

THE LAMB



St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 274



From the
Headmaster

Welcome to The Lamb. I was delighted to see so many families taking part in the annual Walk to School initiative with boys from nursery to Year 8 walking, cycling, car sharing, enjoying the fresh air and exercise.

We celebrated Our Beautiful World, the theme of the House Art Competition, with 6G in their assembly and were inspired by their photographs and stories. They announced the winning artists and you can see their entries on pages 15 and 16. All the winning pieces will be published in the School Magazine later this year.

Year 5 had a glorious day for their visit to Kensington Palace and enjoyed debating whether Queen Victoria was well-prepared when she became Queen. Rehearsals are well underway now for the production of A Midsummer Night's Dream and it is good to see so much commitment from the boys. It promises to be a very special event.

There has been great excitement in the Pre-Prep with the delivery of the eggs. Rohan updated me this morning with the news that the eggs are gradually cracking. Keep your eye on the web cam this weekend boys.

I should be delighted if you could join me at the Farewell Dinner which has been arranged by the St John's Association. You will find ticket information on page 3.

All the best to the five senior boys who will be competing at the Stowe Putter on Sunday, with some of the best Prep School golfers in the country. I very much look forward to watching them.

S. RA

Walk to School Week



It has been great to see how many boys have been participating in our annual Walk to School week. This year we have had more boys than ever walking, cycling and car sharing to school. As you can see the boys in the Pre-Prep have made a great effort to leave their cars at home and get fit. Years 3, 4 and 5 have been rewarded with daily stickers for using alternative travel to school and Years 6, 7 and 8 are going to be rewarded with Strider badges for walking 5 or more times in the week. There will also be certificates for the classes with the highest number of days walked! In some classes such as 3W, 6L and 7M over half the boys in the form have participated.





Walk to School Week cont...



THIS WEEK



Announcing Mr Robinson's Farewell Dinner

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS



CLICK THE LINK [Here](#) TO MAKE YOUR BOOKING

SATURDAY 25TH JUNE: ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

Ticket includes

- A welcome drink - alcoholic or non-alcoholic bubbles
- 4 course menu including canapés, live food stations and a sit-down sharing meal
- Live band & dancing!

TABLES OF 10 WITH LIMITED TICKETS

All proceeds to Mr Robinson's chosen charity, Wooden Spoon



Year 5 Trip to Kensington Palace

On Wednesday, we arrived at school exuberant and ready for our trip to Kensington Palace. When we arrived, half the year group wandered round the King's and Queen's State Apartments and the Life through a Royal Lens exhibition. We answered some questions along the way and found out some interesting facts, such as Christopher Wren (who helped repair famous monuments after the Great Fire of London) was commissioned to extend and improve the palace. The other group was introduced to a lady who was acting as Queen Victoria's governess. It was almost as if she took us back in time. We had to find facts to show whether Queen Victoria was prepared to be queen or not. The lady told us that Victoria was not expecting to be queen because she was born fifth in line to

the throne. A fun fact is that she was actually called Alexandrina but she did not like her name, so she changed it to Victoria. Then we had the debate; one side was arguing that she was well prepared to be Queen and the other side argued she was not very well prepared. Afterwards, the groups swapped and did the other activities. We then had a picnic in the glorious sunshine, visited the gift shop and had an ice cream. Overall, we really enjoyed our trip to Kensington Palace, we enjoyed learning amazing facts about people who lived and worked in Kensington Palace. Our highlight was visiting the Privy Chamber as there were loads of cool historic paintings and facts.

Dhylan and Neer 5M





Year 5 Trip to Kensington Palace cont...





Our Beautiful World

On Monday 6G presented an assembly about Our Beautiful World. Having just returned to school from our trip to Northumbria, we were feeling very inspired by how pretty the world is and wanted to talk about our holidays. All fifteen of us had written a speech in which we described our chosen image, explaining how beautiful the world is, or can be. We really do live in a world full of beauty, from snow-capped mountains to erupting volcanoes, flowers, birds, roaming animals, there was so much to choose from while making our assembly. We had everything from Jasper, Leo's Labrador to Hyatt Zilara in Jamaica where Harry went on holiday. Tranquil oceans

shimmered cobalt and turquoise while camellias grew pink and purple. Refreshed from our recent travels, we were able to use our extensive public speaking skills to present our pictures and memories to the audience. Everyone stood up and mesmerised and astonished the audience while they read their lines confidently and our range of extravagant pictures and memories really helped to beam the beauty of the world onto everyone's face. After our inspiring assembly, we read out the winners of the House Art Competition and celebrated the winners – you can read more on page 15.

Harry and Ananda 6G





Merchant Taylors' Company Year 8 Quiz

On 18th May, a select group of boys represented the School in the Merchant Taylors' Company Quiz, which included Merchant Taylors' schools from all over the UK. The quiz took place via Zoom and the St John's team, Albert, Ansh, Benjamin, George, Leo and Lucas named themselves the "St Johns Rebels". St John's got off to a good start. The first round was called "Alphabet". The quiz master would spin a wheel filled with letters and a question would then be asked with the answer starting with the letter the spin landed on. The first letter the spin landed on was Y and the question asked was: Name an animal related to the cow, that lives in Central Asia and has long, dense hair. St Johns got this in a flash. The answer was a Yak.

The rounds progressed with St John's whizzing through the answers. In all of the rounds, St Johns posted the highest score available if not close to the highest score. One of the questions asked during one of the rounds was to unjumble the letters "TOOK USUAL HEROES" to get a country and its capital city. After the team studied long and hard we finally figured out

that the answer was South Korea with its capital city, Seoul.

The final round was by far the hardest, not least because you lost a mark if you got the question wrong. There were some tactical non-answers. Some questions asked included:

Question: Which is faster, the average speed of a Mexican wave or the average speed of Usain Bolt?

Answer: Mexican Wave

Question: How many stars are in the flag of the United Nations?

Answer: 12

Question: As you look at Ant and Dec, who stands on the right?

Answer: Dec

At the end of the Quiz, the leader board had been finalised and there was one clear winner, Wallingford School. Two teams drew for second and St John's were squeaked into the 4th place by one mark. Overall, it was an excellent experience and we greatly enjoyed it. George is already preparing for next year!

Benjamin Year 8





Mr Robinson met Old Boys at Harrow School

On Tuesday evening I caught up with St John's Old Boys Edward, Netanel, Marcos and Aaron at Harrow School. They gave up their time in their busy schedules to attend a special function to meet their 'old' Headteachers! My wife, Jackie, and I were delighted to hear about all their pastimes and their lives at the School. Netanel was deep in the middle of his GCSE exams and enjoying the rugby, Aaron is thriving in Design and Technology and has progressed with hockey and cricket and Marcos had just set a new PB for his javelin throwing, whilst Edward was leading on many of the societies after securing his place at Yale for next year. The boys were delightful company and made Jackie and I feel incredibly welcome.



Liam earned his Chief Scout's Silver Award

When he was in the Beavers, Liam (now in 5WS) earned his Chief Scout's Bronze Award, the highest award a Beaver can earn. He was one of only two Beavers in his group to earn that award in the last twenty-five years! Now he has now earned the Chief Scout's Silver Award. This is the highest award a Cub can earn. To earn it, you need to complete six Activity Badges of your choice. These badges are sewn on the left arm of the uniform and all seven of the Challenge Awards are sewn on the right breast. Mr Robinson congratulated Liam in assembly.





The Anything Goes Club

Anything goes club this week worked on some skills of independence as they battled through the laundry basket and polished up their shoes. Lots of fun with the Soul music blaring.





Watch them grow!

The Lambs planted cress seeds, we watered them, put them in the sunlight and watched them grow. We examined the roots and then made some delicious cress sandwiches, yum yum!!!!





Weighing in Year 1

The Otters and Owls have been using balances and scales to measure objects in grams and kilograms. They selected bags containing objects and measured them against metal weights with the help of a partner. The boys have been noticing the weights written on packages of food. The Otters and Owls also learnt how to read a dial on weighing scales and they put this skill to good use when measuring out ingredients to make biscuits....yum yum!





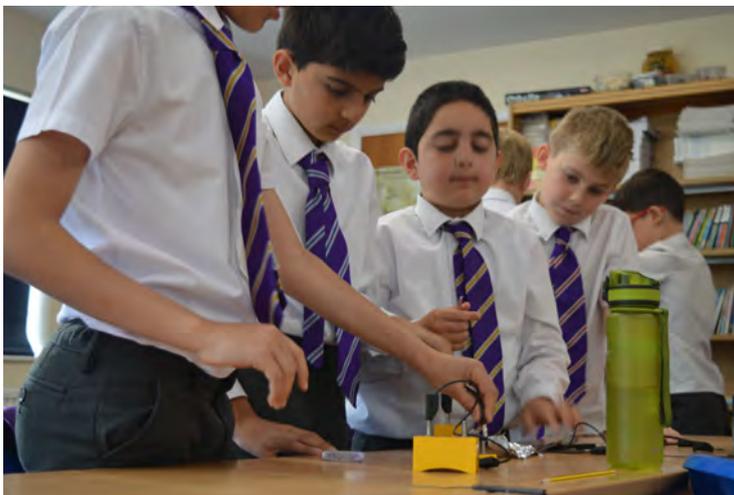
Weighing in Year 1 cont...





Year 4 are studying electricity

Year 4 scientists put their thinking hats on this week and investigated insulators and conductors as part of the electricity topic. It might not have been quite as exciting as Whitemoor Lakes but the cooperative skills they developed last week we're certainly put to good use.



MUSIC



NATIONAL SCHOOLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



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When? 10 - 17 July



Where? Malvern College, UK



Who? Ages 8 - 17



What Standard? Two orchestras:



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House Art Competition Winners 2022

The theme of this year's House Art Competition was Our Beautiful World. The pictures were judged by Ms Gillen, Mr Colgate and Mr Robinson and the winners were announced in assembly this week. First places were awarded with five House Points, second place with three and third place with two. Lawrence was the winner with 38 points, then Churchill with 28, and Lincoln and Oates with 17 points each.

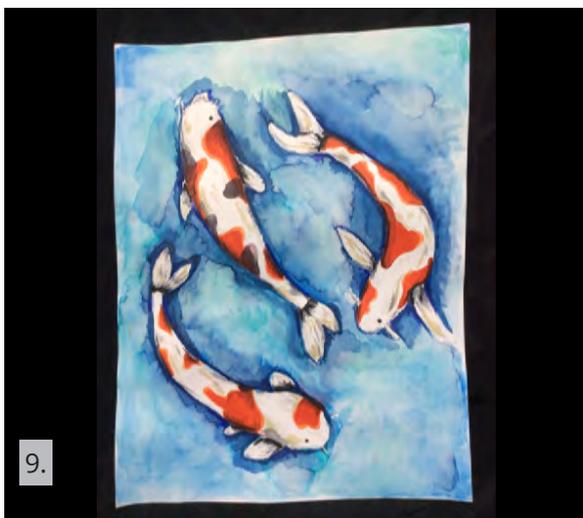
	Year 8	Year 7	Year 6	5C	5M	5V
1st	Nayan 8J	Alistair 7M	Joshua 6L	Raphael	Neer	Maximilian
2nd	Daniel 8J	Rafi 7B	Rian 6L	Liam L	Theodore H	Aarush
3rd	Thomas 8H	George 7B	Aaron 6V	Theodore M	Josh	Iraj
	4H	4L	3L	3W		
1st	Yash	Om	Rishi	Ansh		
2nd	Ayan	Aarav	Niam	David		
3rd	Nathan	Hari	Dillan	Ryoush		





House Art Competition Winners 2022

1. Yash, 2. Ansh, 3. Rishi, 4. Maximilian, 5. Om, 6. Neer, 7. Joshua, 8. Raphael, 9. Nayan, 10. Alistair





Pulling back the curtain on the creative process

The process of creating a senior play has been under way in after school classes since February. Audiences are often not aware of what goes on behind-the-scenes, but this is what allows the finished production to shine. The boys have invested a great deal of time repeating scenes, actions, lines and committing cues to memory.

Drama may seem a discipline that requires less work than other subjects. The opposite was particularly evident this week, when the boys revealed how well they had learned the lines, despite the busy sporting and exam season. These boys have needed to understand Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's*

Dream, the meaning of their lines and how to convey their character's motivation and personality. This week we had other staff as observers but delivered an absorbing performance. Backstage the crew had to communicate and transfer a lot of detail and creative choices, whilst agreeing clear plans as a team.

When we finish our production, the boys will have been rehearsing for four months, although the time has flown. It has been hard at times but yesterday, these exceptional boys showed us that the outdoor stage belongs to them. They had fun with the language, the jokes and the characters learning from each other. We look forward to welcoming our audience in June.





Cricket v St Martin's 16th May 2022

1st XI St John's 109/6, St Martin's 96/9

A great result for the 1st XI who came out winners against a good St Martin's side. Batting first, we made 109/6 off 20 overs. This was mainly due to a brilliant 66 partnership between Ruben and Kian J. They consolidated the innings after losing early wickets and paced their innings nicely. Ruben top scored with 36 from 39 balls. In reply we bowled well and fielded with intensity. All the bowlers were very economical and bowled well in partnerships. Kian J. picked up 2 wickets, as did Nayan, in the last over of the game. St Martin's finished on 96/9 off their 20 overs. A great win for the 1st XI.



2nd XI St John's 143/4, St Martin's 75/7

In our first home game of the season St John's won the toss and chose to bat first. Aaron(29) and Sahib(33) got us off to a strong start against some variable bowling. A heavy rain shower forced us off the pitch and changed the momentum of the game. Both openers lost their wickets quickly after the break but Archie(15) and Remika(19) helped us to a very respectable 153/4. In response, St Martin's started slowly against some tight bowling and never really looked like getting the runs. Only one player made it to double figures and they finished their 20 overs on 75/7. Wickets were evenly shared out amongst the bowlers with Vihaan (2/7 off 2 overs) being the pick of the bunch. Man of the match Aaron for 29 runs, great wicketkeeping and good captaincy.





U9 Cricket v St Martin's 17th May

U9A St John's 76, St Martin's 36

A brilliant win for the U9 boys in their first game of the season. The boys played superbly and I was delighted with the performance of every boy. Nikhil kept wicket and did a great job stopping some quality pace and spin bowling from St Martin's. Rian got 3 wickets in a brilliant over but every bowler should be proud. St Martin's batted first and got 36. We batted well and amassed 76, winning comfortably. The standout in the batting innings was Ayan J who also hit a massive 6 and dispatched 20 off 1 over. Well done boys on what was one of the best U9 team performances I have witnessed.



U9B St Martin's 268/6, St John's 271/3

A positive start to their cricket season with a win against St Martin's. Captain Om won the toss and opted to field first. Dev opened the bowling with an immediate two wickets of the first three balls. St Martin's managed to settle a little bit with the bat, finding the boundary on a few occasions. Upsets came at the right time for St John's with Yuva and Armaan taking wickets too. Paras bowled very well indeed to finish with two wickets from his over. St John's had 268 to chase with the bat and I was really pleased to note the encouragement for each other and teamwork between the batting pairs. A close match which came down to the last few balls to decide the winner. Both sides are equal in ability with the ball and bat. St John's needed 3 runs of the last over to win the match. Paras and Arnav communicated well and stayed calm. Unforced errors by the bowler and two quick singles resulted in a 3-run victory by St John's. Very well done.

U9C Cricket St John's 252/2, St Martin's 248/4

St John's went into bat first and we faced some good bowling from the opposition. Sebastian and Kian opened the batting and although we lost a wicket, we were able to score a few runs. However, in the second over Kian hit two glorious sixes and this was very much how the rest of the St John's innings went. We also managed to score runs when needed and Ryan and Khyan hit some good boundaries. What was most impressive was that we lost no more wickets and this really helped our run rate. At the end of the innings we had scored 252 runs. St Martin's went into bat and the first pair hit the ball and scored a few boundaries. But Sebastian managed to take a wicket which helped us greatly. Khyan bowled a very good over and took a wicket for 3 runs. We





U9 Cricket v St Martin's cont...

managed to keep the score down but St Martin's still chased, and they ran well between the wickets. It came down to the last over with St Martin's requiring 9 runs to win. Ryan was bowling and in his first delivery the ball was hit, and Sebastian took a fantastic catch. The next delivery, as the batsmen ran, Ryan managed to stump the player. These two wickets made the difference and at the end St Martin's just fell short with 248 runs. This was a really good effort by the side. A few things to work on but well done on the win.



U9D St John's 71/4, St Martin's 66/4

In our first competitive match this term we were excited to get out onto the cricket pitch and hit some runs. George and Jay opened the batting steadily seeing out the St Martin's bowlers to build the runs slowly. Later on in the innings Teddy came in to score 20* which was equally matched by Lucas with 20*. Further runs came from Aditya, Hari and Eliot to give us a total of 71. We still had some work to do in the field to seal the win and on this hot day it wouldn't make the fielding any easier. Dhruv had a good over, taking out the middle stump for a wicket and only giving away 4 byes. Further wickets came from George, Dhruv and Jay thanks to 3 catches from Lucas. Further good bowling from Aditya sealed the victory by just 5 runs, well done boys, you were superb today. Man of the match: Dhruv for 9 runs not out with the bat and bowling a brilliant over taking 2 wickets for just 4 runs.

U9E St John's 46, St Martin's 54

For a first game for the U9Es, I was absolutely delighted with the boys concentration, focus and effort but above all else maturity. From minute one the boys at the crease were communicating confidently when to run between the wickets and giving each other words of encouragement. Some lovely batting from the opening pair of Aren and Aubrey set us on our way to a total of 46 in 10 overs. One particular highlight of the innings was Aren's particularly attacking style of batting that saw him connect with some massive shots. Yousef as well, came in and played a very good innings, playing some very smart shots into spaces in the field. Alexander showed some quality bowling with some straight deliveries putting the batters under pressure. On the whole it was a good showing by the Es but they must keep concentrating in the field to prevent easy runs from being scored. Man of the match: Aarav as his pair with Nathan was the highest scoring for the side whilst he also took two wickets with his bowling too.





Belmont U13 Cricket Festival Saturday, 14th May

Our first 8-a-side match with 7 bowlers and a wicket keeper was against The Hall. Each side was allowed to pre-select a power play before the innings started. We batted first and Hamza was caught on 5 but Zac batted very well, scoring 18 runs. Nayan batted very well and scored 16 runs but The Hall kept the bowling tight. At the end, we reached 74 runs after seven overs. Would this be enough? The Hall got away to a tremendous start by scoring 39 runs in the first two overs. Despite Nayan taking a very important wicket, Ruben and Hamza bowling very well, Hamza taking a wicket and two catches from Zac behind the stumps, with 2 balls left, The Hall won the match.

Our second match was against Belmont and we batted first with a great start from Hamza who scored over 20 runs. Once past 20 the batsman has to retire. Zac came in next and hit the ball superbly around the ground with a number of boundaries. We reached 80 without losing a wicket and in over 3 we scored 20 runs. At the end we reached 80 runs which was a great effort by the side. When Belmont went into bat, the opening pair had to get 11 runs an over to keep in the run chase. In the power play over they really accelerated the run rate and scored 34 runs which gave them a huge boost towards our target. Mithil, Kian J, Ruben and Kian P were the pick of the St John's bowlers with KP taking a wicket with a LBW. But in the 6th over, Belmont reached our target and went on to score 91 runs.

In the final match Merchant Taylors' Prep went into bat first. Their 22 runs in the first over gave them the springboard to score a good total. Ruben in the power play over bowled a very good line and Hamza took two wickets with two balls before Ruben took a superb catch in the deep. Zac took a superb catch behind the stumps from Kian J but Merchant Taylors' Prep finally managed to score 104 runs. St John's opened up the batting with Hamza and Zac but Hamza was caught superbly in the deep with a one handed catch. However, Zac and Nayan batted very well and both batsmen retired after scoring over 20 runs. Zac hit two impressive 6's and Nayan hit a number of boundaries. However, the Merchant Taylors' Prep bowling attack was extremely good with the speed, line and length never allowing us to score freely. The runs we got were hard fought but we kept on trying to reach the opposition's target. Kian J and Ruben batted very well but they just could not keep the score going at the required rate. In the end we scored 64 runs which was a very good effort against the bowling attack.

Well done to all the St John's pupils who batted, bowled and fielded so well. Much was learned and this was a very good experience for the boys. A huge thank you to all the parents who came and supported the boys.





Sports roundup

Judo success for brothers Abbas in 5C and Hamza in the Eagles

On Sunday 16th May my brother and I competed in a regional Judo tournament as part of our Judo club. It was a really exciting day for us. Judo is originally from Japan and stands for the “gentle way”. It involves a lot of throws and body movements that have Japanese names. You’re not allowed to punch or kick. We each fought four full-contact matches supported by our family and club mates. Hamza won a silver medal having scored an “Ippon” - which means a perfect technique with the opponent landing on his back. Although I found it very difficult facing boys two to four years older than me, I came from behind in the bronze medal fight with a “Seoi-nage” which is a difficult over the shoulder throw, winning the bronze medal. *Abbas 5C*



Lucas in 8J was a medal winner in a local Triathlon last weekend

On Sunday 15 May 2022, Lucas (8J) competed in the Tristar 3 (Under 15s) category at the Hatch End triathlon. He came 2nd in the boys’ category. The triathlon involved a 300m swim, 4km cycle and 2.4km run. Here he is collecting his 2nd place trophy. Many congratulations, Lucas.



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[/NorthwoodPlatinumJubileeEvent](https://www.facebook.com/NorthwoodPlatinumJubileeEvent)



Calendar & important dates

Contact details

Sunday 22nd May: Stowe Putter

Monday 23rd May: St John's Association Meeting (7.30pm)

Tuesday 24th May: Cricket v Merchant Taylors' Prep: U9 A, B (a) C, D, (h) (2.15pm)

Year 3 Parents' Evening (4.30pm-6.30pm)

Pre-Prep & Nursery Parents' Evening (6.00-8.00pm)

Wednesday 25th May: Open Morning for Prospective Parents (9.15am)

Cricket v Merchant Taylors' Prep: 1st, 3rd X1 (a), 2nd, 4th X1 (h) (2.15pm)

Thursday 26th May: Year 3 House Cricket

Pre-Prep and Nursery Parents' Evening (3.30pm-5.30pm)

Year 3 Parents' Evening (6.00-8.00pm)

Friday 27th May: Queen's Jubilee Celebrations and Charity Day

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 would like to be sent a copy of the Lamb each week, please email: Lamb Editor. Let us know your contact details and you will be added to the list.

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



Winners of the House Art Competition receiving their certificates

Notices and reminders

Open Morning: The next Open Morning for Prospective Parents is on Wednesday 25th May at 9.15am

A Midsummer Night's Dream: There are after-school rehearsals on Tuesday and Thursday next week 16.00-18.00. Full attendance please. The schedule is up-dated daily, so please check regularly.

Family cycle rides: The next family-orientated cycle with Hillingdon instructors is the Northala Fields ride this Sunday 22nd May. There is more information on all these rides at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/guided-cycle-rides

Don't forget: Friday 27th May is our Jubilee Celebration and Charity Day. Please collect as many sponsors as you can and bring in your completed form and money on Friday. It is also a mufti day with a Royal theme so make sure you are wearing something red, white or blue or even dress as a King or Queen.

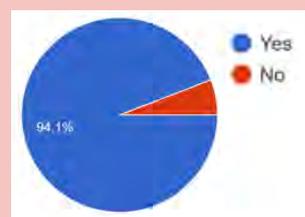
Northwood's Jubilee in the Park: The Resident's Associations of Northwood and Northwood Hills are in the final stages of

planning a community event to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 2nd June 2022 with music, refreshments and children's entertainment. For up-dates www.facebook.com/NorthwoodPlatinumJubileeEvent

Save the Date! 12 November 2022 – The Lord Mayor's Show. This event promises to be a very special one for the Merchant Taylors' Company and associated schools. More details to follow.

House Points: Churchill 117.51, Lincoln 114.85, Oates 110.17, Lawrence 107.93

Votes for Schools: Our topic for this week was: Should the Homes for Ukraine programme help more refugees? Next week's question: Should you go on school trips?



Have a lovely weekend.