



Year 8 boys help in the Pre-Prep



A hearty “Well done” to many of our older Prep boys, who have had tests this week. Everything went smoothly, and I am confident all boys did their best. Managing challenges and anxieties is a life skill – for parents as well as pupils – and the boys should be praised for their efforts.

The week began with an assembly led by Neer and Tanay, who invited us to think about our backgrounds, and cultural opportunities to learn about others around the world. For those parents concerned, (see P 3) I would like to reassure you that we do not have any rhinos, lions or a giraffe on site!

Elsewhere in this edition of The Lamb, we celebrate mentoring, presentation skills and various Science challenges and opportunities in our natural environment. Our younger boys have enjoyed some creative learning, experiments, art and design. What wonderful teachers the School has!

T Jenkins



Persuasive pitching in the Dragons' Den

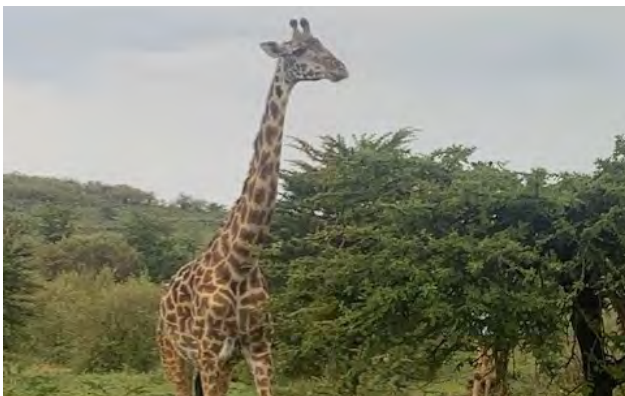
This term, 6H have been using language in a range of ways, utilising persuasive techniques, adjusting tone and selecting specific vocabulary to outline the imaginative design of a revolutionary robotic product. Recently the boys have expressed a range of views; taken part in a debate on the topic of AI; created an advert; written a formal letter of complaint and completed a persuasive essay to convince others. This week, the boys were entrepreneurs in the Den, pitching persuasively to a panel of five venture capitalist Dragons for up to three minutes, to gain their interest and investment.





Neer and Tanay presented an assembly about Kenya

We asked the boys about the experience of presenting to the whole school. Tanay said, *“I was ecstatic to have the opportunity to talk about where my parents came from and to show others the special things that Kenya has, the natural beauty and the wildlife.”* Neer took the photos on this page and commented, *“I cherished the time I spent in Kenya as I saw my cousins for the first time in five years and learnt about my ancestry. I was very keen to share what I had learnt about this beautiful country: my family’s clothes factory, the Masai Mara and Masai people, rhinos and other animals.”*





Quiz Club Science Challenge

This week our Year 5 & 6 team comprising Micah, Yuvraj and Hugo, captained by Josh, took part in the on-line semi-final of the Quiz Club Science Challenge. The boys had to answer thirty really tricky multiple-choice questions, for example “Which gas makes up the clouds of Jupiter?” (Answer: Hydrogen) Over twenty schools took part in the semi-final and although we didn’t make the top 10, we are waiting to hear if we get through to the Final.



Ayaan shares fun scientific facts with Year 3

On Monday, six boys from 3W were given the special opportunity to take part in a Science Club run by our new Science “Teacher”, Ayaan in Year 7. He taught the boys how electricity can be made from a lemon and how to measure the current. The boys had plenty of fun showing off their excellent knowledge as well as learning lots of new fun facts!





Mr Lawrence is recruiting bee keepers

Last weekend saw the arrival of a new hive of bees. The bees have been given to St John's by Mr and Mrs Bullock, who have been keeping bees on the Donkey Field since last summer. We have been keeping bees here since 2008 and the hives are kept by Mr Lawrence. Many senior boys have helped him over the years and learnt the basics of beekeeping. If you are in the senior part of the school and are interested in learning more about beekeeping, please let Mr Lawrence know.





Around school this week



Year 8 boys learned to read a long time ago but were able to lend a hand with the Pre-Prep



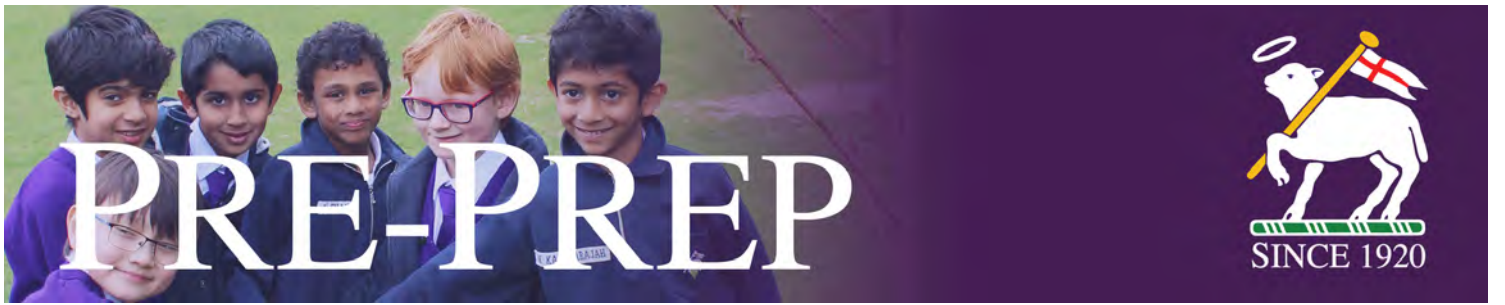
Frozen or waterlogged pitches meant that fixtures were called off this week. At least the shirts will be clean for next week



All kinds of fun at this week's House Meetings



The sun finally breaks through over the astro pitch



Scaring the dragon with percussion instruments





Acting out the Animal Train story

Three animals catch a train to the village, they buy fruit from the green grocers, bread from the baker and sardines from the fishmonger. On their return train journey one of the animals sneezes, the whole carriage shakes and the food goes everywhere. They decide to call their friends and have a picnic!





Otters and Owls learn about transparent and opaque lenses

When designing their own glasses, the boys had to choose the right material for the lenses – should it be transparent or opaque? With so much on offer it was easy to decorate the frames. However, making sure they could see through their glasses meant some careful craft work was necessary. Too much glue on the lenses made everything appear blurry. What do you think of their finished designs?





Year 3 have made posters about the Egyptians

Year 3 did their own research into ancient Egyptian clothing, then worked together in pairs to present it to the class as a beautiful poster.





Solids, liquids and gases in practical Science

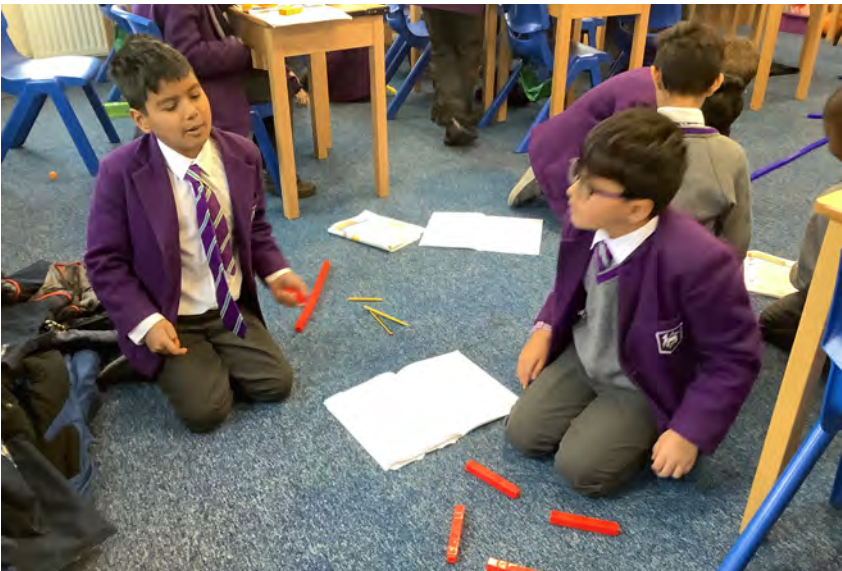
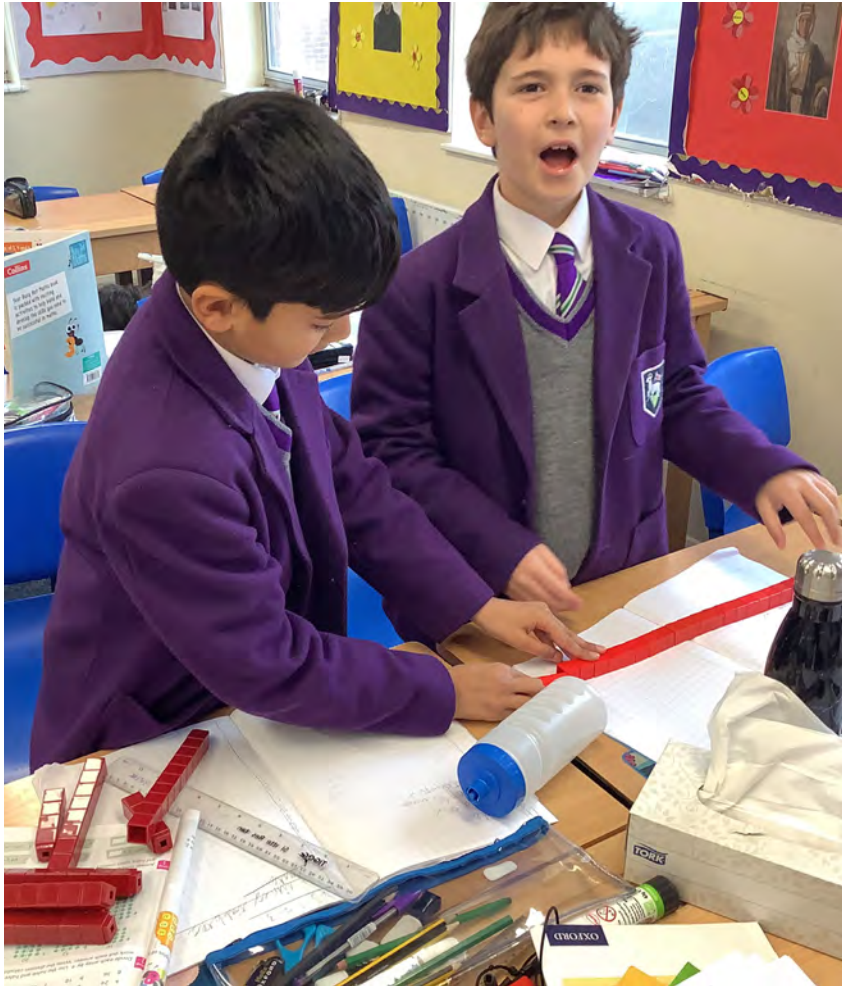
Year 4 are usually keen to go with the flow and their investigation into the properties of solids, liquids and gases proved no exception. The boys compressed air in balloons, moved water into different shaped containers measured its volume and compared the difference between the two states of matter. There was much thinking and considerable hilarity. A great way to spend last lesson on a Wednesday afternoon.





Divide and rule in Year 3 Maths

This week Year 3 have been looking at division. Miss Little's class have been working hard in partners to solve word problems. We have been using cubes to represent sweets. The boys were incredibly disappointed that the sweets weren't real!





A casting call in the Art Department

Our film-making project is a co-production between the English, Art and ITC Departments. This week the boys have been choosing two characters from a shortlist of fifteen hopefuls who turned up to a recent casting call at St John's. They will then write a simple story about their cast. What they get up to will be revealed in later editions of the Lamb.





DT&E pictures of the week



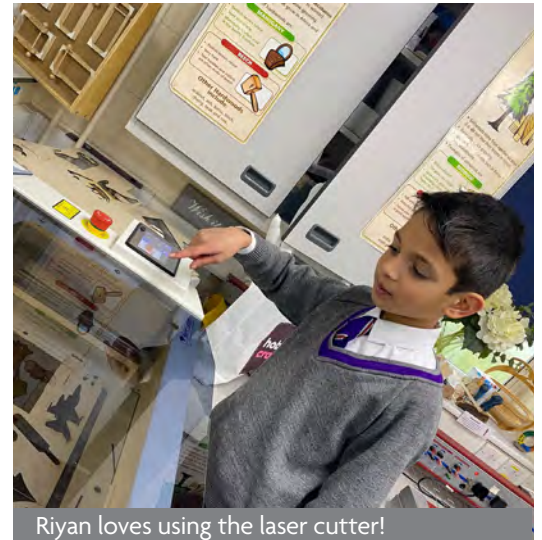
Hamza showing off his drilling skill



Barnaby deep in thought as he works on his Egyptian shaduf



Hugh tests out his egg mobile helped by assistant engineer Miss Ikuobase



Riyan loves using the laser cutter!



Shayan's first experience of the scroll saw



Ayad explains his shaduf to the rest of his class



Teamwork challenges in Year 6 PE





Under 8 C team v St Martin's 26th January

The team started their football season in great style. The boys played well together, all putting in a huge amount of effort, playing in different positions, which allowed them to show a variety of skills. Many thanks to Mrs Paxton for the photos.



Krüger Sports Camps

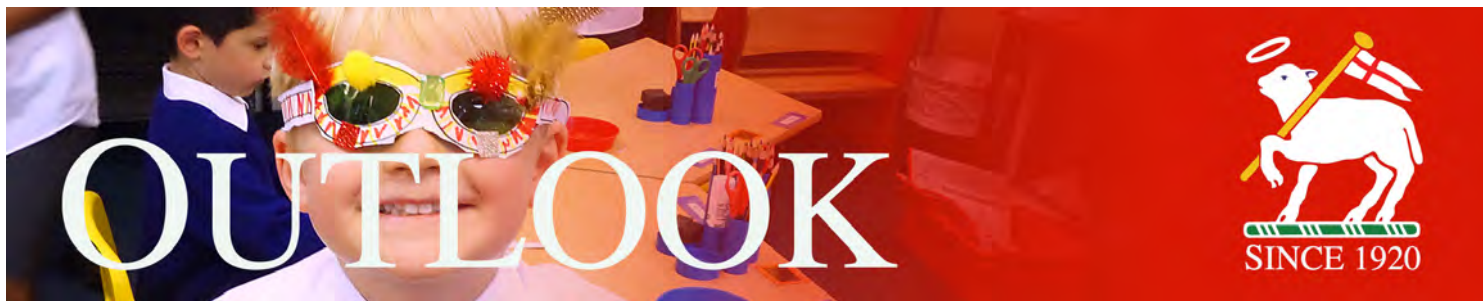


The February Half Term Camp is open! With lots of variety to support the main sport this term, football. A cricket day for early practice for the summer term and the popular Courts Sports on the Friday to bring in even more variety for our youngsters.

MON—Cricket
TUES to THU—Football
FRI—Court Sports

For more information & bookings go to www.krugercamps.co.uk





Important dates

Monday 30th January: Bikeability Week (Year 8)

DT&E Interschool Challenge (Selected Year 5)

Hockey v John Lyon: U13 A, B (h) (3.00pm)

St John's Association Meeting (7.30pm)

Tuesday 31st January: Football v Haberdashers': U9 A, B, C, D (h) (2.30pm)

Thursday 2nd February: Football v Haberdashers': U8 A, B, C, D (a) (2.30pm)

Year 5 Parents' Evening (A-K) (6.00pm-8.00pm)

Friday 3rd February: Pre-Prep Poetry Competition (9.30pm)

Hockey v Merchant Taylors' Prep: Colts A, B (h), U10 A, B (a) (2.30pm)

SATIPS General Knowledge Quiz (Years 6-8)

Contacts

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. Many thanks.

Notices and reminders

Flu nasal spray vaccination for Years 7&8: Now on Monday 30th January

Bikeability 30th January to 3rd February: Year 8 will have the opportunity to learn the life-skill of cycling safely. This is a reminder, boys, to make sure that your bikes are in full working order especially brakes and tyres. Any questions please contact Mr Lawrence.

Year 7&8 Phab Masquerade Disco: This event has been postponed until next term.

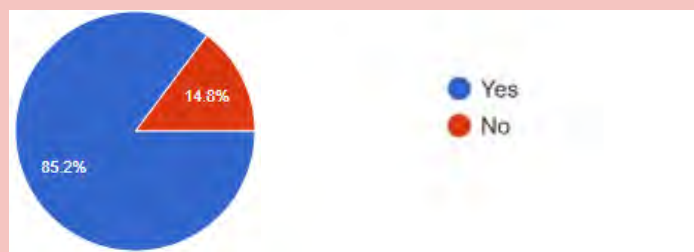
RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch 27th to 29th January: Birdwatch is fun, free and for everyone and you don't need a garden to take part! Counting birds from your balcony, or your local park will play a vital role in helping us understand how UK birds are doing. Follow the link below to find out more information.

www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/

MTS Choral Society: This community choir is open to alumnae, staff, parents, neighbours and friends of Merchant Taylors', St Helen's and St John's Schools.

Rehearsals for the Joint Concert on 20th March take place on Tuesday evenings from 8.00-9.30pm at MTS. Please contact Sam Hill SJM@mtsn.org.uk for further information.

Votes for Schools: This week's question: Is it ok for the Government to change its mind?



Next week's questions: Years 6-8: Are you interested in Harry and Megan?

Years 3-5: Do you know what does disrespect looks like?

House Points: 1st Churchill 74.93; 2nd Oates 71.74; 3rd Lincoln 70.45; 4th Lawrence 68.55

Have a great weekend