

St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 303

An royal occasion fit for a king (with costumes to match)



From the Headmaster

What an exciting couple of weeks we've had! The whole School celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III, creating memories of this important day in British History. We welcomed the Court of the Merchant Taylors' Company to School for their annual visit and were able to thank them for their generous donation of our outdoor musical instruments. You can read about the Company's role in the Coronation on page 4. Our summer musical concert last week was inspiring, with musicians from Year 3 to 8 all performing to the highest standard.

This week, boys have enjoyed a challenging and entertaining Activity Week, both in and out of school. Year 5 ably assisted by some dashing parental volunteers – have been immersed in History with their authentic 1940s experience and a trip to Kensington Palace. The residential trips to St David's, Normandy, Northumbria, Whitemoor Lakes and PGL have all gone well, as the photos from this bumper edition of The Lamb show. Many thanks to all the teachers who made these inspiring trips and events possible.

I Jenkin



Celebrating the Coronation of King Charles 111

On Thursday 4th May we celebrated King Charles III's Coronation as a whole school community. We all dressed as royalty or wore red, white and blue and enjoyed a walk together in the spring sunshine.

In a special assembly, Mr Jenkin explained the significance of this historic day and shared some fascinating facts. Boys were all given a Coronation bookmark. In a special concert, every orchestral musician from Year 3 to 8 played in our Coronation Orchestra and the Pre-Prep entertained us enthusiastically with their Coronation songs and actions.

We chose to donate to the Prince's Trust as this is one of the King's charities. Please use this **link to their JustGiving** page should you wish to contribute.

















SINCE 1920





Merchant Taylors' at the Coronation

Merchant Taylors' Company tailors played a crucial role in producing the outfits for Saturday's Coronation. Fiveyear-old Prince Louis wore an outfit by Savile Row tailor, Dege and Skinner (Court Member Michael Skinner and Liveryman William Skinner). They also made the Prince of Wales a new Welsh Guards ceremonial tunic cunningly concealed beneath his Garter Mantle!

The biggest job was to change all the buttons on the

tunics worn by the King's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of The Guard and the Royal Watermen - about 80 uniforms in all removing the old threads from the existing buttons with E2R stamped on them and replacing them with new ones bearing C3R and His Majesty's new cypher.

The Lord Mayor of London, himself a Merchant Taylor, played a leading role too, taking his place in Westminster Abbey for the coronation service.

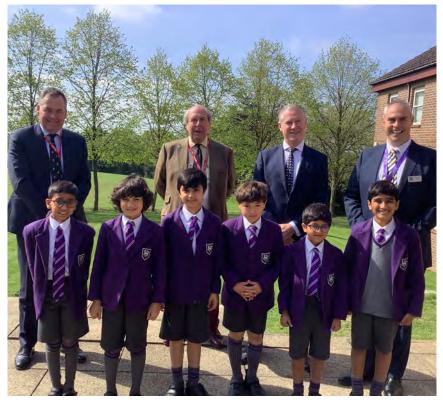




Visit of the Court of the Merchant Taylors' Company

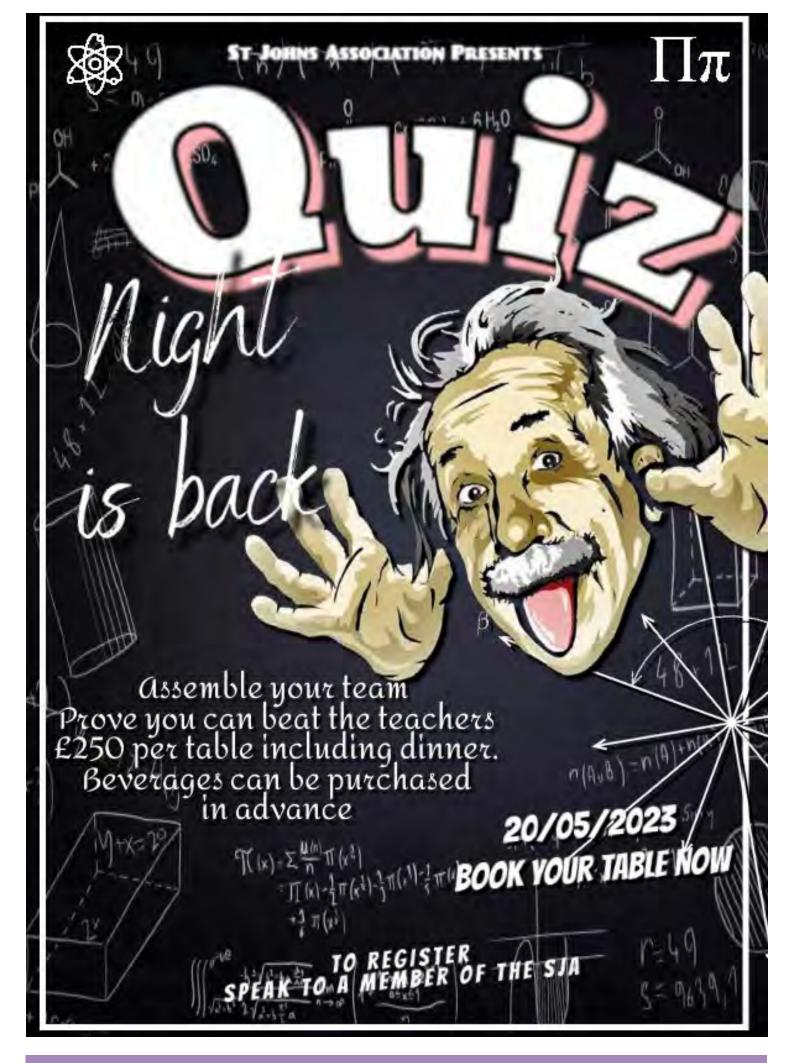
The Court of the Merchant Taylors' Company and some of our school Governors visited St John's last Wednesday. The Clerk and the Wardens spoke to our Year 4 boys about the history and traditions of the Company. Our distinguished visitors were treated to a concert by our Tabla players, the String Group and the whole School Orchestra. They also enjoyed watching a film of boys making music on our Forest Instruments, which the Merchant Taylors Company kindly donated to St John's. You can see the film **at this link**. After the concert they enjoyed chatting to our musicians.















The boys visited Kensington Palace to explore the lavish rooms of the King's and Queen's State Apartments and find out about Queen Victoria's childhood. They wandered around the palace finding evidence to decide whether Victoria was prepared to become Queen at the age of 18. Afterwards, they walked to the Albert Memorial and Alexander G, Jay and Lucas shared some interesting facts about the memorial.









Experiencing an authentic WW11 evacuee adventure

Year 5 have been studying the World War Two era in their cross-curricular History and English learning. They were transported back to the 1940s this week, experiencing life in an evacuee school room, shopping at the market to work out how to buy products using shillings and ration cards, surviving air raids and assisting in fire alerts.

Special thanks to our Year 5 parent volunteers. "Amazing real-life experience for the boys, the smiles said it all!" *Mariam, Year 5 Parent.* "When the air raid siren went off the boys got straight under the tables under the guidance of our very efficient police officers and air raid wardens." *Katie, Year 5 Parent*













Year 7 in Normandy

On Wednesday we visited the market in Villeneuve-des-Poêlles to buy sandwich fillers for our picnic lunch. Cheese, sausage, salad and radishes were the order of the day! We toured the ramparts at Mont St Michel before indulging

in the obligatory ice-cream. Much fun was had in the evening doing La Grande Trouvaille (Treasure Hunt). We enjoyed a variety of activities during our stay here including breadmaking, archery, aeroball, canoeing and climbing.











Year 6 have been exploring Northumbria Year 6 travelled north to Hexham for the annual residential. They enjoyed a week of visits to places of mainly historical

Year 6 travelled north to Hexham for the annual residential. They enjoyed a week of visits to places of mainly historical interest and took part in a variety of adventure activities at the Kingswood centre. Hadrian's Wall and Alnwick Castle seemed to be the favourites. In Alnwick, we were honoured to be piped off the coach by Theo M's uncle.









Year 8 go wild in Pembrokeshire

What a fantastic week we have had in Pembrokeshire! We enjoyed challenging and fun activities including surfing, kayaking, coasteering and climbing. The instructors who helped us with these activities were funny and full of

interesting information about our environment and the beautiful coastline that surrounded us. By the end of the week we were all exhausted, however it was definitely worth every second. *George Gower & George Radburn*











ST JOHN'S SCHOOL OPEN MORNING

Wednesday 17th May 2023 from 9.15 a.m. Register via www.st-johns.org.uk



Rated 'excellent' in the latest ISI inspection

SCAN THE CODE TO FIND OUT MORE, REGISTER FOR OUR OPEN MORNING

Potter Street Hill • Northwood • Middlesex • HA6 3QY T: 020 8866 0067 • E: admissions@st-johns.org.uk • W: www.st-johns.org.uk







Celebrating the Coronation in the Pre-Prep

The Pre-Prep was filled with excitement as the boys enjoyed activities in preparation for and following the King's Coronation. There was a wonderful opportunity for the boys to come together for a whole school walk and concert to celebrate this significant event in British History. There was a lot of fun and laughter as we danced though the decades from the Hand Jiving to Line dancing via a bit of Disco! What a fantastic couple of days creating lasting memories for the boys.











Celebrating the Coronation in the Pre-Prep







The Lambs grew cress and made party sandwiches









Year 2 away from home

The boys were full of excitement as our coach pulled out of the St John's gates, to set off for our PGL adventure. We've enjoyed fun-filled activities, midnight feasts, singing songs and toasting marshmallows around the campfire. We "packed" before breakfast this morning – hopefully you will get your own son's clothes back eventually!











Year 4 in Whitemoor Lakes

Year 4 had an amazing time at Whitemoor Lakes this week. They climbed, they abseiled, they canoed and ate chocolate brownies. The staff even complimented them on their good manners. The boys had a terrific time, managed to fit in some sleep and returned to school happy but rather exhausted. Much the same could be said of the staff too.





MUSIC



Our Summer Concert

We enjoyed a fantastic evening of music-making last week. We were entertained by choirs, ensembles large and small and our stunning Young Musician of the Year soloists. One hundred and forty boys, from Year 3 violinists to Year 8 Music Scholars performed on stage and the range of repertoire was inspiring.









Our Summer Concert cont...













MUSIC



School Orchestral workshop

In preparation for the Coronation concert, Mr Corin led a workshop for the whole orchestra. We invited all our youngest musicians to join the older boys, who helped them to learn the new skills of playing in a large ensemble. It was a great success.









Cricket 1st X1 v Belmont

Coming off the back of a win, spirits were high in the team. Kabir and Rian got us off to a great start with a 50 partnership. When Rian got out, Kabir powered on with Kian J and then Ahaan. He managed to help the team get over 120 runs. Our bowling was very good overall and was backed up by a strong performance in the field. We limited Belmont to 150 and our solid performance led to a win of 23 runs. Man of the Match was Kabir for his excellent, match-winning performance. *Kian J*











Cricket 1st X1 v Belmont



















Important dates and contacts

Saturday 13th May: U13 Cricket Festival at Belmont (12.00pm – 4.00pm)

Monday 15th May: Walk to School Week

Sports, Leavers and Scholars photos

Cricket v St Martin's: 1st XI (h), 2nd XI (a) (2.15pm)

Tuesday 16th May: Cricket v St Martin's: U9A, B, C (h), U9D, E (a) (2.15pm)

Years 2 – 4 Data Talk (5.00pm) (Online)

St John's Vision Presentation to Pre-Prep Parents (6.30pm) (Online)

Wednesday 17th May: Open Morning for Prospective Parents (9.15am)

Merchant Taylors' Associated Schools Quiz at St John's

Thursday 18th May: Perform Drama visiting Pre-Prep

Athletics Match at York House: Year 3 & 4 (2.00pm)

Year 5 Parents' Meeting (6.00pm - 8.00pm) in school

Friday 19th May: House Meetings

Cricket v St Martin's: Colts A, D (a) Colts B, C, E (h) (2.00pm)

Saturday 20th May: St John's Association Quiz (6.30pm)

Sunday 21st May: The Stowe Putter



As the boys were in school on Monday, their families enjoyed volunteering and picking up litter on Potter Street Hill

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 @stjsnorthwood and our sports department @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.

Notices and reminders

Leavers, scholars and class photographs: Please make sure your son arrives promptly on Monday 15th May and is dressed smartly so that the photos can go ahead smoothly.

St John's Vision Presentation for Pre-Prep parents: This will be an online presentation on Tuesday 16th May at 6.30pm and the link to join will be sent out shortly.

Open Morning: Our next Open Morning for prospective parents is next Wednesday 17th May at 9.15am. We look forward to welcoming you.

Votes for Schools: This week's question: Are you interested in the Coronation? 72.7% said Yes

Next week's questions: Is it ok to ban a book? KS3

Should adults choose which books you read? KS2

Walk to school week: Next week is our annual Walk

to School week. As part of our Eco School's Green Flag Award, we want to encourage as many families as possible to "dump their cars" and walk or cycle to school. Boys will get a point for each journey made to and from school without a car. If you do six or more journeys in the week then you get a Walk to School "Strider" badge. Your form teacher will collect your points each day. Even if you walk part of the journey, you still get a point. There is a map displayed in the school car park of safe routes to school. *Mr Lawrence*

SJA Quiz Supper Saturday, 20th May (6.30pm): Book your table now by speaking to a member of the SJA or booking here: **stjohnsassociationportal.square.site**

House Points: 1st Churchill 122.30, 2nd Lawrence 116.55, 3rd Lincoln 116.07, 4th Oates 113.62

Enjoy the weekend