



From the  
Headmaster

**This has been** a wonderful week of music. The runners up in the House Music Festival played in assemblies and we all enjoyed their performances very much. Rehearsals have been taking place in every spare moment in preparation for our concert on 24th June and it is very exciting to hear the boys enjoying making music to a very high standard in their bubbles.

Year 3 and Year 4 boys enjoyed taking part in practical challenges competing for the Willcox Plate. It was good to see the boys collaborating so well although the strawberry laces and cheerios were a little bit sticky!

Another highlight for me was to see so many boys enjoying sport in this glorious weather. We played some good cricket at home and away and it was fantastic to be able to host the Year 3 Primary Schools Cricket Festival yesterday. The U11 and U13 tennis team had a really good match with St Martin's. Good luck to the U13A and U11A teams in their cricket tournaments on Saturday.

Well done to everyone involved in the charity drive for Playskill. I know the Pre-Prep boys particularly enjoyed their treasure hunt. Finally, I would like to wish boys and staff a super time on the residential trip to Northumbria next week.

S. Robinson

## House Music Festival 2021



**This years' House** Music Festival was very special as we had the opportunity to hear that all of our musicians have managed to keep up their practising and learning during lockdowns. Congratulations to all the boys and their teachers. We are enjoying making music with all of you on a regular basis now we are back at school.

Ninety boys from Years 3 to 8 took part in the Festival. Of those, twenty-two boys played two instruments. The range of instruments played was impressive - violin, viola, cello, guitar (electric and acoustic), singing, drum kit, tabla, Indian flute, flute, clarinet, piano, trumpet, cornet, French Horn, Eb Horn, trombone and euphonium.

Mr Vince judged the first round and was very impressed with the high standard and the boys' performing skills. Mrs Savage had the very difficult task of selecting the finalist for each grade to play in the Summer Concert on 24th June. Due to the high standard, she also selected a runner-up in each grade to play in assembly for the staff and pupils to enjoy. We enjoyed their performances very much this week, thank you boys.





## House Music Festival 2021 cont...

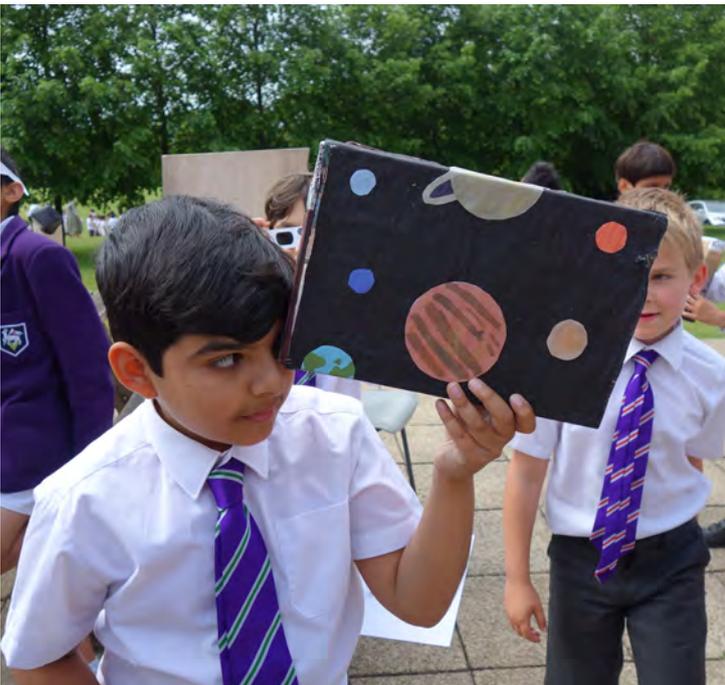




## Clouds part for solar eclipse

On Thursday the boys were able to view a partial solar eclipse which was timed nicely to coincide with our morning break. Some of the boys prepared for the event by making their own solar eclipse viewers, some of which you can see in the photos. Unfortunately there was a lot of cloud around at the beginning of the eclipse and we thought we were going to be

disappointed and would not be able to see anything. However, we were gifted with a few gaps in the cloud cover and the boys were able to get glimpses of the part of the sun covered by the moon. The boys loved seeing the eclipse using special solar glasses as well and were amazed at how the sun looked as if something had taken a bite out of it! *Mr Lawrence.*





# Treasure hunt & quizzes raise money for Playskill

**On Thursday the** Pre-Prep kick-started our sponsored activities with a treasure hunt in the forest, all in aid of Playskill. The Nursery boys were up first, followed by Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who had to find pictures of toys hidden in amongst the play trail and the trees. Each picture had a letter attached to it so that when they found the picture they had to copy the corresponding letter onto their sheet. By the end, they had to work out what all the clues came together to spell. Many of the boys were excellent with their hunting skills and discovered that the clues spelt out 'Playskill!' It was wonderful to see the boys engaged in the activity and particularly to witness the Year 2 boys taking care and helping their partners from Reception. What is hard to describe is the noise from the forest; there were so many squeals of delight, fun conversations and giggles to be heard. Well done everyone!

In Years 3-8, all boys were given an information sheet

about Playskill and had to work independently to answer questions based on this information. It certainly proved a challenge for many of the boys but the most important take-away point is that all boys felt that they had learnt more about Playskill, what they do as a charity and how important our fundraising is for them. Years 6-8 also had the added challenge of unscrambling some Playskill based anagrams; I know this certainly caused some minds to get working and congratulations to those few boys who managed to crack them!

The [Virgin Money Giving page](#) remains open, and will be for the next week, so please donate online but still send the sponsorship form in to your form tutor. A polite reminder that no cash is to come onto site at this time. Some results are still to come in so we will announce our quiz winners, as well as the total amount raised, in next week's Lamb. Thank you to everyone for their participation! *Mrs Walker*



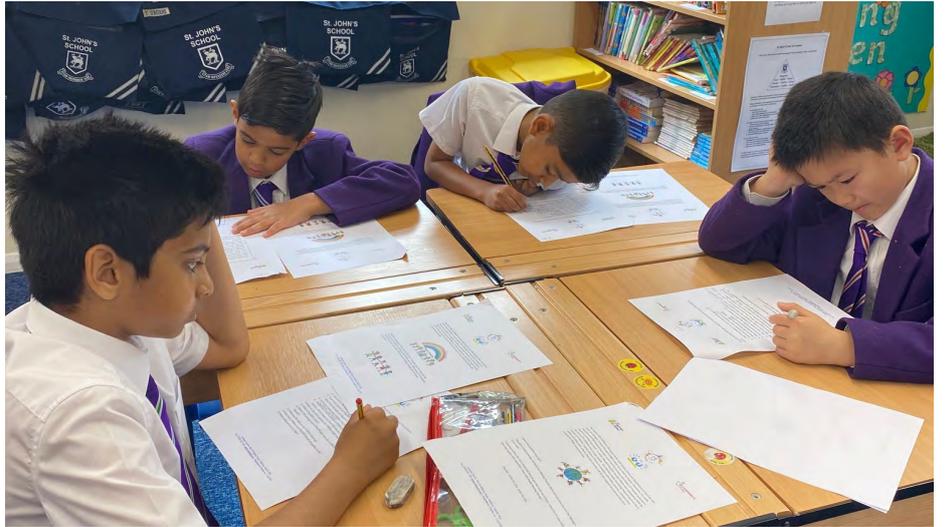


## Treasure hunt & quizzes cont...





# Treasure hunt & quizzes cont...





# THIS WEEK



## This house believes: 6V English debate

On Tuesday, 6V had a debate in English. We were arguing for and against the statement, 'Horses are the ideal animals for war'. There were two groups arguing for, and three groups arguing against. We all came up with valid points, with the 'For' team eventually winning the debate due to their effective use of statistics and strong counter-arguments.

Here are some examples of the points raised:

Points in favour

- Horses are easier to train than wild animals and some have the instincts for war

- They are agile and fast to carry the soldiers towards the enemy line

Points against

- Using animals such as horses in war can be harmful to both the animal and the rider.
- Some people would also argue that using horses in war is selfish of humans because they do not consider the wellbeing of the horses.

Miss Vale gave us lots of feedback to work on in the future and we all shared our thoughts on each other's debating style.





## Mountain bike club

A perfect summer's evening welcomed us this week for the next round of mountain biking. Despite the recent hot weather there were lots of muddy tracks and we managed to find most of them! Taking our normal route, we skirted the top woods and enjoyed the ups and downs before making our way into the middle woods negotiating some severe mud, testing our skills to the limits of our abilities. In Lower Hangings dips,

Darwen impressed us with his skills, leaping over the ramp into the abyss of the dips before emerging at the top. Vihaan unfortunately experienced a mechanical problem, managing to wrap his rear derailleur into the back wheel two thirds of the way round. Much wrestling was needed to remove it, making the bike un-rideable. So to get back he had to walk and scoot his bike, but the wonderful weather meant this wasn't a chore.



## Marathon walk

On Saturday 5th June my Mum and Dad walked a marathon (26 miles) in London for the Alzheimers Society charity. This charity raises money to support people with Alzheimers disease and dementia, and fund research into these diseases. This is important to my family as my Nonno (which means Grandad in Italian) has dementia. My parents raised over £1300 and felt a great sense of achievement. On their walk they saw many famous sights in London such as St Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London and the Shard. Please use the link below if you would like to contribute to this worthy cause. *George 6V*

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/francesca-lancaster2>

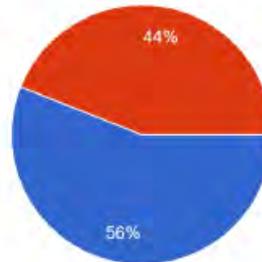
## VOTES FOR SCHOOLS

### Results of last week's poll are...

Should under-13s have Instagram?



● YES  
● NO



James, Year 6

I think under 13s should be able to use Instagram however the company should make "safe mode" which prevents cyberbullying. It should restrict anyone from commenting on people with "safe mode" videos. It is a bit like YouTube kids but you can watch any video unless it has something rude or racist in. So kids can still watch games on Instagram, but not rude jokes.

Yes because if it is child friendly you should be able to put parental controls on it and limit time on it so you can get some exercise. Also it can help boost your mental health by giving you pride also because of COVID-19 we spend more time on computers and that will not change after now as we have explored the internet and keep connected when we are on holiday or if you move house you can keep in touch with friends and family. We are old enough for more things like social media.

Ananda, Year 5



**Be heard.**

Music streaming is when people listen to music through the internet.

### And next week's question...

Is streaming good for the music industry?



**The music industry:**  
The making, sharing, and selling of music, as well as live performances.

Click the image to view the slides.



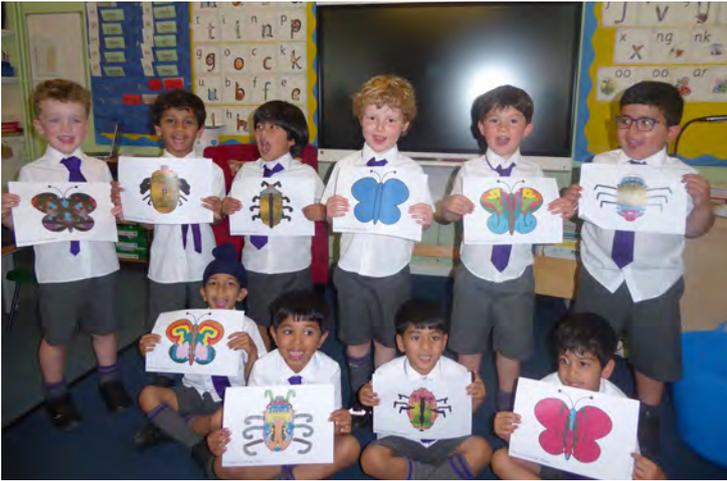
**Be informed.**



**Be curious.**

## Robins and Squirrels Insect Art

The **Robins and Squirrels** have been learning about insects this week. They have designed their own insects using a computer programme and have also made 3D insects with paper.





# PRE-PREP



## Learning about the Toucan

**Year 1 boys** have been learning about a new tropical rainforest bird, the Toucan. Toucans are easily recognisable by their enormous, colourful bills. The Toucan's bill is made of a very light material called keratin, the same substance that our hair and nails are made from. They use their oversized bills to gather and peel fruit, wrestle against other male Toucans, deter predators and attract a mate. Besides fruit, they may eat berries,

seeds, eggs, young birds, insects or lizards. They are omnivores. The boys wrote their own interesting facts about these colourful birds and had a good attempt at drawing them. During Art, the Owls class used watercolours to paint their Toucans while the Otters class used oil pastels or wax crayons. To give the model Toucans some exercise and fresh air, the boys let them flutter around the grounds!



# PRE-PREP



## Badgers & Eagles get an intro to instruments

On Thursday some of our Prep school musicians played their instrument to the Badgers and Eagles to help them decide whether they would like to start learning an instrument in school in Year 3. We heard thirteen different instruments. It was a very special experience for all involved and wonderful to see the older boys inspiring another generation of musicians.



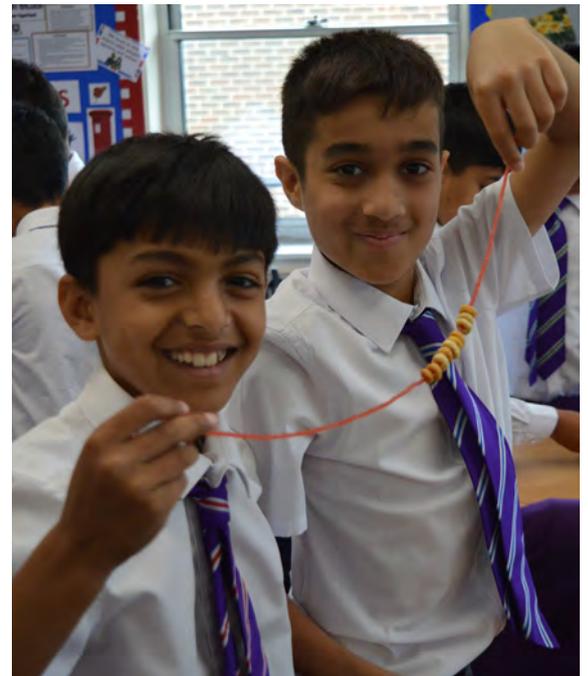


## Years 3 & 4 compete for the Willcox Plate

Boys in Year 3 and 4 spent a double period this week taking part in activities towards the Willcox Plate. Working in pairs they undertook a series of practical challenges which required cooperation, teamwork and patience. As you can imagine this was more of a challenge for some than others but everyone thoroughly enjoyed taking part. The boys devised a secret code, took part in a memory game, devised a logo and had to work

in pairs, using only one hand each, to thread some cereal onto a fruit string. Anyone who tasted so much as a crumb was immediately disqualified!

None of the tasks proved to be a piece of cake but it was a real delight to watch the boys work together cooperatively, thoughtfully and mostly harmoniously! The results will be announced shortly.





## On top of the world at half term

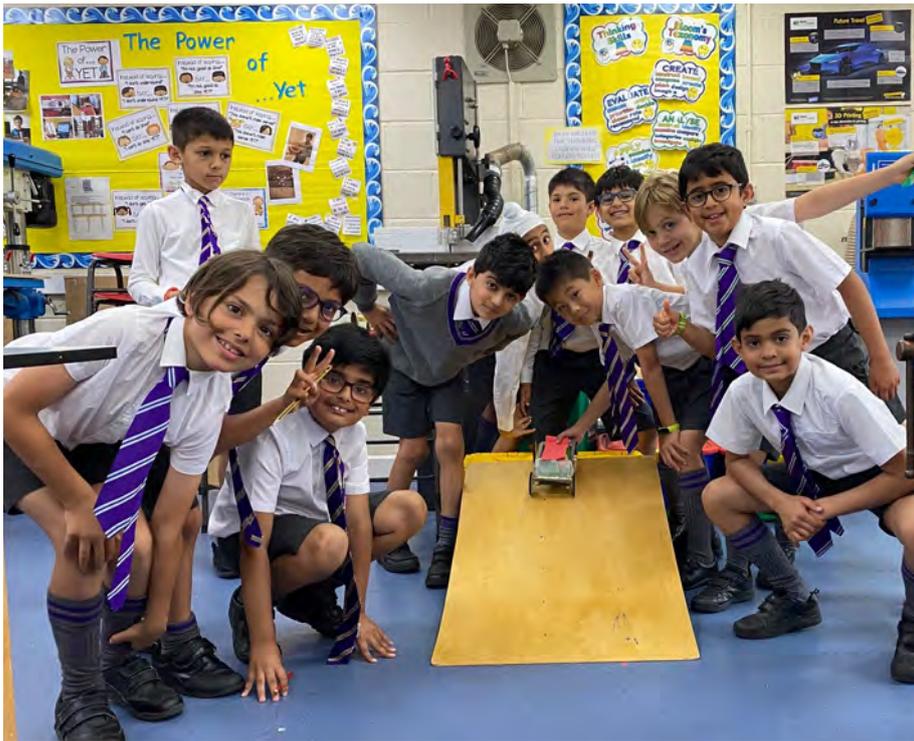
**Paras in Year 3** and his family visited North Wales during the half term spending the week hiking in Snowdonia. The most memorable part was his assault on Mount Snowdon which was a journey of nine miles and took seven hours to complete. The climb was really steep at certain points and Paras demonstrated great resilience. It was an amazing experience and the breath taking views from the top made the pain worthwhile.





## Eggciting times in Year 3

Year 3 have their egg mobiles all ready for Humpty and have been testing them on the official ramp. All distances are counted as part of a House Competition. We wait until next week to find out the overall champions.





## Super sewing in Year 5

**Year 5** are making wonderful progress with their textiles based skills. They are now dab hands at applique, reverse applique, CAD embroidery and sublimation printing. Great work, gentlemen. We look forward to seeing you on the Sewing Bee soon!



## Year 8 Business Enterprise

**Year 8 Business** Enterprise Groups are busy getting themselves ready for the Big Sale on 25th June. This week they have made presentations to the rest of the school and are rolling out their marketing strategies. All groups have a financial executive responsible for costing the projected profits. All proceeds will go towards our charity, Playskill.





# Art for art's sake

1. Year 3 Junior Art Clubbers have been making cushions. 2. Aariz in Year 4 has finished his 3D letter sculpture. 3. Year 6 have been learning about Op Art. Roshan has made a great start on his optical illusion. 4. Some boys in Year 8 have started to grout their mosaic trivets. Zreh is using black coloured grout. 5. Yusuf is using white grout on his trivet.





## The U9s were home and away to Davenies

### U9A vs Davenies Prep School, Tuesday, 8 June, Home

It was brilliant to see the U9 boys finally play a school fixture after a long absence. St John's won the toss and elected to field. It was a strong bowling performance, with nice control and the boys were very impressive with their accuracy. Laksh was the most economical bowler only conceding 3 runs from his over. The Davenies batsmen struck the ball beautifully and only lost 1 wicket (run out) in their whole innings. Finishing with a total of 276. In reply, St John's lost an early wicket and that continued throughout so it made the total a difficult proposition. Zachariah hit some lovely shots to the boundary but the total of 10 wickets lost was our downfall. We finished on 242. It was great to see the boys enjoying the match and a nice platform to start from. Many thanks to Assen photography for supplying these images. *Mr O'Brien*



### U9B vs Davenies Prep School, Tuesday, 8 June, Home

What a wonderful day for the mighty St John's B team to host and play their first match of the season. The home team won the toss and decided to bat first. The opening pair, Dhilan and Maximillian scored quickly, putting the pressure on the Davenies bowlers and fielders. This set the tone for the rest of the innings as St John's posted a score of 252 for 3. Davenies response started slowly as the bowling lines were generally strong, combined with some lovely fielding to support the bowlers. Davenies finished the game on 227 for 5. The game was played in excellent spirits and many areas were highlighted for improvement in the next match. Well done to all the boys. *Mr Payne-Cook*



## The U9s at Davenies cont...



### U9C vs Davenies Prep School, Tuesday, 8 June, Away

Today we played against a strong Davenies team on a warm summer's day. Davenies batted first and scored 231 runs off 10 overs. St John's bowled well and accurately with our fielding building up the pressure. St John's then batted and scored an amazing score of 267 runs off our 10 overs. Special mentions to Aariz and Saavan for batting well together and showing great leadership during the game. Well played boys!

*Mr Hodson*

### U9D vs Davenies Prep School, Tuesday, 8 June, Away

It was a perfect summer's afternoon for cricket at Davenies School and the U9D team were excited and talking cricket all day. Mr Pawson has done a great job in coaching this group so far this season. From the start, I was impressed by the progress in their overall bowling action and batting contact. Well done to Theo M, Josh B and Arnav who managed to achieve boundary shots. A number of other boys in team got so close through determined batting. Abbas was the pick of the bowlers with a nice straight arm action being pulled down onto the stumps. He took two wickets on the day. In the end, it was the bowling that was the key difference on the day. Davenies could not claim any of our wickets. St John's won the match by 15 runs. Congratulations all round. Well done. *Mr Kruger*



## The U13s at Belmont



### U13A vs Belmont, Wednesday, 9 June, Away

A positive approach and support for one another and the result is a lesson learned. Arian captained well, supporting the players in performing to the best of their capabilities. Such positivity built pressure on the Belmont batsmen as did the tight bowling from Aaryan, Freddie and Vish, ably supported by good fielding and catching from the rest of the team. Belmont were pegged back to 32 for 8 after 10 overs but went on to set St John's a target of 83. Arian and Raayan opened for St John's in response. Raayan blazed 17 off 10 balls before going once too often. Arian batted through supported by Nishil, Sam, Reece and Freddie, ending on 32 not out to see his team home for a well-deserved victory. Well done to all the boys. Cricket was the winner. *Mr Payne-Cook*



### U13B vs Belmont, Wednesday, 9 June, Away

At Belmont we played a very strong team. St John's batted first and made a good score of 81 in tough conditions. Jaidev batted exceptionally well and stayed in for the whole innings, scoring 16 runs against a good bowling attack. Both teams played exceptionally well in the extreme heat. St John's attitude towards bowling and fielding was exceptional, continuously building the pressure on Belmont. St John's bowling was very accurate and this made it really difficult at times for them to score runs. Well played boys!

*Mr Hodson*



## The U12s played host to The Hall

### U12A vs The Hall, Wednesday, 9 June, Home

The Hall won the toss and elected to field. Hamza and Nayan opened the batting for St John's. They batted beautifully and rotated the strike while scoring several boundaries. Nayan was the early aggressor hitting 11 4s in his score of 55 not out. Hamza carried on his merry way and hit a towering 6 into the White House pond to reach his 50 before retiring. With few overs remaining, the St John's batsman took plenty of risks and finished with a total of 153/6 off 20 overs.

Early wickets from Ansh really set the tone and he bowled magnificently with 4 wickets for 11 runs. A good middle innings partnership put St John's under some pressure but The Hall struggled to keep up with the run rate and Hamza cleaned up the lower order to finish off a very good day with 4 wickets. The Hall finished on 95 all out. Some great individual performances and plenty of positives to build on. *Mr O'Brien*



### U12B vs The Hall, Wednesday, 9 June, Home

On a hot and sunny day the St John's U12B's welcomed The Hall. The visiting side won the toss and chose to field first. St John's got off to a good start, but lost regular wickets and most batsmen struggled to get going on the sloping wicket. Lucas batted well scoring 26 not out, helping to propel the team to a respectable score of 122 - 5 which included a 6th wicket partnership of 52. In reply, The Hall batted well, and St John's struggled to find consistent bowling lines, and dropped a few catches. As a result, a number of extras were given away and The Hall comfortably reached 123-3 off 18.2 overs. William, Lucas, Rian and Ansh all bowled well. Man of the Match was Lucas for his efforts with both the bat and ball, and special mentions to Albert who kept wicket extremely well, especially considering that he had never done it before. *Mr Bleakley*



## Year 3 Primary Schools Cricket Festival

It was fantastic to host this festival again after the absence of the 2019 event. On this occasion only West Lodge could attend. We hope to have Hillside and perhaps one or two more local schools involved next year. This is an event we look forward to every year and is played in such good spirit amongst the children, boys, and girls. In the Spring Term, we usually host a similar touch rugby festival. Having home spectators back this last week has been a treat and we had a wonderful attendance from our Year 3 parents, thank you! Cricket of all abilities was on show. Clearly several boys and

girls from St John's and West Lodge play outside cricket with local clubs. They were keen to show off their neat bowling action and entertaining batting. At one stage, we thought the 1st XI boundary for our senior boys might be too small for some of the batters. It was equally great and special to have four of our Year 8s from the 1st XI cricket team to umpire, coach and give back to the youngsters in this amazing sport. They are keen cricketers and always very helpful when it comes to opportunities like these. Thank you.

*Mr O'Brien & Mr Krüger*





## Senior boys take the game to St Martin's

The U12 and U13 tennis matches against St Martin's took place on Tuesday 8th June on the Astro. Although it was very hot, there was a welcome breeze and the boys seemed really up for the challenge of some competitive tennis.

The boys all played doubles matches, with the first to four games winning their match. Every pair within each age group played all the St Martin's pairs on a round-robin basis, so the boys all played three matches.

The standard was fantastic throughout and the boys had the chance to show off their full range of shots. Despite the high quality of the competition, St John's ran out overall winners in both age categories, winning five matches to four in the U13s and six matches to three in the U11s.

### U13 Results:

Rayaan and Nikhil W 4-1, W 4-1, L 4-3  
Rodrigo and Sam L 4-1, L 4-3, W 4-1  
Alex and Nishil L 4-3, W 4-3, W 4-2

### U11 Results

Aarav and George L W 4-0, W 4-0, W 4-0  
Zachariah and Remika W 4-0, W 4-1, W 4-1  
Jimi, Thomas and Mihir L 4-2, L 4-3, L 4-2

Very well done to all the boys not just for their excellent performances, but also their sporting conduct in the way they umpired and scored their own matches. Thank you also to the parents for coming along and supporting. *Mr Colgate*



# OUTLOOK



## Calendar & important dates Contact details

### Calendar and important dates:

**Monday 14th June:** Year 6 & 7 Residential Trip Departs

Year 5 Activities Week

Year 5 Trip to Whipsnade

St John's Association Meeting (7.30pm – 8.30pm)

**Tuesday 15th June:** York House U9 Cricket Festival (2.00pm) No spectators

HPV vaccinations (Year 8)

Year 5 Parents' Meeting (A-M) (5.30pm)

**Wednesday 16th June:** World War 2 Day (Year 5)

Cricket v St Paul's: U13 A (h) U13 B (a) (2.15pm)

Year 8 Paddle boarding Club (4.00pm – 6.00pm)

**Thursday 17th June:** Cricket v St Martin's: U8 A, B (a) U8 C, D, E (h) (2.15pm) No spectators

Year 5 Parents' Meeting (O-W) (5.30pm)

**Friday 18th June:** Year 6 & 7 Residential Trips return

Cricket v The Beacon: U10 A, B (a) U10 C, D (h) (2.00pm) No spectators



*Photo of the week: Ansh in 7J has been invited to play for U14 Middlesex County golf team. This is very exciting news. His handicap is now 13 and he has helped the team to memorable wins against both Bedfordshire and Norfolk.*

**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. 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 pictures to [lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk](mailto:lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk) for inclusion in The Lamb. Many thanks.

## Notices and reminders

### EXCITING STEM DEN NEWS - Extra dates added!

We are pleased to announce that we have added another two weeks to our Summer 2021 programme here at St John's School, but open to boys and girls from other schools as well. Aimed to educate and inspire young people from the age of 5 to 13, we have 'Hands On! Mind's On!' activities for all. Find out more by clicking on our website: [www.stemden.co.uk](http://www.stemden.co.uk) Book early to avoid disappointment.

**Sponsored Activities Raise Money:** The boys enjoyed a challenging morning today with their Quiz and Pre-Prep had fun on their treasure hunt yesterday. Please would the boys give their completed sponsorship form to their Form Tutor by 18th June and then donate the collected

sponsorship money via the Virgin Money Giving Link: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/StJohnsPlaySkill>

**Maths Answer:** Answer to Junior Mathematical Challenge in The Lamb before Half Term: E: 36

**Blue Tits:** Our fledglings left the nest on 31st May and 1st June. We wish them luck in the big outdoors.

**Votes for schools:** see page 8

**House Points:** 1st Lincoln 120.81, 2nd Lawrence 117.07  
3rd Churchill 116.41, 4th Oates 113.33

**Have a lovely and sunny weekend**