



From the Headmaster

A warm welcome to all of the readers of The Lamb, the St John's weekly newsletter, which focuses on the variety and richness of St John's life.

As we start a new academic year I would personally like to wish the new boys and staff all the best for their time here. I feel sure you will find it both fulfilling and enjoyable. I look forward to everyone working hard and involving themselves in the St John's community and I would particularly like to wish all of the Year 8 boys every success in their final year.

I was very pleased to present Alexander, Vish and Rodrigo with their leadership ties as they take their places as Head and Deputy Head boys. I look forward to announcing the Year 8 Prefects who will lead their respective Houses over the next couple of weeks. I was also able to present the first merit and courtesy badges to the Pre-Prep.

The Lamb this week includes Year 3 playing glockenspiels, Year 5 and 6 lettering and cushion designs as well as articles on Mountain Biking and Woods Clubs.

Overall it has been great to see everyone back, happy to see their friends and teachers.

I hope you all have a restful weekend.



Welcome Back!

Hello everyone and a very warm welcome to a new school year. A special welcome to all our new boys and to those who have not been in school since lockdown in March. There is a lot to discover (or rediscover) and the whole St John's community will be ready to help you settle in. For everyone else, we hope that you have had a super summer holiday and are ready to embark on a new and exciting academic year at St John's.

If you are new to the School, The Lamb is our weekly newsletter which reports on the many and varied activities which happen each week. It is uploaded onto the school website on a Friday afternoon/evening and you should also receive an email notification. Please advise us via the lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk email if this doesn't happen and you will be added to the database. That email address is also the one to use if you have any items you think could be included or any pictures taken at school events that you would like to share. We look forward to a busy, productive and happy term ahead.

Introducing our new Head and Deputy Head boys



Congratulations to our new Head boy, Alexander, and his deputies Rodrigo and Vishwadrik. Theirs are roles of significant responsibility and we wish them every success as they join the long line of boys who have represented St John's over the years. You will have the chance to learn more about what they will do and what they are looking forward to overleaf.



Positions of responsibility

There are a lot of things I am looking forward to in my exciting role as Head boy, although the responsibilities might look a little different this year. Who knows, some unique opportunities could arise? It will be fantastic to work with Vish and Rodrigo. I am sure we will make a strong team.

I am greatly looking forward to School Council meetings, and hearing all the new suggestions to improve the school further. I'm sure that we will come up with some really creative ideas. I am also responsible for putting up the House Point totals in each classroom. It will be fun to have the information before anyone else. Hopefully, it will be a great competition this year. This is my tenth year at St John's, and I am really proud to be given the opportunity to represent the School in whatever way I can.

Alexander



I am honoured to be have been given the opportunity to take up my new role as Deputy Head boy of St John's and to be able to lead the School alongside Vish and Alex. It is a big responsibility but I am looking forward to it. The chance of being able to represent St John's in events outside of school, such as the Remembrance Service at Northwood Cenotaph, is what I am most looking forward to in my new role. I am excited about the year ahead and the new experiences that it brings.

Rodrigo



I am looking forward to numerous things that I will have the privilege to do now that I am Deputy Head boy especially representing my school in important events such as Remembrance Day and when Governors visit. Another thing on my agenda is looking after and inspiring the younger children as I remember when I was a Year 3 boy and I always looked up to and admired the Head boy and Deputy Head. I am also looking forward to helping Mr Robinson out when the assemblies start and speaking at Prize Giving.

Vishwadrak



Welcome to our new members of staff



What a pleasant surprise; set in a great location with excellent views, St John's is proving to offer a fabulous early experience. The warm welcome from staff and pupils has been hugely appreciated, as have the wonderfully vibrant, happy, smiling pupils faces, all eager to develop their knowledge and understanding across the curriculum. I look forward to stimulating their inquisitive minds and to enhance their holistic development over the years to come.

Mr Payne-Cook

I have had a fantastic start to the new school year and I am really enjoying getting to know all the new boys in the Squirrels' class, they have been so well behaved and eager to learn. They have helped me settle into my new role just as much as my colleagues. It is a wonderful opportunity to be able to work in such a friendly and supportive environment and I look forward to getting to know all the parents more with time.

In my spare time I like to spend as much of it as possible with my young son, we enjoy our walks in the woods, riding bikes and reading together.

Mrs Cottrell



I feel very fortunate to be starting my teaching career at St John's as a Year 5 teacher, after spending last year completing my PGCE at UCL in London. I have been struck by the caring and friendly nature of both the pupils and staff; they have made me feel extremely welcome. The St John's grounds and facilities have particularly struck me and have made settling in all the more enjoyable. I look forward to getting to know the wider St John's community more over the coming months!

Mrs Marsden

I am delighted to be starting my teaching career at St John's. The transition from TA to teacher has been an exciting road and I have been lucky enough to have been supported, not only by my Pre-Prep family but also our wonderful parents. I am very excited to see what the year ahead brings, It has been a great start to the term so far...long may it continue.

Miss Roach





St John's is already a wonderful place to work, not just to work with the lovely staff but to play a part in the care and education of the children. I have already settled in extremely well and am genuinely happy in my role. I look forward to be apart of the St John's family, in particular the Pre-Prep department which is where I am currently based. I'm looking forward to the rest of the year ahead.

Miss Murphy

It's been an exciting and busy first week at St John's. I have really enjoyed meeting my new work colleagues and everybody has made me feel so welcome. Visiting and competing against St John's I knew the facilities were impressive but this week being out on the cricket field, teaching the boys in this beautiful weather with the sun shining and the grounds in such great condition; it really has been a pleasure. What has impressed me more than anything is the behaviour, standards and enthusiasm of the boys. They have put so much energy into every session, listened well and I'm excited for the next few months. Cricket is a popular sport at St John's. I'm looking forward to developing it further and improving the impressive platform we already have.

Mr O'Brien



As I begin my seventh year here at St John's, it is in a new position, this time as class teacher in the Robins. All the experience I gained in the Pre-Prep until now has most definitely been an advantage and I have really enjoyed my first week with my lovely class. Who would have thought that many, many moons ago when I met Mrs Scott on our first day at University, we would be working together here at St John's?

Mrs Roberts

I have felt so welcomed at St John's by all the wonderful staff, who are lovely and kind. I have settled well in the Nursery; The Lambs, working alongside Mrs O'Donnell and Ms Whyton who have encouraged and supported my transition into a becoming a teaching assistant.

I enjoy working with the Lambs because I love seeing a smile on their faces when they get a sticker or how they play nicely with each other, creating a bond between them. I look forward to learning more about the boys and seeing them develop and grow as the year goes on.

Miss Anning



PRE-PREP



Pre-Prep settling in brilliantly

The Pre-Prep boys, new and old, have settled into the new normal brilliantly. They are working hard and enjoying playing outside in the sunshine. The Year 1 and 2 boys are leaping out of their cars in the 'drop and go' zone and we have got hand sanitising down to a fine art! It is super to hear their chatter and giggles echoing up and down the corridors once again. Clockwise from the top left: Robins, Squirrels, Owls, Badgers, Eagles and Otters.





PRE-PREP



Playing with a purpose in the Lambs



The Lambs have now completed their first full week in school and it looks like they have been having a lot of fun as you can see from these pictures



PRE-PREP





Welcome back Juniors

How wonderful it is to all be back together. The Year 3 boys have settled well during the first week back at St John's, feeling very grown up being part of the Junior School. Year 4 were pleased to see Mr Haley and Mrs Shah had come to join them as top of the Juniors. We all were grateful for the sunshine in order to have our packed lunches in the amazing school grounds.





Mountain Bike Club meets for the first time

It was a beautiful day for the first Mountain Bike Club of term. We enjoyed testing our skills in the beautiful school grounds and hope to head out into the local woodland soon.





If you go down to the woods...

The late summer evening and a crispness in the air as summer gently changes into autumn. Year 5 Woods Club excitedly charge through the forest at St John's stomping, yelling and laughing as they rebuild friendships abandoned temporarily during lockdown. It is said that one of the best ways to get young people to protect these precious woodland spaces is to

get them physically engaged and interacting with them, in order to really appreciate every twig and trunk personally. If you haven't discovered the woodland close to school yet, it is highly recommended. Check out this link to the Oxhey Woods Sculpture Trail.

<https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/download?id=36648>



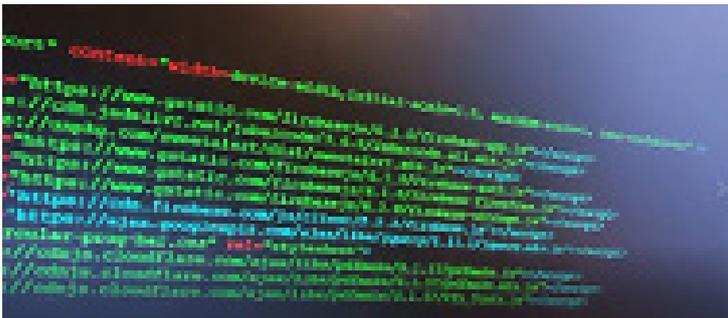


Cyrus has been very busy

Not content with providing dozens of protective masks for local NHS workers, Cyrus has used his 3D printer to create a new product. His Lotus Flower 3d Printed Soap Dish is a triumph of form and function and currently doing well on handmade, craft, and vintage marketplace, Etsy.



As if that wasn't enough, some of Cyrus' coding work has been recognised by the judges of this year's Coolest Projects competition. His submission was an e-portal for St John's pupils and was picked out as a favourite by none other than, Dr Hyaatun Sillem, the Chief Executive of the Royal Academy of Engineering as one of her favourites. Well done Cyrus!





Reflections on 5V's Pony Day

On the first day of the summer holidays, 5V (now 6V) were lucky enough to go on a trip to Raybrook Riding School in Brookman's Park which is where Miss Vale's keeps her horse. As well as the chance to ride on one of the lovely ponies, the boys

helped with mucking out and grooming so that they had the full experience of the pleasure and hard work that goes into having a horse. Here four of the boys reflect on a really fun day alongside some wonderful pictures of their time there.



At the end of the school year, 5V went to a horse stable called Raybrook Riding in Brookmans Park. I rode a horse called Dolly and we also had to muck out the horses' poo. The names of the horses were Tia, Gigi, Dolly, Venus, Dottie, Jimmy, Marvin, Troy, Missy, Eve, and Millie. Overall, the day at the stable was really good - I had lots of fun and learnt a lot.

Kush



On the first day of the summer holidays, 5V (now 6V) went on a pony day to Miss Vale's stables and we got to ride the horses, learn how to tie them up and our favourite bit was cleaning out the poo! I rode Tia and she was very cute! At the end we had a competition and my team won! It was a great day and it was really nice to see all of my friends again. We also got to see Merlin (Miss Vale's very cute dog).

Kian



At the end of Year 5, 5V went to Miss Vale's amazing pony day at Raybrook Riding school (where Miss Vale keeps her horse!). We did many things, but the most disgusting thing everyone did was cleaning tons of poop from the fields and the wee from the stables. I rode an outstanding horse called Jimmy. Overall, I think that this was the absolute best horse experience I have ever been on.
Ahaan



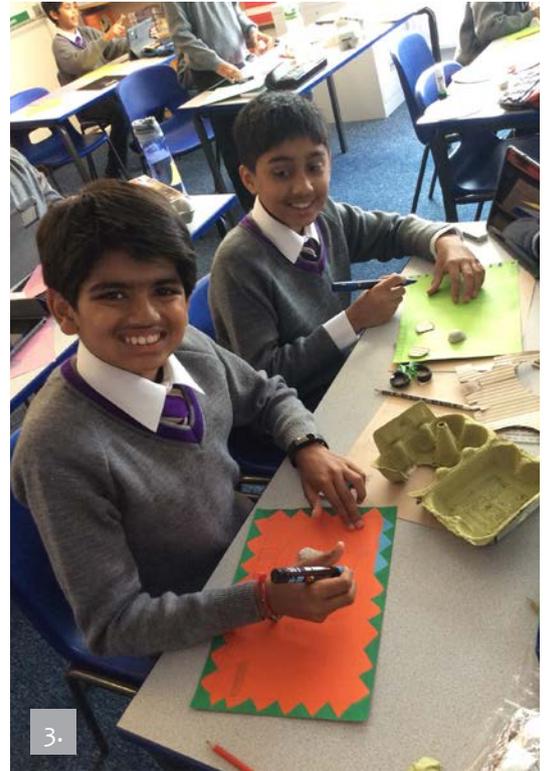
We went on a pony trip with 5V at the end of last year. I rode a horse called Dottie and she was really sweet and soft. I still miss Dottie! We learnt how to ride horses and we all had so much fun. The down side was that we had to pick up poop and put it in a wheelbarrow, but the grooms said "that's life!". Overall, it was fantastic - thank you to Miss Vale and the stable staff! I really want to do more of these horse trips again.

Roshan

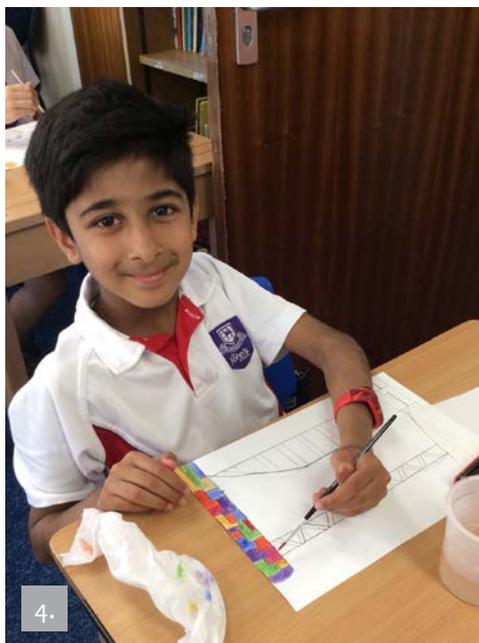




Starting as we mean to go on



The boys have been very busy this week in Art. 1. Nayan and Oscar in Year 7 are taking selfies for their portrait project. 2. Junior Art Club had a lovely time sculpting leaf bowls out of clay. 3. Rahul and Satyen have been working on their 3D animal portraits. 4. Noah in Year 4 has made a great start on his abstract painting too. 5. Raphael G in Year 4 is painting a beautiful picture in the style of Paul Klee. 6. Leo in Year 5 has been learning about the Italian artist, Giuseppe Arcimboldo.





Great to be back at work

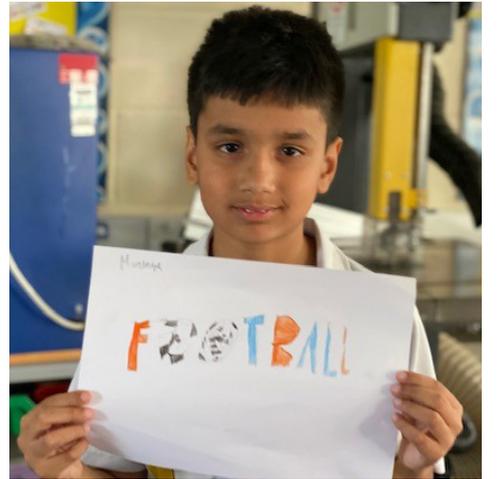
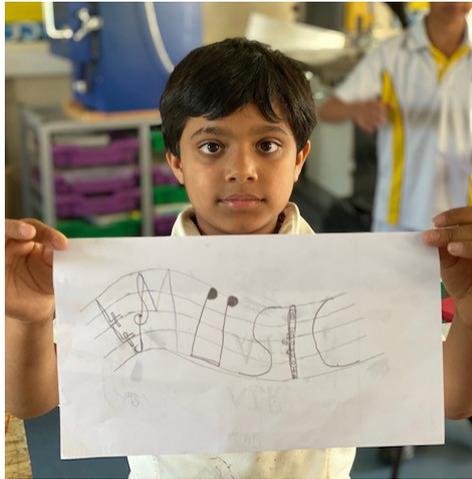
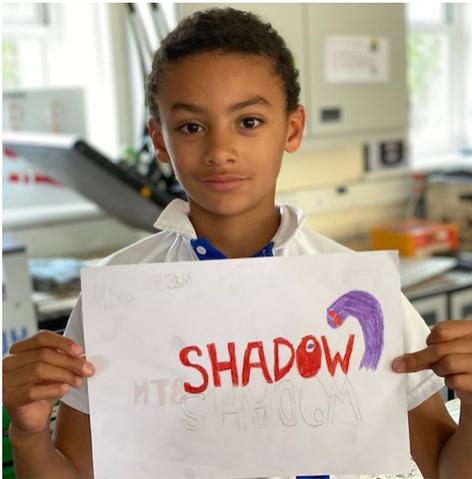
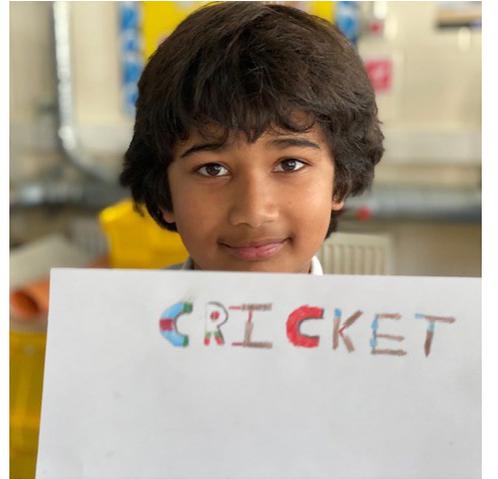
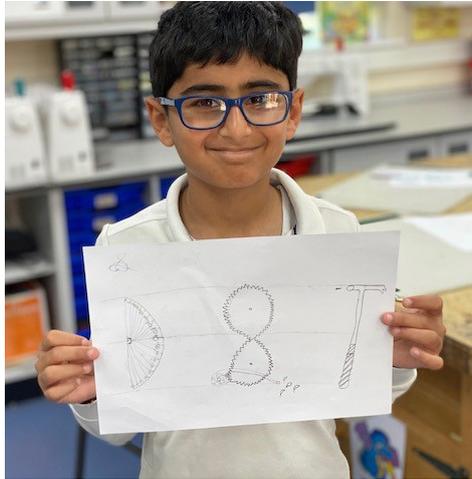
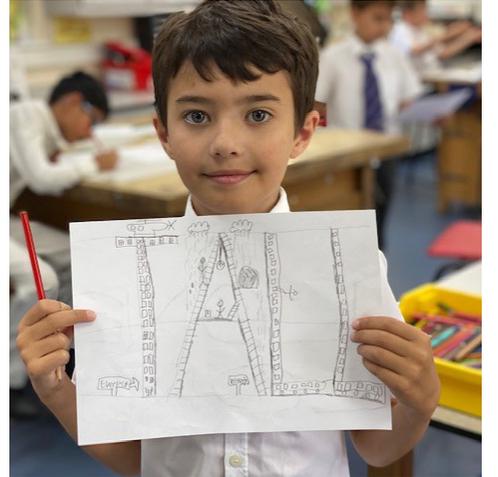
Our first D&T lesson back and Year 6 had unfinished business to complete. It was fantastic to finally sew our cushions together and stuff them. Now for the best part... testing them out!





Great to be back at work continued...

The doors to the D&T room are at last open again and we've enjoyed being able to design and make in each others company again. Year 5 have worked really hard to develop their Graphical Communication skills. Great lettering! They've also had the chance to 3D some of the key rings they designed during lockdown using our CAD package Tinkercad.





3H playing and learning music

Year 3 have started their music lessons in a practical way by learning to play the Glockenspiel and becoming familiar with musical notation. 3H got to grips with their individual instruments and were able to use their beaters correctly, even after one lesson. Watch out Evelyn Glennie!





Arian's summer of cricket

Arian (8B) enjoyed a summer of cricket. As well as playing for the colts at Northwood Cricket Club, he also ventured into the world of adult cricket, playing games for the 4th XI, 5th XI and Friendly XI. One of the highlights of the holiday was a stellar performance in a friendly match against Harefield CC who fielded a strong team including a number of first team players and even a Buckinghamshire CCC 1st XI bowler. Arian was very chuffed to take two wickets including that of the County player although he had passed his century at this point and was more than ready to retire!

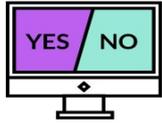


Dhruv's charity 12k

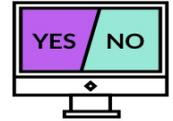
Well done to Dhruv of 5M who, last weekend ran an impressive 12k. As well as respresting St John's looking spendid in his Lawrence House kit, he raised over £460 for the Children with Cancer charity.



OUTLOOK



VOTESFORSCHOOLS
Inspiring Pupil Voice



As part of our PSHCEE program, VotesforSchools is a weekly current affairs voting platform designed to engage young people in political and social issues. Not only are our young people learning about the world around them, they are becoming prepared for participating in our democratic processes. We hope your son will soon be involved in our weekly debating and voting activities.

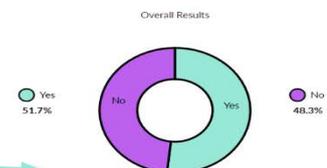
Find out more...

How does
Votes for
schools work
at
St. John's?



Each week a question is announced in form time, released on Google classroom and published in The Lamb. The boys are encouraged to discuss the question at home and at school and find out more about it.

Should there be a second vote on Brexit?



The boys are encouraged to discuss the topics at home with their families. They place their vote using Google Classroom either at home or as part of a lessons at school. They are encouraged to post a comment for which they could be awarded a house point.

We get to find the result of the vote through Google Classroom and form time. It is also published in The Lamb. It gives us an idea of what our young people think.

What can Parents do to support?

- ✓ Look out for the 'Question of the Week' in The Lamb
- ✓ Ask your children to give arguments for each side of the debate, encourage critical thinking
- ✓ Check for the results the following week and discuss
- ✓ Keep looking at events in the news to keep up to date with current affairs
- ✓ If you have any questions or comments, email Mrs McSween vmcsween@st-johns.org.uk
- ✓ Click [here](#) to see how VotesforSchools were discussed on Sky news a while ago as the pupils discussed the importance of finding out about Brexit.

This week's question is: 'Are *staycations* the future?'

[Click here to get to the Google Classroom.](#) The class code is: tcl5eou

OUTLOOK



Photo of the week

Keeping Northwood tidy. James (6M) has noticed increases in littering over the past few weeks (particularly of facemasks) so has been getting out and about in Northwood doing his bit to keep our area looking tidy and litter-free. Well done.



Contact details

Updates: Please continue to visit 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 your pictures to lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk for inclusion in The Lamb. Many thanks.

Notices and reminders

Year 5 Information Evening: a reminder that this takes place on Wednesday 23rd September via Google Meet. You will receive the joining codes shortly.

Macmillan Coffee Morning: this will run virtually. The St John's Association will send more details next week.

Votes for Schools. The first Votes for Schools starts this week discussing the question 'Are Staycations the Future?' Click the link on p19 and we look forward hearing your views.

Second hand Uniform: Please continue to send in donations. Our shop will be up and running as soon as possible.

New arrangements for After School Club: The booking system for After School Club has changed. All parents have

been sent information about the new arrangements together with a registration form. If you need more information about After School Club please contact Miss Ashman through the PSH email and NOT via the School Office. Finally a reminder, After School Club is now meeting in the Norman Hall. Please contact Miss Ashman on 07988 144568 before you arrive so that you son is ready for collection.

House Points: This year's House Point league table has been reset so there is everything to play for. House Points are awarded for good work and behaviour so do continue to try your very best, both for yourself and your House. Totals so far: 1st **Lawrence** with 1.79, 2nd **Lincoln** with 1.77, 3rd **Oates** with 1.64 and 4th **Churchill** with 1.43.