



From the
Headmaster

Getting outside

The Nursery boys took full advantage of a break in the rain to get outside and play. What could be more fun than playing in the autumn leaves which are carpeting our grounds in yellow and golden hues following the recent storms? Let's hope they didn't get too muddy!



The autumnal colours around our grounds looked glorious in this morning's sunshine, in stark contrast to weather conditions a day earlier. The light provided a fitting backdrop for the intricately carved pumpkins. Well done to all those who entered into our competition.

It was a pleasure for me to welcome lots of smiling boys and their families to St John's for 3+ assessments. Our Governors also visited the School on Thursday, braving the torrential rain and heavy winds brought by storm Ciaran. We are fortunate to have Governors who contribute to the School with such skill and dedication. It was great for them to meet new staff, in addition to formal meetings.

This edition of the Lamb also includes jam sandwiches (!), spooky story writing, and a chance for us to celebrate boys' work in art, drama and DT&E.

Our Under 9s played their first competitive fixtures against Habs this week, amongst many other rugby matches. We hope that the postponed Under 8 fixtures will be re-scheduled soon.

Keep dry this weekend!

T Jenkins



A chance to make a difference to the world's children

In assembly on Monday, Mrs Savage announced that our school charity for 2023-2024 will be Save the Children. Roger Marsden from the charity talked to us about the risks faced by children around the world from threats such as Covid, climate and conflict.

Mrs Savage set a target for the School to raise £10,000

this year with our events such as Quiz Night, Charity Day and other events. Mr Marsden also spoke to us about the importance of volunteering to help others.

Hari in Year 6 raised an incredible £505 for Lions Sight First Hospital at his cake sale in the summer. Well done for using some of your spare time to help others, Hari.



AROUND SCHOOL



Autumn colours from books and nature in the Nursery



Paras's book review of *The Indian in the Cupboard* by Lynne Reid Banks was published in First News



Science and Philosophy Club debated whether AI (Siri) could be funny or clever.



Entries into this year's pumpkin competition



We are very proud of Theo in Year 5 who is now the British Taekwondo Champion for 6th-4th Kupp patterns in the 7-11 age category



In Poetry Reading Club Ifan gave an exceptional presentation of a poem in Welsh and explained the meaning of it in English.



Year 7 & 8 choir rehearsing, accompanied on the piano by Khyan in Year 8



Our Governors visited St John's yesterday and enjoyed meeting new staff members at lunchtime. We are very grateful for all they do for the School.



**MERCHANT
TAYLORS'
COMPANY**

ENERGY

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

THE MERCHANT TAYLORS' COMPANY IS INVITING ALL PUPILS AND STAFF TO ENTER!

We are looking for the best photographs on the theme of Energy. You can enter in one of three age categories: **Junior** (Years 1 to 8), **Senior** (Years 9 to 13) and **Staff**.

There will be a prize for the winner of each category.

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT INFORMATION BELOW AND GOOD LUCK!

- Only one entry per pupil.
- Submit your photograph as an unretouched jpg file, with your name and age category (Junior, Senior or Staff) included in the file name, to the teacher named and by the date shown in the box below.
- The winning photographs will be announced in December.

Please send your photographs to Ms Gillen.
ggillen@st-johns.org.uk
The deadline for all entries is Wednesday 15th November





Otters and Owls get writing

Otters and Owls have been learning to write a set of instructions. On this occasion they needed to write instructions on how to make a jam sandwich. What better way to start than by making a sandwich. Once this was done the process of writing up the method became clearer. With the prospect of enjoying their sandwich at the end this was a writing lesson to be remembered!





Pencil grips in the Nursery

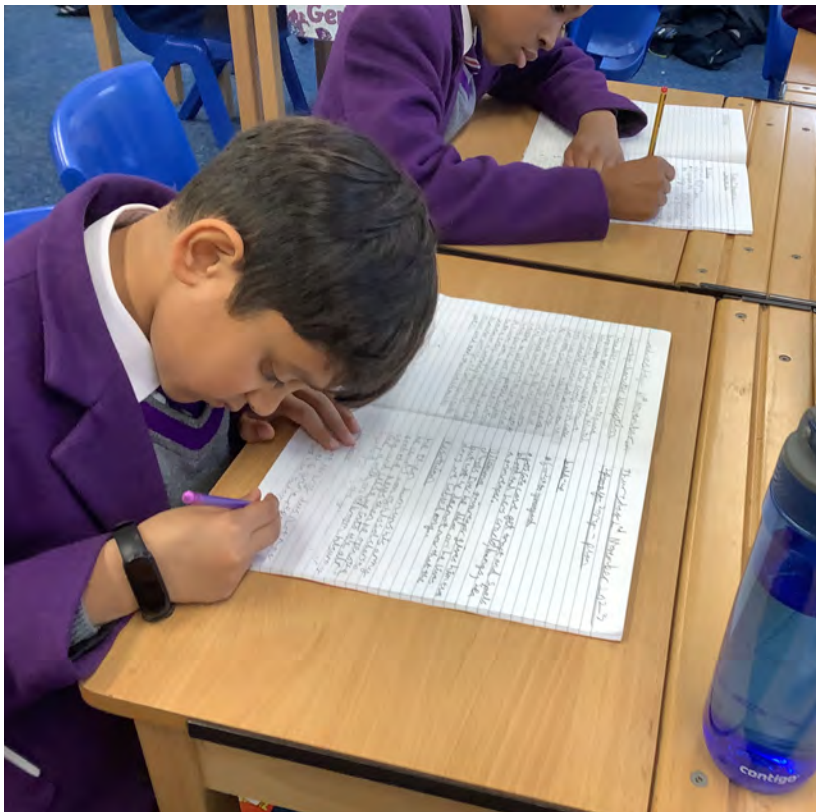
The Nursery boys have only been in school for a few weeks but it's never too early to start learning to hold a pencil. This is a core motor skill which will stand them in good stead throughout their education. Well done boys!



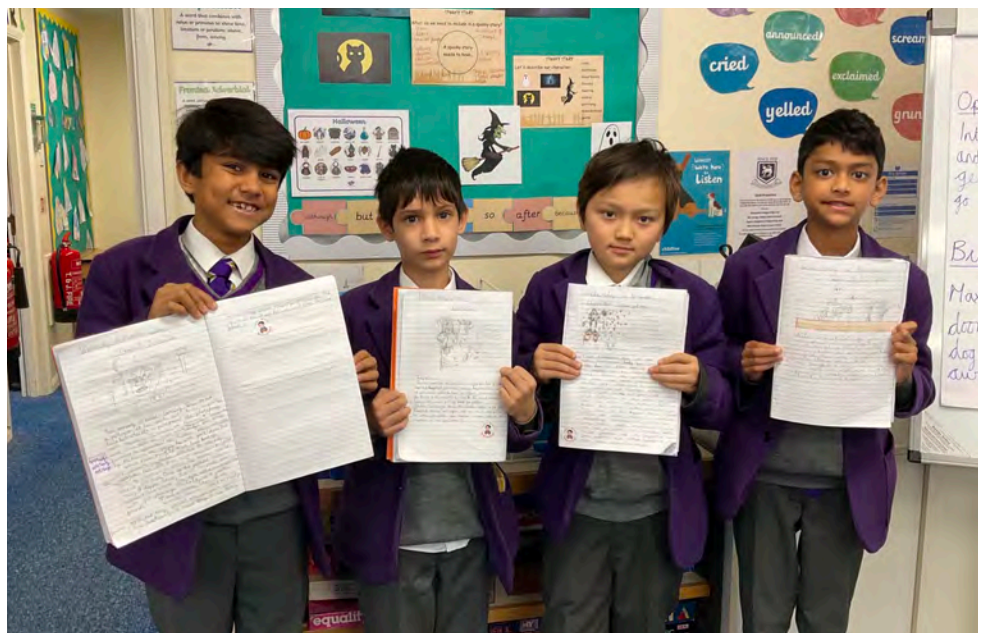


Year 4 spooky stories

This week in Year 4, we have been writing spooky stories. We began by listening to a spooky story about a witch, who casts spells just to make other people laugh. This gave us some ideas to begin planning our own stories and we carefully thought about the setting of our story, our magical character and finally we planned the plot of our story. The boys will be submitting their stories to the BBC's 500 Word competition, hoping to be in the top 50 finalists who will be invited to Buckingham Palace!



Bhagat in 4 Willow writes: *"This week, we are in a BBC competition and we are writing a spooky story for Halloween. We have written a story plan and tomorrow we will be writing the story. I have enjoyed this week as my favourite part of English is when we get to write a story."*





Drama clubs

Junior Drama Club auditions were held this week. The boys read a scene from *The Jungle Book* and the teachers were very impressed with how well they had learnt their lines and followed the stage directions. The casting will be announced shortly, and rehearsals will then begin for our production. During improvisation activities, the Year 5 & 7 Drama Club boys have been blending ideas imaginatively to explore characters, emotions and situations.

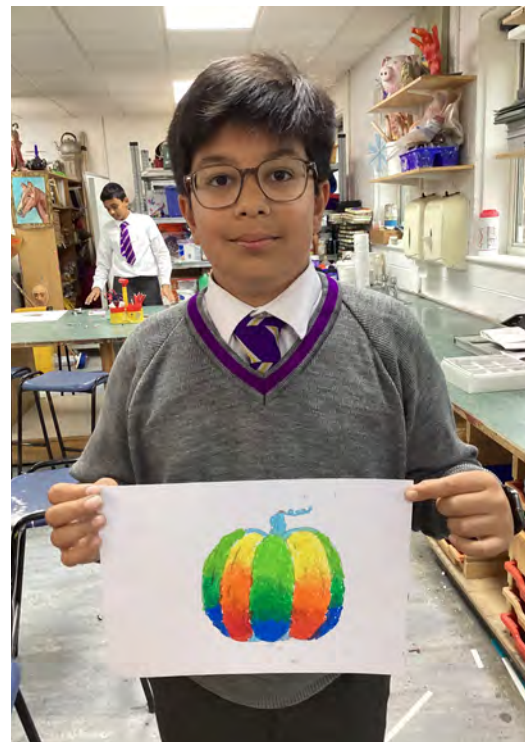




ART

Autumnal Art in the studio this week

It has been a busy week back in the Art room. Year 3 has been finishing off their oil pastel patterns. Year 6 has been painting quick brushstrokes in the style of Claude Monet. Art Clubbers enjoyed blending oil pastels to create these colourful, abstract pumpkins. Some boys in 6A have made poppies out of plastic bottles. Thank you to all the boys who handed in their Christmas Card entry, fingers crossed we have a winner!





Years 3 to 8 testing their DT&E skills

Year 3 have been practising their 'measure, mark and cut' skills and starting their CAD journey using Tinkercad. Year 4 enjoyed testing their 3D printed bubblewands and Ali in Year 8 has finished his laser cutting project.





U11 ABCD v St Benedict's 13th October

It was an exciting set of games over at St Benedict's Sports Ground on Friday 13th October. All teams acquitted themselves superbly, with lots of improvement in tackling and support play from all teams.







U9 v Haberdashers' 31st October

The distinctly soggy weather on Tuesday did not stop flowing rugby, with lots of great play and passes out of the tackle in our first Under 9 fixture of the season. Our commitment to physicality and tackling was impressive. The boys were obviously inspired by the Springbok solid wall defence in their World Cup win on Saturday. It was great to see so many parents and family supporting, and the afternoon was a lovely occasion.







ST JOHN'S ASSOCIATION

NEW DATE ANNOUNCED

St John's Fireworks Night 16th November 2023

Food served from 5.15pm, display starts at 7pm



- Guy competition**
- Hot chocolate**
- Mulled wine**
- Crepes**
- Bonfire**

CLICK FOR

Tickets:

Children £11

Adults £13

Food served from 5:15pm

Vegan Burger

Hotdog (Halal)

Served with chips & a drink



Important dates and contacts

Wednesday 8th November: Quiz Club Science Challenge (Years 5 & 6)

Eco Council

Rugby v Davenies: U12A, B (h) (2.15pm)

Rugby v Belmont: U13A, B (a) (2.15pm)

Year 6 Parents' Meeting (A-K) (6.00pm)

Thursday 9th November: 7+ Assessments

Rugby v UCS: U8A, B, C, D, E (h) (2.30pm)

Friday 10th November: Rugby v Belmont: U11A, B, C, D (h) (2.15pm)

Two Minute Silence for the Whole School (11.00am)

Rugby U11, U10 & U9 MTS Barbarians at Merchant Taylors' School (5.00pm)

Sunday 12th November: Remembrance Service, Northwood (11.00am)

Updates: Please continue to visit 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 for inclusion in The Lamb.

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Notices and reminders

Royal British Legion: Once again, we are selling poppies and other memorabilia at school in preparation for Remembrance Day on 11th November. Please bring in a donation and wear your poppy with pride.

St John's Association Fireworks Night now Thursday 16th November: Non-food [tickets are available online](#).

Clubs will not be running on this day and wrap around care will not be taking any extra ad hoc bookings for that day. We look forward to seeing you all on the 16th November.

Merchant Taylors' photography competition 2023:

The theme is Energy and the competition is open to all pupils and staff. The deadline for submitting entries to Ms

Gillen is Wednesday 15th November. See page 5 for more information.

Monday 13th November Odd Socks Day: To celebrate our individuality and uniqueness, we would like all boys to wear odd socks on 13th November, the first day of nationwide 'Anti Bullying' week.

Votes for Schools: Last week's question: "Should the UK open new oil fields?" 78.3% said no.

Next week's question: "Is it time to call a General Election?"

House Points: 1st Churchill 29.40, 2nd Oates 29.32, 3rd Lincoln 28.30, 4th Lawrence 26.55

Have a great weekend.