-8). The new School Council assembled for the first time on Wednesday on a google meet to discuss important topics affecting the school community. We went over the last minutes, discussed our return to school and shared ideas about the design of the flag which will fly from the flagpole held by our new lamb statue. There were some interesting discussions, ideas and suggestions and Mrs Savage looks forward to working with the boys on the new initiatives in the future.





## Eco Assembly and PSHCEE



**This week 6V** have been leading assemblies for the school as St John's has been celebrating Eco Week. We have addressed a variety of issues, with a few examples being pollution, fresh air and solar energy. Although there are still a lot of issues to be addressed, we did learn that the human race has made tremendous progress in some areas of environmental preservation. We also focussed on the impact that Covid-19 has had on the environment, with some positive and negative impacts identified: single use plastics have become more widely used for PPE but we have also seen carbon emissions decrease due to the lack of travel.

We also spent time thinking about Rewilding during PSHCEE and wanted to share a link to a TedEd talk that we enjoyed watching [George Monbiot: For more wonder, rewild the world](#). Rewilding is the process of reintroducing previously extinct species into a former native environment. We couldn't believe that adding wolves back into the Yellowstone National Park made such a big difference to landforms such as rivers! You can rewild at home by building a bug hotel, feeding local birds and by planting trees and flowers. Knowledge is also an amazing tool - make sure you share everything you have learnt with your family and friends!



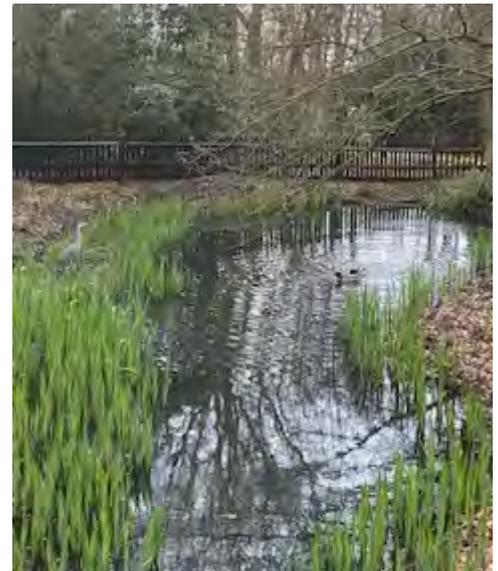
## Eco Week nature walks

As part of Eco Week, boys have been fortunate to go on nature walks as part of their Geography lessons. The aim was for all boys to see the diversity of flora and fauna that the St John's ecosystem supports. Boys were provided with maps of the school and in certain locations they wrote down the animals and wildlife that we saw.

The Nature Trail proved to be particularly fruitful, with Mr Lawrence's beehives, hedgehog houses, bug hotels, pond life and even a badger set. As we moved down through the grounds to the ponds, all boys saw our pair of ducks but luck was with Year 5 as they witnessed a heron happily standing in one pond, before taking flight into the second, finally

flying off for good. An exciting viewing for all! We progressed through the woods spotting the beautiful flora that was sprinkled at our feet and kept our heads high spotting crows, parakeets, blue tits and more. As we arrived at the Donkey Field at the edge of the School grounds, we saw a fox's lair, a great number of scented blossom trees in bloom and more beehives.

Although this was all a feast for the eyes, most boys were more interested in the fox skeleton that had been left behind near the lair! A wonderful lesson for all boys who took part and I hope that they all have a greater understanding of the impact we have on our own ecosystem here at St John's.





## St John's goes on an online safari

**On Tuesday and Wednesday**, Miss Vale organised a virtual safari for us as part of our Eco Week. This safari was presented by Traci and Ryan Thomson who live in the Greater Kruger area in Sout Africa and are both qualified FGASA guides.

The Greater Kruger area is an expanse of protected land to the west of Kruger National Park. Previously private farms, the Government asked them to drop their fences to create a wildlife corridor for animals to live in and move along. During our thirty-minute safari, we saw amazing animals including hippos, dung beetles, gazelles and even elephants!

Traci and Ryan told us lots about each animal when we saw them and they were incredible safari guides. Our favourite fact was that hippos can hold their breath for five minutes underwater! We also found out that hippos are the most dangerous animal in the park, and how to differentiate rhino tracks from hippo tracks.

Sadly we didn't see any lions or leopards because they were sleeping as they hunt in the evening and sleep most of the day. However, Ryan sent Miss Vale a message today with a video of some baby lion cubs that they saw on their way to the stables! We heard lots of amazing facts, such as that dung beetles put their eggs in dung and we were able to ask so many questions during our live Q & A session that we did not have time to

ask them all! Luckily, Miss Vale let us tell her our remaining questions and Traci and Ryan offered to answer them via email - we are waiting eagerly for their reply!

Overall we thought this was a great experience to interact and learn about other country's ecosystems, and this was an amazing opportunity for all of the school.

### **About Traci and Ryan**

Ryan and Traci are safari guides who know a lot about all the animals in South Africa. They live in Ochtula Camp in Jejeane Reserve, where Traci's husband and Ryan's father, Glen, is a ranger. They also own a family run business along with Ryan's sister and Traci's daughter, Shannon, called African Dream Horse Safari, which offers wildlife and riding internships to volunteers from across the world. They also offer safaris and horseback safaris and have been doing some online safaris during lockdown via their Patreon page. Miss Vale has been to visit them for a total of five weeks in previous years and even learnt to ride under Traci's guidance! Feel free to ask her to show you some pictures of her time there! We were impressed with how much knowledge Ryan and Traci were able to share with us and we have enjoyed exploring their website since the virtual safari! The website is [africandreamhorsesafari.co.za](http://africandreamhorsesafari.co.za)  
*Albert and Ansh, 6V*





## Gardening Club: time for planting out

**Undaunted by Covid-19** our super keen team of gardeners comprising of Ayaan, Ananda, Aaron, Anay, Dhruv, Keshav, Alexander, Kayhan and Vineel have got stuck into the necessary tasks with gusto. Involving pruning the roses, clearing the ground of weeds, tidying the greenhouse, hoeing the beds and ridding them of weeds.

Our crops which we started in the greenhouse have come

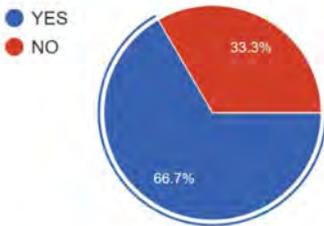
on well and have now been transferred to the outside beds with success. Later this year we're moving to a new area in the School which is exciting news and there will be more of this in coming weeks.

At the moment we're cracking on with our motivated team in our current location and making great progress, so you could say everything in the garden is rosy.



## VOTES FOR SCHOOLS

### Results of last week's poll are...



Be curious.

*I think that rewilding is important because ecosystems can completely change when a species is added or removed. This usually changes the ecosystem for the better. Rewilding animals like wolves could be good because deer are a danger to trees and if there are too many deer then they could harm the environment and plants and trees, and plants are important to allow us to live. There is an example in this with the Yellowstone Park. At first it might make things worse but, if we learn to adapt to the changes then it can make things better for us.*  
James, Year 8

This week was Eco Week at St John's and in PSHCEE we explored the topic of rewilding.



*I voted no because in most cases of rewilding, the animals will die out as they might not be used this environment and will not adapt well. It is fine how it is and if we bring back an animal how do we know it won't be harmful and dangerous or aggressive.* Ethan, Year 8

### And next week's question...

### Vocab Check

**Rewilding:**  
Rewilding is the process of restoring an area of land to its natural uncultivated state and is used especially with reference to the reintroduction of species of wild animal that have been driven out or exterminated.

Oxford University



Be heard.



Be informed.

# PRE-PREP



## Robins and Squirrels getting their hands dirty

We received our 'Grow Your Own Potatoes' kits during lockdown. Thankfully we returned to school just in time to start our potato growing project. The lockdown means we are a little behind but we remain hopeful of a bountiful harvest at the end of next term.

Firstly, we watched the shoots develop on the seed potatoes (chitting). Once the shoots were good and strong we planted the potatoes. Now we need to look after them and make sure that they are watered when they need it. It is very exciting and we will be watching our bags closely for signs of growth.



## Victorian toys in Year 2

This week Year 2 have enjoyed looking at and playing with the Victorian toys and artefacts. They loved the popgun and slingshot and the Punch and Judy puppets. The Eagles 'ironed' each other, using the old fashioned iron and thought the carbolic soap was stinky!





## Linkages in Year 4

Ever wondered how your car gets lifted up when it goes to the garage or how some double glazed windows open? When we start looking around us we can find linkage mechanisms everywhere. Year 4 have been finding out by building linkages this week.





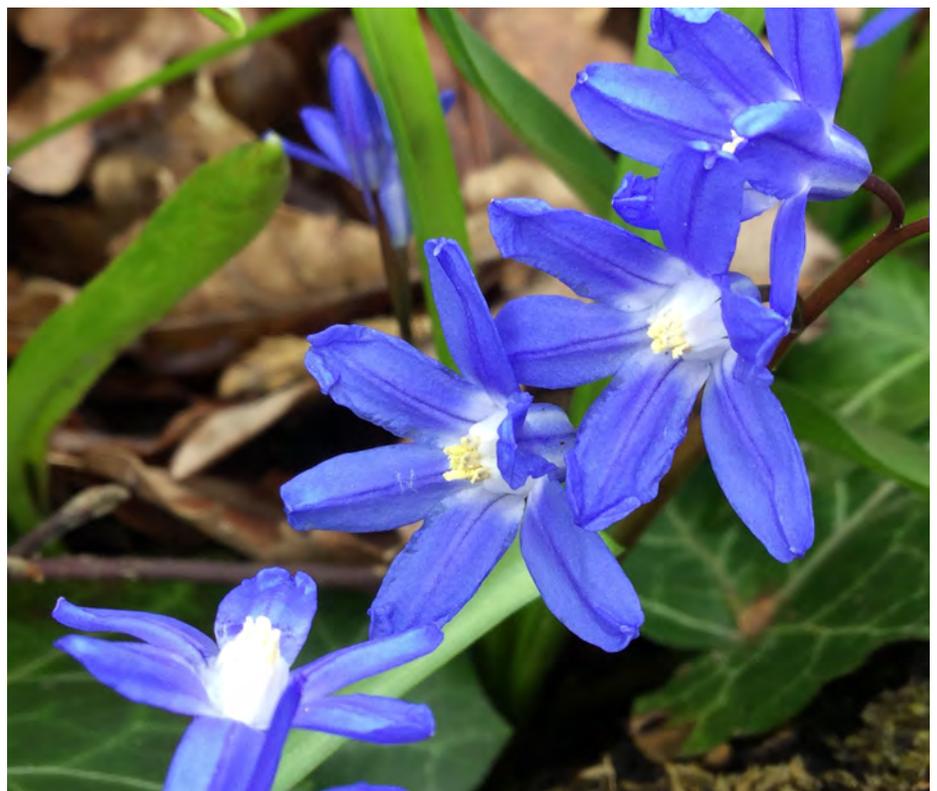
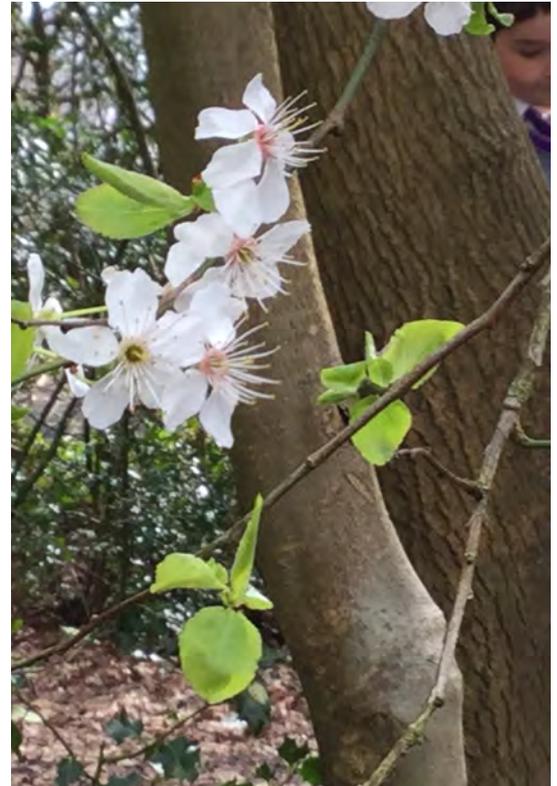
## Year 4 exploring the St John's forest

As part of Eco Week, Year 4 went on a nature walk in the spring sunshine. They enjoyed exploring our wonderful school grounds and recorded their walk using iPads.





## More forest exploration





# Year 3 investigate forces in Science

Year 3 have been learning more about forces this week in Science. Having found out how to use streamlining to counter the effects of water resistance last week, this week we have conducted a fair investigation into the effects of air resistance and gravity. Following on from this we have learned that force is measured in newtons (N) and used forcemeters to measure various classroom and personal items!





# D & T



## Cake shop window displays

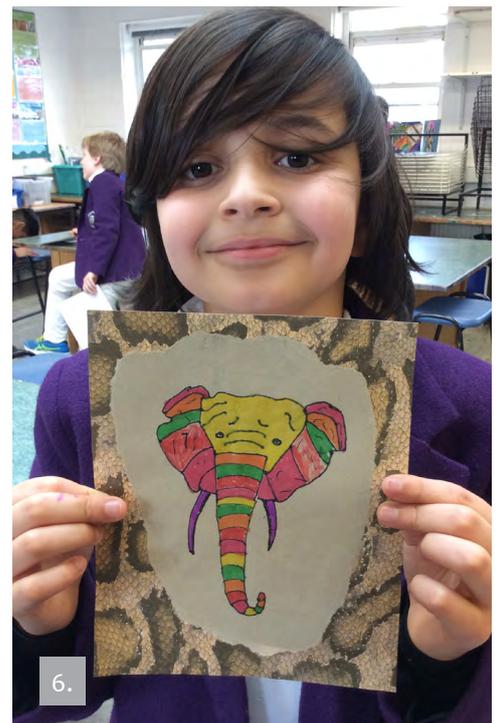
Year 5 are quite rightly very proud of their cake shop window displays, complete with programmed motors and lights to attract the customers passing by.





# Art inspired by nature

Look at these colourful abstract flower paintings the Juniors finished this week. 1. Ayan Year 3, 2. Christopher Year 3, 3. Darwin in Year 7 is pleased with the biro flower study he drew in Art club., 4. Year 5 are learning about Cubism. 6. Ahmed has created an interesting photo-collage self-portrait. After our virtual South African safari, this week, the boys were inspired to draw some safari animals. 5. Anay in Year 5 has drawn a rhino. 6. Dries in Year 5 has drawn an elephant.





# The St John's Charity Indoor Football League

The inaugural St John's Charity Indoor Football League commenced this week with over fifty Year 5 and 6 boys signing up, forming ten teams. With all fixtures taking place during the first break in the Sports Hall, it has been wonderful to see so many boys from both year groups wanting to support from the balcony. All boys are able to track their own and others progress through the online google classroom where all tables, fixtures, and the golden boot and glove are recorded. As the name of the league suggests, all monies raised from spectating will be donated to the St John's Charity fund. Spectating fees are 20 pence a day or £1 for a 5 day pass.

This week's fixtures have seen wins for The Ferocious Devils over The Champions with late goals from Kush P and Kian P, Cr7zz were victorious 2-0 against The Thundergods with Shane M (6M) taking the lead in the Golden Boot race with a brace. Kian J (6V) and Armaan (6A) both kept clean sheets and are

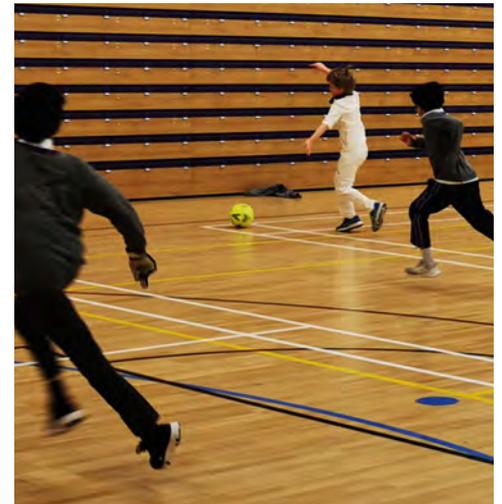
sharing the lead for the golden glove.

However the game of the week was between the Cereal Strikers and the Bozy. Excellent build up play and fast passing saw an early two goal lead for The Bozy with goals scored by Arti D (5M) and Aubrey (5C), a late goal for the older Cereal Strikers team by Mithil P (6m) led in a tense finish, much to the delight of the spectators. They were rewarded for their support with a last gasp equaliser from Ahaan (6V). Final Score 2-2

Later in the week we saw the Young Guns take on The Destroyers and on Friday it was the very bright Lightning Flashes vs The Frankenstein's.

I have been delighted with the respect for all players demonstrated by the spectators and the wonderful sportsmanship shown by the players.

*Mr Payne-Cook.*





## Chess Valley Six Nations Challenge

I have been participating in the Six Nations Challenge, with my rugby club, Chess Valley. The challenge is to raise money for good causes whilst improving the general fitness of the community and having fun. There is a target distance each week, whilst raising funds to support the Saracens Foundation. Every week each family puts in their “mileage”, which shows how many miles of running, walking or other exercises they have done.

The “Six Nations Challenge” was created to help with Saracens’ “Digital Divide” project. The Digital Divide project aims to provide disadvantaged young people with devices suitable for online learning and help in the future. The charity has provided activities online for children during lockdown and has helped them to keep up with their passions.

During lockdown, many children have not been as lucky as all of us at St John’s as they have not been able to learn properly

as they did not have access to technology. This has created a gap between those who could continue learning online and those who did not have the same opportunities. I really enjoyed helping and it is a great feeling to know I am contributing to a very good cause. Also, although we cannot train together, I felt that this brought me together with my Chess Valley teammates during lockdown even though we cannot meet each other during our regular rugby training sessions.

Some activities that I have been doing include attending zoom training sessions with Chess Valley, playing rugby in the garden, cycling, walking, running, and fitness circuits.

We have all worked really hard each week and as a club we have cycled, exercised, run and walked over 40,000 miles in this Six Nations and we have raised nearly £3000 to date and are hoping to raise more.

*Nishant 6M*





## Keepie uppies – from 20 to 127 in five weeks

I get **Match** of the Day magazine every week in the post and I was reading it when I came across the idea of doing keepie uppies. I saw a Lionel Messi article and he managed to do 100 keepie uppies when he was ten. I then wanted to challenge myself to do 100 keepie uppies just like Messi.

I had never been very good at keepie uppies before and I always wanted to get better. I started on Friday 12th February and was determined to complete the challenge. I started and on my first day I managed to do no more than twenty. I felt pleased as I started quite well on my first day; I was hungry for more. I practised most days in half term and I was so frustrated I could not get much more. I was blaming the ball as it was not pumped up properly! I carried on after school the next week each day and got better and better.

I got to a whopping 86 on the 2nd of March 2021. I emailed Mr Kruger and he sent me a lovely email back to encourage me. I WAS SO CLOSE, I persevered and was focused. I finally got to 103 on the 4th of March 2021. I was elated! I was not finished there and continued practising. My current high score is 127 but I am still trying to do even more...

*Emerson 6V*



# OUTLOOK



# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S  
BEST YOUNG BAKERS  
AGED 9 - 15

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
SUNDAY 28TH MARCH 2021**

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# OUTLOOK



**MyHealth**  
My self, My life

## A ONE HOUR FREE ONLINE ASTHMA WORKSHOP

**Friday 26th  
March  
2pm - 3pm**

### THESE MONTHLY SESSIONS WILL COVER

- What to do if your child is having an Asthma attack
- Inhaler techniques
- Asthma plans
- Myth Busting
- Common triggers

**ALL OUR ASTHMA WORKSHOPS ARE RUN BY A FULLY TRAINED  
ASTHMA NURSE**



[www.myhealthillingdon.nhs.uk](http://www.myhealthillingdon.nhs.uk)



[Hillccg.Myhealth@nhs.net](mailto:Hillccg.Myhealth@nhs.net)



# OUTLOOK



## Calendar & important dates Contact details

**Wednesday 31st March: End of Term pick up times**

**Nursery and Reception (11.30am)**

**Years 1 & 2 (11.45am)**

**Years 3 & 4 (12.00pm)**

**Years 5 & 6 (12.15pm)**

**Years 7 & 8 (12.30pm)**

*We heard from Old Boy Peter Barker recently. He attended St John's in the 1950s/60s with his two brothers and they were called by the customary St John's nicknames Barker Ma, Mi and Min. This is a picture of his uncle in the 1930s on the beach in his school uniform.*



**Updates:** Please continue to visit [www.st-johns.org.uk](http://www.st-johns.org.uk) for all the latest information on sports fixtures and results. The website will have announcements in case of emergency.



You can also follow us on twitter @stjnsnorthwood and our sports department @StJohnsNwSport

**Mailings:** If you have received The Lamb from someone else and would like to be sent your own copy direct each week, please email: Lamb Editor. Let us know your contact details and you will be added to the list.

**Photographs:** We cannot always be on hand every event with a camera and rely on photographs from parents and supporters. Do please continue to send in pictures to [lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk](mailto:lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk) for inclusion in The Lamb. Many thanks.

## Notices and reminders

**Comic Relief Red Nose Day.** We had an exciting day in school wearing our mufti and red noses. Please encourage your sons to donate with you via the [JustGiving Link](#).

**Secure bike parking at St John's:** Some boys (and staff) travel to and from school by bike. If you are considering using this healthy and green mode of transport we would like to remind you that there is a secure cycle shed next to the pedestrian crossing near the science block changing rooms. Please see Mr Lawrence for further details.

**STEM DEN:** STEM DEN opens its doors again over the Easter holidays for parents who are back to work, needing medical care or attend education. To see the line up of topics for the week, to find more details or to place your booking please refer to the website. [www.stemden.co.uk](http://www.stemden.co.uk). We can't wait to see you again!

**End of Term pick up times.** Please note the slightly different collection times on the last day of term. This has

been done in order to maintain social distancing on the car park.

**House Music Festival.** Thank you for your entries. If you haven't already done so, please bring the sheet music for the piano accompaniment to the Music Office, marked with your name and which piece you are playing by 26th March. Rounds will begin in the week of 26th April, so make sure you are practising hard.

**Votes for schools:** next week's question is about the news. See page 11 for details

**House Points:** Lincoln 85.06, Lawrence 84.24, Churchill 81.81, Oates 79.81

There will be no issue of The Lamb next week. We will produce a bumper roundup of all of the events from the final ten days of term on the 31st March. Until then, have a super weekend.