



From the  
Headmaster

Welcome to the 325th edition of The Lamb. There is much to celebrate over the past ten days, and I hope you enjoy this edition.

Varied assemblies, often led by children, have explored diverse topics such as magic and deception and the heroism of Captain Oates. Our Senior boys enjoyed a special visit from a Royal Marine, facilitated by the Merchant Taylors' Company. The boys learnt about the values of the Royal Marines – excellence, integrity, self-discipline and humility. They were also inspired last week by a special Burns Night celebration presented by Mrs Long and challenged with team-building activities in the Centenary Sports Hall.

Our young scientists have been busy learning about the world around us. Juniors experimented with clothes drying scenarios. Year 1 have been examining the qualities of different materials; our Nursery boys made bird feeders to help our local birds survive the recent chilly weather and storms.

In Games, our older boys celebrated some impressive wins in hockey matches and footballers from Years 3 to 8 have thrown themselves heart and soul into the "beautiful game", with some excellent results and competitive fixtures.

*T Jenkin*

## Our feathered friends

**The Lambs made** bird feeders and enjoyed placing them around school. A few days later, Eco Council and Mr Lawrence accompanied the boys on a walk round school to find out whether the birds had enjoyed their treats. Much to the boys' delight, they had. The Nursery then helped the older boys to fill up the School bird feeders.







# We enjoyed the Taster Table in the dining hall this week

Each month this term the catering team will be showcasing a new product to provide the opportunity to learn about food seasonality alongside health benefits and great taste! This week the spotlight was on the humble kale. Boys tried potato and leek soup shots, crispy kale, kale and apple cake bites and kale smoothies.







## A special visit from a Royal Marine

**Year 7 and 8** boys were privileged last week to listen to a presentation from Captain Ben Clink, a Royal Marine. After a press-up challenge (won by Leo, who received a Royal Marine badge as a prize) the boys learnt about the values of the Royal Marines – excellence, integrity, self-discipline and humility. It was also interesting to note that the

Commando Spirit of courage, determination, unselfishness and cheerfulness is so similar to the values of St John's. There were lots of questions about Captain Clink's many operations and several boys came away with a genuine interest in striving to become a Royal Marine. Many thanks to the Merchant Taylors' Company for facilitating this special visit.







# Year 7 team building

Year 7 competed in Houses in games designed to develop communication and problem-solving skills under pressure. Oates came out on top!







# Reworking Greek gods in clay

Year 6 boys enjoyed making clay plaques and sculptures of Greek gods in their Classical Civilisation lesson this week.







# THIS WEEK



**Years 3 to 6 performed well at Quiz Club**

Two teams of boys from Years 3 to 6 competed in the annual General Knowledge Quiz at Merchant Taylors' Prep last week. They performed extremely well throughout the various rounds. The St John's 2 team, led by Hari, just edged past St John's 1 after the last few questions and have now qualified for the next Quiz Club round by virtue of their score and their third place. Well done boys.







# Learning about the Scottish Baird

To celebrate Burns Night last week, Mrs Long shared her Scottish heritage with our Year 8 boys, some of whom chose to wear a spot of tartan. They learnt about the Scottish Baird, Robert Burns, the traditions surrounding the haggis and how to wear Scottish traditional dress. There was even the chance to try some Scottish Country dancing.







# AROUND SCHOOL




Vivek enjoying the choices on offer at our new salad bar



Lucas helps a younger boy to tune his violin



Year 5 and 6 boys enjoyed a session of indoor games when the outdoor pitches were frozen



A fantastic start to the U13 hockey campaign as the As secured a 3-2 victory over John Lyon while the Bs kept a clean sheet to win 2-0





St John's Sports Department have commissioned new bobble hats for boys and parents of pupils at St John's. See the weekly bulletin for more information.



Aary and Rafay entertaining with a cello duet



Money-making strategies deployed in Monopoly Club



Beautiful but unplayable, our frozen football pitches





## Celebrating RSPB Birdwatch Week

**The Lambs have** been learning that birds often can't find enough food at this time of year and enjoyed making bird feeders for them. The Pre-Prep Eco Council boys made posters to promote the RSPB Birdwatch and took bird seed home to attract birds to their gardens.





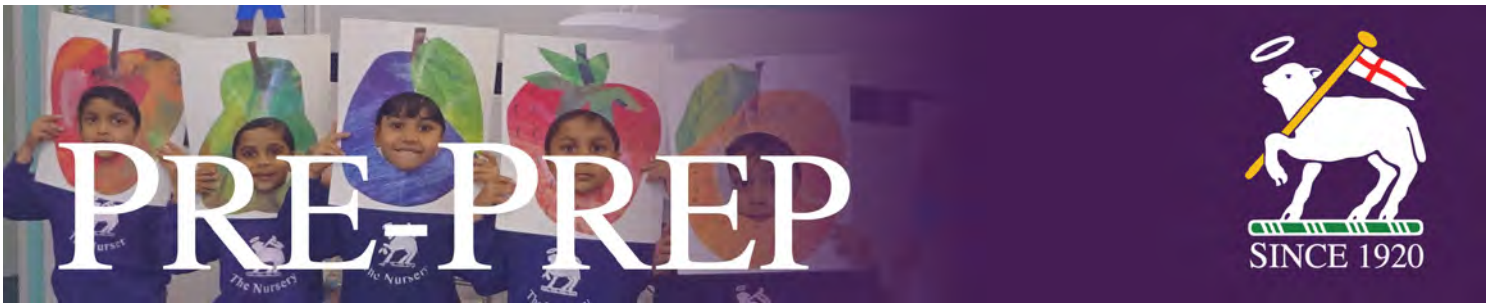


# Wintery art in the Lambs

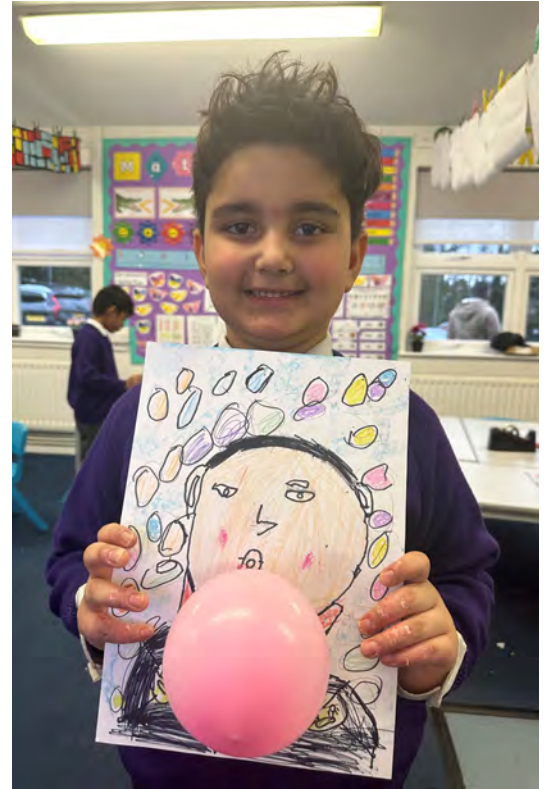
The Lambs have been thinking about icy cold weather and enjoyed making snowflakes in art activities.








# Using mixed media in Art Club






**HANDS ON! MINDS ON! EDUCATIONAL CAMP FOR 5 -13 YEAR OLDS**

Team STEM DEN have a fabulous three days of educational fun planned for any budding scientist, engineer or designer this coming February half term.

Check out our website for details. We are Ofsted registered and accept Childcare Vouchers. We are open from 9am until 4pm

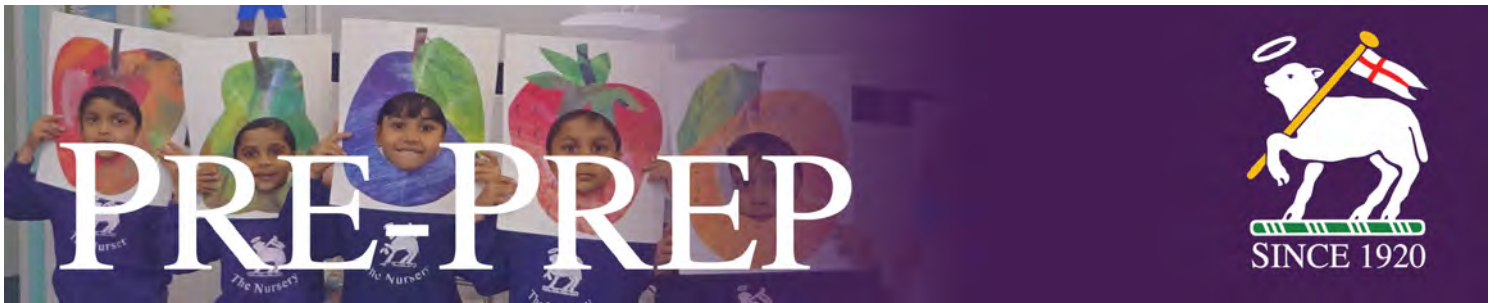
**FEBRUARY 12TH, 13TH & 14TH 2024**

**ST JOHN'S SCHOOL, NORTHWOOD. HA6 3QY**



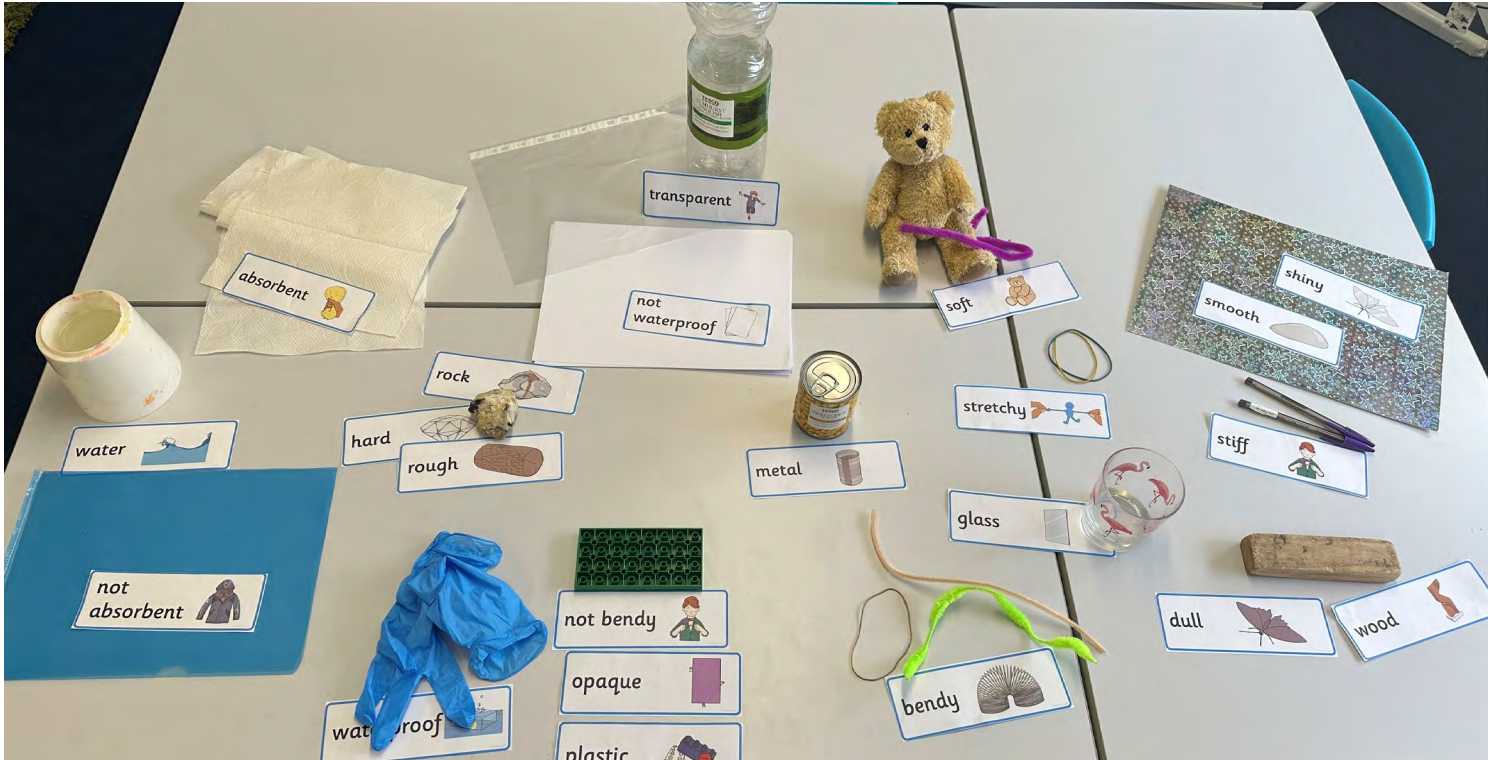

See our program and book on [www.stemden.co.uk](http://www.stemden.co.uk)





# Investigating materials in the Otters and Owls

**Bendy, stretchy, transparent,** opaque, hard or soft? This week, Otters and Owls used their sense of touch and sight, their listening and debating skills to identify and sort a variety of objects and materials according to their properties. Well done young scientists.







## Clothes drying experiment for Year 4

In Science, Year 4 have been investigating the best place to dry our clothes. We hung the fabric in four different places, then we waited and checked how many minutes they took to dry. We found that the fabric hanging outside the Sports Hall dried the quickest. This is because the wind blew the fabric and the water turned into water vapour and left the fabric dry. *Abad*







# A wide variety of skills on display in the DT&E studio



Gen teaches us the Japanese for 'Wow' as he sees the laser cutter in action realising his designs







## Looking forward to New Year

The cherry trees are blossoming in the Art Room to celebrate Chinese New Year next month.







# Football: it's all kicking off

**Under 13A v Belmont:** an ebb and flow game against a dangerous Belmont side. We weathered periods of pressure, learning several valuable lessons in the process and scored two good goals.







## Fantastic U10 and U9 fixtures

**The U10 A-E v Highgate** our teams enjoyed a fantastic set of fixtures, against Highgate. Lorenzo (U10A), David (U10 B) and Rien (U10D) were awarded Men of the Match by the opposition. Well done boys.



**U9 v Haberdashers'** Some engaging games supported by many parents. Our match of the day was the Under 9 B team which came from behind to win 4-3 with Joshua scoring a last-minute winner after two great goals by Ciyen.







# Under 8 v St Martin's

The Under 8s played their first football fixture of the season against St Martin's and there were lots of positives to take from the afternoon. All the boys played their hearts out and over the course of all the fixtures we were honoured even with equal losses and victories.







# Under 12A and B Hockey v John Lyon

The Year 7s played their first hockey fixtures of the season against John Lyon and we had two great games. Our U12 A team scored two goals through Rafay & Aary and had lots of possession, with some excellent interplay but we could have taken our chances more clinically. The U12B team won with an impressive 5-1. Iraj & Arnav both scored braces and Hamza scored one goal. An honourable mention to Oscar who performed really well in goal for the B team.







An evening of trivia, fun, food and community. An opportunity to beat the headmaster's table and earn bragging rights for the rest of the year. Book the babysitter and come and join us. Friends and Family are all welcome.

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**16**  
**MARCH**  
**2024**

**CENTENARY HALL AT ST  
JOHN'S SCHOOL, POTTER  
STREET HILL**

**07:00**  
**PM**

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**TICKETS £25 PER PERSON INCLUDING  
AN INDIAN MEAL. ASK YOUR SJA REP  
TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS.**

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## Important dates & contacts

- Monday 5th February:** Bikeability Week (Year 8)  
DT&E and Art Open House (3 Beech) (4.00pm-4.30pm)
- Tuesday 6th February:** Year 7 examinations  
Year 4 Online Parents' Evening (4.30pm-6.30pm)  
Pre-Prep In-Person Parents' Evening (6.00-8.00pm)  
Year 5 On-line Parents' Meeting A-J (6.00pm)
- Wednesday 7th February:** Year 7 Examinations  
Inter-School DT&E Challenge (Year 5)  
Eco-Council  
Football v Thorpe House: U13 A, B, C (h), D, E (a) (2.30pm)
- Thursday 8th February:** Year 7 Examinations  
Pre-Prep In-Person Parents' Evening (3.30pm-5.30pm)  
Year 4 On-line Parents' Evening (6.00pm-8.00pm)
- Friday 9th February:** Pre-Prep Poetry Competition 9.30am  
Sunday 11th February: Ski Trip Departs  
Sunday 18th February: Ski Trip Returns

**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.

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](mailto:lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk) for inclusion in The Lamb.

## Notices and reminders

**Year 8 Bikeability 5th to 8th February:** Boys should wear school tracksuits with Games shorts and tops underneath. Depending on the weather, they will also need gloves and coats. They should be wearing trainers. Boys should bring their own bikes and helmets where possible.

**St John's Association Quiz on 16th March 7.00pm:** This event is always extremely popular with an excellent quiz master, good food and a bar. Please save the date, there are more details on page 19.

**Whole School Litter Pick:** Saturday 16th March at 2.00pm at Holland and Holland Northwood. Now in its fourth year, this has been a very enjoyable and positive event for all those taking part. Last year's event was opened

by the Mayor of Hillingdon. For the first time all year groups are being invited to participate. If you are interested, please sign up. The link is in the weekly bulletin.

**Votes for Schools:** Previous questions: "Does money make up for injustice?" 97% said No. Last week's question: "Do you learn during history months?" 69.8% said yes  
Next week's questions: Years 3&4: Can adults and children learn from each other about the online world?  
Years 5-8: Do adults have the tools to teach you about the online world?

**House Points:** 1st Churchill 81.90, 2nd Oates 80.77, 3rd Lawrence 80.62, 4th Lincoln 77.70.

**Have a great weekend**