



From the
Headmaster

Welcome to the Lamb and what a special week. It was a great pleasure to welcome the Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, Lady Harding, and the Clerk, Rear Admiral Clink, alongside members of the Court and St John's Governors for their annual Court visit. This year we were able to combine the visit with the official opening of the Centenary Sports Hall. Year 4 welcomed Lady Harding to a question-and-answer session to find out more about her role as the Master, the Company, its schools, and its charity work. Our musicians laid a on super concert whilst the Senior boys gave our visitors a tour of the new facilities and the garden. The School Council and boys from The Lambs, Robins and Squirrels took part in the Opening.

As I mentioned on Wednesday evening it was a privilege to be in the audience for what was a most memorable Summer Concert. The confidence, teamwork, and skill of all our group and individual musicians was clear to see and the whole team did a fantastic job, led by Mr Corin. Many congratulations to you all!

The Drama Department rehearsals are notching up as they build towards our outside production of Midsummer Night's Dream. The backstage team had a visit from specialist sound engineers which you can read more about on page 20.

I would like to wish everyone all the best for their trips next week. Enjoy the experience, look after each other and make some memories. Have a super weekend.

S. Robinson

The Official Opening of the Centenary Sports Hall



On Thursday 5th May we were delighted to welcome The Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, Lady Annie Harding, members of the Court, our Chair of Governors, Martin Robb and some of our Governors for a special day at St John's. The members of School Council and House Prefects joined our visitors at the Centenary Sports Hall where Lady Annie Harding, formally opened our wonderful new facility. The opening ceremony had been delayed due to the pandemic, but on a glorious Spring day, the plaque was unveiled. Mr Robinson gave a special vote of thanks to our Bursar, Nigel Stone who project managed the building, saying that his drive and meticulous attention to detail had ensured the success of the new Sports Hall, providing so many exciting new opportunities for all our boys.





A perfect day for exploring the St John's grounds

The House Prefects gave our special visitors a tour of the Sports Hall, where they watched the Junior boys playing cricket and then walked up to the Centenary Tree House, currently surrounded by blue bells and on to the allotment, where members of the Gardening Club were on hand to talk about their planting and projects.





Inside the Centenary Sports Hall





How I celebrated Ramadan & Eid 2022

The smell of samosas and pakoras wafting through the house and jet black juicy dates lying on the table waiting to be eaten meant that Ramadan was here again.

Ramadan is the 9th month in the Muslim Calendar when Muslims have to fast for 30 days. When we fast we don't eat or drink from the period of sunrise to sunset and we all try to pray and read the Quran (our holy book) as much as we can. We get up early in the morning and have a big breakfast, this is called Suhoor, I like to eat my Oreo cereal and drink sweet sweet mango juice because it fills me up with energy and prepares me for the day, then we pray our early morning prayers and go back to bed.

During the day, we try and do all our prayers and at the end of the day we try to make sure we all sit down together to break our fasts (Iftaar) at sunset with lots of delicious food like biriyani and samosas. The only problem is you feel full really quickly so you can't eat as much as you think!

Ramadan reminds Muslims how grateful we should be for everything we have and that there are people in the world who are less fortunate than us. During this month we give charity (zakat) and we spend a lot of a time helping the poor.

This year a group of us including my cousins and some family friends decided to help our local food bank in Watford and we all donated a lot of food. The people were extremely grateful as, before we arrived, all their shelves were bare and they said they really needed food as lots of people have stopped donating and more people are using the food bank now.

Eid-Ul-Fitr is the festival to celebrate the end of fasting and we start the day with lots of sweet things for breakfast. Then we all go for prayers together. This year was so much fun as we all got to be together for the first time since Covid began. First we all prayed Eid prayers in a big field as there was so many people we couldn't fit in the mosque, and then we ate some food at the food stalls, and before we went home we played football with my family and friends. We spent the day eating lots of food and playing with our friends and ended the day with a barbecue and more ice cream!

Although we can go back to not fasting, I do miss how we would sit together and wait for the Azaan (call for prayer) which meant we could break our fast. Now I can't wait until next year and hopefully I can do more fasts because I will be older! *Hamza 5M*





Congratulating Year 6 boys on their Maths success

In assembly last week, Mr Robinson congratulated all our Year 6 mathematicians and surprised Aiden, Daanish, Arjun and Otto by announcing that they have qualified for the national finals. They were delighted. Mr Robinson and the boys then posed some challenging maths questions to the School.





Science Challenge at Merchant Taylors' 2022

Four boys represented St John's in the annual Science Challenge at Merchant Taylors', this year Hamza, Theo, Yuvraj & Maxmilian. In total four school teams participated, and the competition comprised of practical tasks in Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

The boys worked as a team and carried out various activities from testing gasses produced using hydrochloric acid on marble chips, to carrying out PH testing using red cabbage and making electromagnets for lifting model cars, to building bridges out of paper to support a model car. Each task lasted about one hour.

Each team's efforts were assessed by the panel of judges and given marks. Working extremely hard and diligently our team of boys performed extremely well. And in one of the disciplines came first. The end result was so close and only a handful of points separated the teams.

Additionally, the assault course laid out in the grounds which was described as a "bouncy castle" by one of the officers of the cadet forces at Merchant Taylors', who were using this equipment on the day, kindly invited the challenge students to have a go and this was gleefully accepted.



Get ready for Walk to School Week 16 – 20 May

During Walk to School Week, boys will be rewarded for walking, cycling, scooting or park and striding to school. This year we are focusing on the benefits to our health, as well as that of the environment by abandoning our cars. Look out for more information next week and start planning your journeys. Years 3 to 5 will be enjoying classroom activities to support this special environmental initiative and Years 6 to 8 will earn House Points for walking to school. Let's get walking.





7M Science Trip Assembly

On Friday, Kian J, Nishant, Kian P and Jimi presented an assembly on the Year 7 Science Museum Trip that took place in March. We arrived at the Museum having walked to Northwood station, taken the Metropolitan line to Finchley Road, changed onto the Jubilee line and then the Circle line before finally arrived at South Kensington from where it was a short walk to the Science Museum.

We began our visit in an Exploring Space Exhibition and saw beagle 2 made to go or to be carried to Mars. Following the Space Exhibition, we went to Wonderlab which was really

fun and we went on friction slides, colour mixers and building bridges. After lunch, we went to the Flight Exhibition and saw planes such as the Gipsy Moth and a plane called the Submarine plane which could land on water. Our next stop was the Making the Modern World Exhibition where we saw old models of cars and planes and compared them to the modern world versions like an Apollo 10 module. Finally we went to the shop where we bought souvenirs and games to take home.

By Kian J, Kian P, Nishant and Jimi 7M





The Anything Goes Club

On the 3rd of May, the Anything Goes Club went to Oxhey Activity Park. We got changed after form time and then got our scooters/skateboards and helmets and set off in the minibus. We arrived after a few minutes and when we got there it looked amazing. There were small and big jumps that you could do, a playground in the middle and a cafe. Everyone had an amazing time and afterwards everyone was really hot and hungry. We went into the cafe to get snacks and drinks. After everyone was refreshed we continued jumping and riding on our scooters and skateboards. After some more time we went back to the minibus and drove back to school. Everyone had a fantastic time. Thank you to Mr Saffer and Mrs McSween for using their own time to take us. To check this amazing place out click <https://www.oxheyactivitypark.co.uk/> Kayhan 6V





Business Enterprise

The Year 8 boys have been learning about running their own company in their weekly Business Enterprise sessions with Mr Robinson, Mrs McSween and Ms Maele.



Following the entrepreneurial mindset, Ansh is using the Lamb to promote his project:

We are on a voyage to find the most eco-friendly class and to name them as the eco warriors. To become an eco warrior put your bottle caps, which you would rather throw in a bin, in a container for us to use. They are all inside of your respective classrooms, or else I'll be on the playground for you to dispose of your bottle caps and I will give you a token saying you have put bottle caps in our container.

Ansh A





Planting in the Lambs

The Lambs have been learning all about the Life Cycle of a plant. The role play area has been turned into a St John's Florist and we have lots of other exciting activities going on.





Year 1 art inspired by dinosaurs and rainforest

In Year 1, the boys have started to learn about both our Topic themes this term: The Rainforest and Dinosaurs. In our Art lessons, the boys made vines and leaves and a variety of dinosaurs for our class displays. The boys worked in pairs to make the vines. Firstly, they twisted long strips of brown paper. Then they hung green strips of tissue paper from the vines and finally drew, cut and attached different sized green paper leaves. The dinosaurs were made using paper plates and a variety of paints, brushes and sponges. These creatures are now thriving in our classrooms, either looking out for juicy plants or searching for tasty meat in our homemade habitats....so watch out if you are anywhere near the Year 1 classrooms!





The Master of the Company visits Year 4

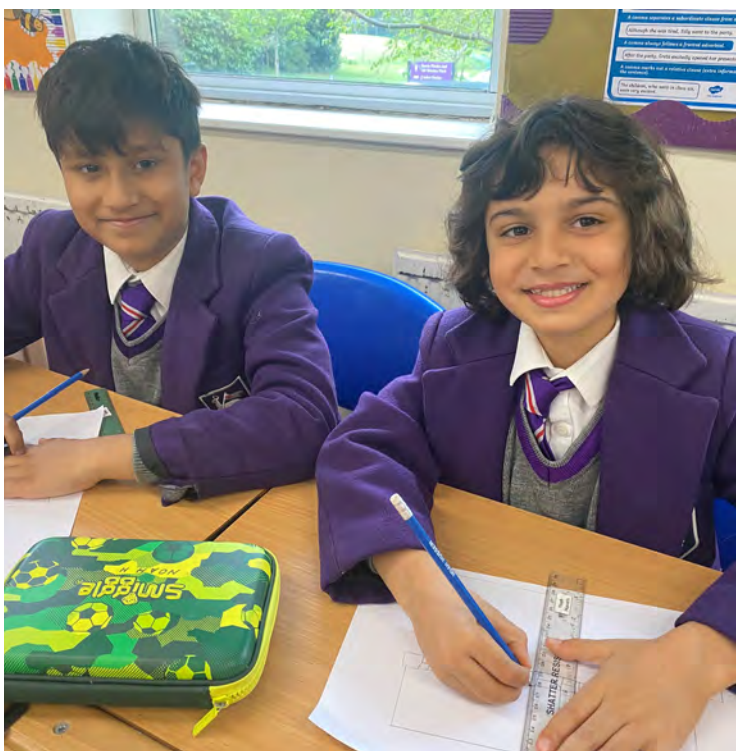
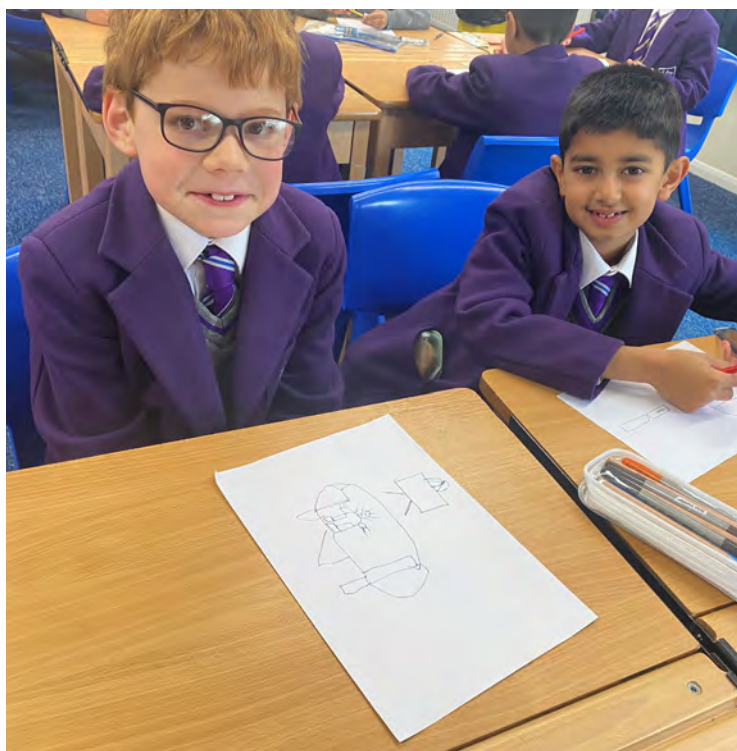
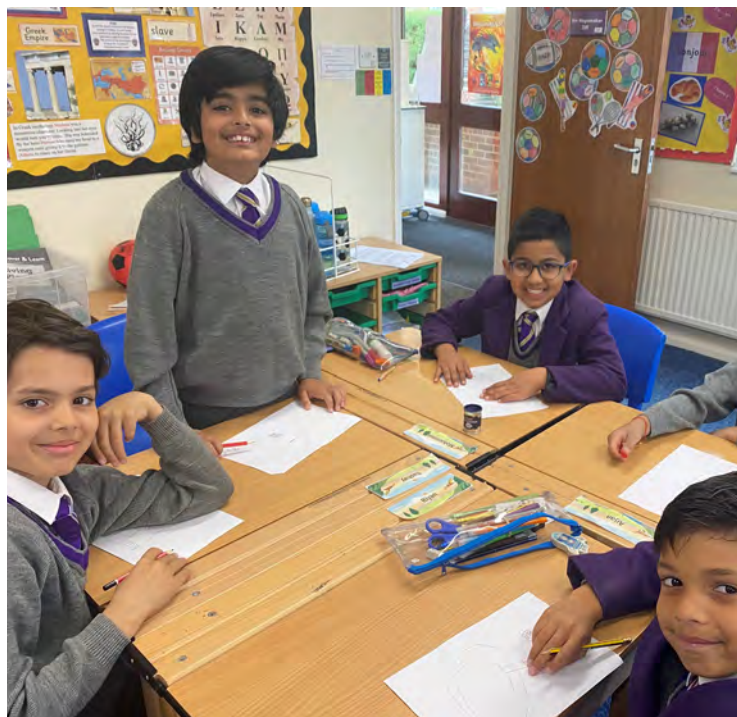
Year 4 always behave beautifully but found themselves in court this week. Lady Harding, our former Chair of Governors and now Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, the Clerk to the Court and Rear Admiral Clink took time out of their visit to St John's to meet with Year 4 who asked some very pertinent questions. Lady Harding and her team explained the workings of the Merchant Taylors' Company, its history and some of its philanthropic endeavours. The boys asked some very thoughtful questions and were clearly impressed. When the Clerk asked a rather tricky maths question someone shot back the correct answer immediately. Hopefully the Master and Clerk were impressed too!





Buddies in Years 3 and 4

The last two years have not been the most sociable, but the Juniors are engaging in buddy time once a month. This is a time when a Year 3 boy is teamed up with an older boy from Year 4. It's always an enjoyable, sometimes rather chatty, twenty minutes and helps both older and younger boys. Overall it definitely contributes to the general happiness of life in the Juniors.





Year 3 enjoy Greek Myths

In Year 3 we have been reading the myth of Arachne and Athene. Arachne was so good at weaving that she became proud and thought she was better than the gods, so Athene turned her into a spider. The boys started their own weaving projects, which will hopefully have a slightly better outcome than for poor Arachne!



Four's the score for Nikhil

Nikhil in 4H was part of the team that won the 2022 Harrow Borough Cubs Football Tournament in April. Nikhil played competitive football against boys two to three years older. He scored 4 goals in the tournament as his Cubs team lifted the prestigious annual tournament trophy following a 1-0 win in the final. Well done Nikhil.





Music for a Summers' Evening

The Summer Concert was a huge success. We are extremely proud of each and every boy who took part in the event. All boys performed brilliantly, and the event showcased the wealth of talent within our pupils at St John's. All ensembles have grown through this academic year and boys should be very proud of their efforts. Sixteen ensembles performed, ranging from the Tabla Tappers to the combined Concert Band forces of the Brass and Wind Bands and our newly established Year 3 Recorder Ensemble. The commitment shown by every performer was truly inspiring – thank you again to all involved.





Music for a Summers' Evening cont...





Concert for the Court and Governors

On Thursday, several groups performed to the Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, Members of the Court and School Governors. The Master spoke highly of the standard of playing and the obvious enthusiasm the boys have for their music making, before our invited guests chatted individually to the boys about their musical journeys and what they enjoyed most about playing a musical instrument. The levels of musical professionalism and confidence shown by each pupil was a joy to see.





Another busy week in the Art room

It has been a busy and productive week in the Art studio. 1. Shrey in Year 5 has finished his colourful gorilla picture. 2. This cute poodle is by Caiden in Year 5. 3. James in Year 7 is learning about screen printing. Year 3 have been learning about texture. Here are some fluffy fox drawings. 4. Eshaan 5. Yushay 6. Max. Opposite 7. Aaran, Dev and Khyan made mosaic coasters in Junior Art Club.





Art continued and a special D&T Story



Year 5 Fearless Fixers were very excited to use the new laser cutter to help with their project. Quote of the Day 'This is soo epic!'





Senior Drama: backstage expertise

Part of our preparation for the Senior Drama Performance has involved generating new expertise amongst our backstage crew, by involving the boys in running the technical aspect of the play. The Drama department has recently invested in new equipment, enabling the boys to perform outdoors, making use of our glorious setting. As well as this, we have benefited from the assistance of a sound and tech organisation, the ‘Association of Sound Designers’, who were keen to spark interest in theatre sound design.

On the morning of 26th April in the Norman Hall, Peter Rice (a member of the ASD Board) visited to train the boys on how to use the electrical equipment, including a

new mixing board. He also showed the boys how to access and use specific programs on their laptops to create effects, which generated useful opportunities for cross curricular learning and new IT skills. In addition, during rehearsals and performances, we are looking forward to being joined by Sasha who is a final year Theatre Sound Design student with London University. He will be supporting our Sound and Tech crew and involving them in setting up the system with cabling and weather proofing – which we hope won’t be required!

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the outdoor performances on 20th and 22nd June at 7pm.





1st - 5th Cricket v Belmont 4th May

First XI 20/20 Hardball match.

We batted first and achieved 118 for 7 with runs coming from Ahaan (24) and Nayan (18). We had some work to do in the field if we wanted the win. Kian P bowled 7 for 2 off 3, and Aryan 8 for 1 from 3, but despite this their opening batter remained on 38* giving them a total of 71 for 3 from 10 overs before the match was called off due to rain.



Second XI

In their second game of the season, St. John's were put into bat and promptly lost a wicket with the first ball of the game. Some rebuilding was required and this along with some good bowling, made scoring difficult. St John's lost regular wickets and quickly found themselves 35-3. And then the real disaster happened. The 2nds slumped from 35-3 to 39-9, including a hat-trick and the game looked gone. Luckily Sahib B (17) and Yash (20) batted very well at the end of the innings, putting together a partnership of 42 and dragging the team up to a below par but defendable 82. In the field the boys worked hard but struggled to threaten the stumps and Belmont scored slowly but steadily. 2 run-outs helped the cause but 82 was always going to be difficult to defend. Belmont scored the winning runs with 9 balls to spare and won by 5 wickets. Man of the match was Yash for 20 runs and a 4-1 with the ball. Special mentions to Sahib B for 17 runs.

Third XI St John's 192 for 6, Belmont 31 all out

Emerson and Rafi making a great start for the team with Rafi hitting the ball well and scoring quickly. He hit 3 fours and then was bowled. Emerson batted superbly to build an excellent innings and he hit the ball extremely well to score boundaries but at the same time placed the ball into the gaps to score runs. Emerson went on to score 64 runs and was eventually bowled. But we only lost two wickets and we were already on 80 runs. Blake hit a quick 17 runs, and this was followed by Ansh who hit 20 runs. Eventually Mihir and Lucas finished the innings and scored a few runs to get us to the final total of 192 runs for 6 wickets. This was a fantastic effort by the team.





Cricket v Belmont cont...

Belmont went into bat and Benjamin took a wicket in the opening over which really set the scene for the rest of the match. The rest of the bowling attack made it very difficult for Belmont to score any runs and we did not concede any boundaries which showed how good our bowling and fielding was in the match. Belmont wickets started to tumble with Thomas getting a double wicket maiden over. Rafi also achieved this as well which was a great effort. From the fielding, Emerson made some very good stumpings but we saw two incredible catches from Vihaan when the ball was hit to him, and he made two superb dives to take both catches which was quite something to see. Eventually the last wicket fell, and Belmont were all out for 31 runs. A very good performance from the team. Man of the match. Emerson.



Fourth XI v Belmont St John's 82 for 4 Belmont 22 for 10

We lost the toss and Belmont elected to field first. We started slowly with just 3 runs from the first 2 overs but slowly built up the pace. Belmont had set a deep field, and forced us to take risky singles if we wanted to build our score. Shane, Rehaan & Jimi were our top scorers but everyone looked sharp trying to steal runs from the opposition. We finished with 82 for 4 with some work to do in the field. Our bowling attack started with Armaan and Aarav limiting their runs well from the opening pair. Despite some tidy bowling from James & Rian, it took some time to take our first wicket. This came from Daniel bowling the opposition batter. Further wickets came from Abdullah, Jimi and Rehaan, with a catch in the field from Albert. Further tidy bowling from Oscar & Niam saw out the game, with Belmont finishing 22 for 10, giving us a win by 60 runs. Man of the match: Rehaan

Fifth XI Pairs cricket, 12-over match with incrediball

We batted first and reached a score of 156 for 4. Top scorers were Alistair with 29 runs, closely followed by Captain Darwin with a score of 25 runs. We fielded and bowled well. Kian Dave took 2 wickets for 5 runs. Good bowling also from Darwin, George R, George G, Aayan and Alistair. Man of the match Alistair.



Colts Cricket v St Benedict's 29th April

Colts A 20/20 hardball game

We started with the bat in hand, putting a strong total of 148 on the board through a half century from Rian who retired at his 50. The team bowled superbly to back up this performance limiting them to 84 runs off the 20 overs with Daanish, Neer and Rian all taking maidens. Khyan bowled 6 for 2, Neer 6 for 1, Rian 1 for 1, and Daanish 5 for 1. We won by 64 runs in this convincing performance.



Colts B St John's 136 for 9, St Benedict's 140 for 6

On Friday, 29th April the Colts B team played against St Benedict's U10 A's. Captain Zain won the toss for St John's and opted to bat first. The squad put together an impressive innings with a totalled 20 over score of 136 for 9. Vice-Captain, Mehul the top of the batters, technically looking strong and with a score of 32 runs of 39. Our attack could not have started better with the take of four wickets in the first three overs. St John's bowling was a lot tidier than St Benedict's, conceding half the amount in extras. An impressive effort however in the field, we need to restrict the singles. St Benedict's had one classy batsman who single handedly won them the match with an impressive innings of 60 runs of 50 balls. This considered, the boys did put him under pressure and had a couple of opportunities to take this vital wicket. Unfortunately, not on this occasion. A tense, close and fun match to be part of. Well done. Man of the match: Mehul 32 runs of 39

Colts C St John's won by 6 wickets with three balls to spare.

St John's Colts C team hosted the St Benedict's B team for our first match of the season. The visitors chose to bat first and posted a very competitive total of 101 runs after 20 overs, losing 7 wickets in the process. The pick of the bowlers was Tanay, with figures of 3 for 17 off his four overs, including one over where he took two wickets for one run. The next best was Aary, with 2 for 17 off three overs including one over of two wickets for four runs. All the bowlers put in great performances and the fielding in general was excellent, with two wickets falling to run-outs.

Thomas and Owen opened the batting for St John's and





Cricket v Belmont cont...



quickly showed their intent to chase down the St Benedict's total. The deficit was being reduced at a good rate every over through runs off the bat and a steady flow of extras, with 21 runs posted by the time the first wicket fell in the fourth over. This provided a great base for Dhilan batting at number three, who went on to score 12, and Laksh, who scored 8 runs. This pair lasted for much of the remaining overs and they managed to set up an incredibly tense finish. They went into the final over on 97 runs, needing five to win, and they achieved this with a well taken single on the third ball.

This meant that St John's won by 6 wickets with only three balls left in the innings. Dhilan captained the side with great enthusiasm and was joint Man of the Match with Tanay.

Colts D. St Benedict's 79 for 8, St John's 81 for 6

St John's fielded first and we played with an incrediball with 4 overs each for each pair. We fielded well and Shrey opened the bowling and kept a good line and made it difficult for the opening St Benedict's to score. Thomas came on next and made an excellent catch when the ball was hit back at him with great power. He was ably supported by Kayhan who then followed with a caught out and bowled. The pick of the bowlers was Taarun who bowled superbly and took 4 wickets for 3 runs in his two over stint. This helped us hugely by reducing the runs of the opposition as each time we took a wicket they lost 5 runs. In the field we kept it tight and managed to stop the opposition from scoring any boundaries.

St John's went into bat with all the pairs contributing to the score but the pick of the pairs was Otto and Thomas who scored 25 runs which was a huge boost for the team. Oscar and Kayhan batted very well and managed to put on 26 runs which helped us to get to the final total of 81 runs. We did lose a number of wickets by not playing straight when faced with good deliveries and this is something to work upon for the next match. A good start to the season. Man of match. Taarun



Colts E Softball pairs cricket (2 overs per pair)

We elected to field first and had a strong bowling attack, taking 17 wickets (10 runs outs from Aariz and a 6 wicket maiden from Arun). They ended on 51 runs when we came into bat. We were very tentative to start off with but started getting some runs on the board soon enough, with Ansh and Caiden having the highest run rate. We finished 22 for 11 and won by 72 runs



Fencing Classes at St John's School

Why Fence?

- Fencing is an exciting sport which requires both mental and physical skills
- Don't miss out on the opportunity to take on your friends in a duel after school
- Our classes are designed by Olympians and European Champions

When:

Years 5 & 6 - Mondays @ 16:00-17:00

Years 3 & 4 - Fridays @ 16:00-17:00

Commencing 25th & 29th April

Price:

Years 3, 4, 5, 6: (8 sessions) - £144

Book Here

1. Scan QR code here
2. Tap the link that appears



Years 5 & 6
Mondays @
16:00-17:00

1. Scan QR code here
2. Tap the link that appears



Years 3 & 4
Fridays @
16:00-17:00

INSPION SPORTS



Calendar & important dates

Monday 9th May: Activity Week

Year 5 Examinations

Years 6 - 8 Residential Trips Depart

Pre-Prep Class Photographs

Tuesday 10th May: Year 5 Examinations

Year 2 Swimming

Happy Puzzle Company Workshop (Years 3-5)

Visiting Farm to Nursery and Reception

Wednesday 11th May: Years 2 & 3 PGL Trip Departs

Year 4 Trip to Whitemoor Lakes Departs

Year 5 History Workshop

Year 1 Swimming

Thursday 12th May: Year 5 Trip to RAF Hendon

Friday 13th May: Years 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 Residential Trips Return

Saturday 14th May: U13 Cricket Festival at Belmont (12.00pm – 4.00pm)

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 @stjohnsnorthwood 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.



Mountain biking in the bluebell woods

Notices and reminders

Residential Trip news: You will be able to follow all our residential trips on Twitter, but please be aware that the signal at some of our destinations can be rather intermittent! Staff will aim to tweet daily with up-dates.

Votes for Schools: Our topic for last week was: "Is it right that the Prime Minister kept his job after breaking lockdown rules?" The results (opposite) were 80:20 against. There is no topic next week as it is Activity Week.

All the very best to departing for their various trip next week.

We look forward to hearing all about your time away.

House Points:

Churchill 113.35

Lincoln 110.90

Oates 106.92

Lawrence 104.29

Have a lovely weekend.

