

St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 296



St John's was delighted to welcome the 694th Lord Mayor of London, Nicholas Lyons, to the School this afternoon. He enjoyed hearing some fabulous outdoor music, played on instruments kindly gifted by the Merchant Taylors' Company and the Lady Mayoress spent some time with our younger boys. You will see more within these pages and we are very grateful that such a senior dignitary could make time to visit the School.

In this final edition before half term, we also hear of French presentations on Black History, our Young Voices trip to Wembley Arena, and lots of fun learning in the Pre-Prep. Our Year 6s and 8s are also learning of results from Secondary Schools. We are delighted with the large number of successes, and that all the boys have given their best. I hope all boys and staff have a good break, especially those on the Classics trip!

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Lord Mayor's Visit to St John's



We were honoured today to welcome the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress to St John's. They were accompanied on their visit by Ben Huntley (programme officer, office of the Lord Mayor), Mr Duncan Eggar (Chair of Governors at Merchant Taylor's School), and our Chair of Governors, James Fowler. Pre-Prep and Year 5 boys formed a guard of honour, waving the special Lord Mayor's Show flags, to welcome our distinguished visitors.

The Lord Mayor enjoyed a performance on our brand new outdoor instruments (more on p12) while the Lady Mayoress read the story of "Dick Whittington" to Years 1 and 2 in the Pre-Prep library. After lunch, there was more music before Teddy presented the beacon he had carried at the head of the procession for the Lord Mayor's Show last November. The Lord Mayor ended his visit by thanking everyone and saying how touched he had been at the honour guard.





Pictures of the Lord Mayor's visit









Pictures of the Lord Mayor's visit











Le Mois de l'histoire des Noirs

Last week Year 7 discovered that Black History Month is not marked in France where the Republican ideal is that people should not subdivide into separate communities. In May 2001 France became the first country to officially recognise slave trade and slavery as crimes against humanity through the Loi Taubira (Taubira Law). Le Mois de l'histoire des Noirs is marked in February in Canada where approximately

23% of the population is French speaking. The boys researched the history of several famous people of colour with links to France: aviator Bessie Coleman, composer Joseph Bologne, politicians Christiane Taubira and Jeanne-Marie Ruth Rolland and Alexandre Dumas (father & son). The boys created slides and presented their findings to their peers.















More things going on around school



George, Nishant and Kabir in Year 8 have made it into the top 250 in the national Townsend Warner History Prize. The prize is 138 years old, one the oldest preparatory school competitions, and the boys will take part in the second round essay paper later this month. They have said they are "inspired by the challenge that lies ahead."



Shaan was selected as Musician of the Month for great amounts of practice and strong levels of engagement towards his violin learning



'Sharing is Caring', keen hockey enthusiasts, Kabir, Rehaan, Rafi and Nishant leading introductory sessions on short corners – Tuesday Y7&8 Hockey club



Other things going on around school: Introducing our new Bursar, Mrs Demetriades

I am delighted to join the St John's School community as Bursar. I bring a wide range of experience with me, from leading the support functions of schools in both the independent and maintained sectors. I am the mother of two sons aged 20 and 15 and we live in Mill Hill close to the Independent school the boys both attended. All the men in my life are qualified football referees and I spend much of my spare time on the side of a football pitch. I am also a trustee of a football charity and a Governor of the primary school which I attended. I enjoy long walks with the family and our rather energetic springer spaniel, pottering in my garden repairing the damage Charlie has inflicted and I absolutely love to dance.







court sports



Nursery boys have been making foil boats

Boys in the nursery have been learning about boats. We made foil boats and experimented to find out whether they would sink or float.







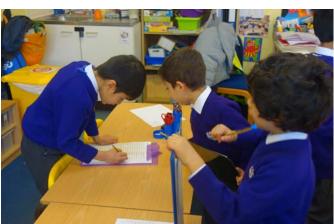




Favourite Colour Survey in Year 1

The Otters and Owls have been busy learning how to make a tally and how to show the information on a bar graph. The boys were asked to find out the opinions of all their Year 1 classmates across the two classes, by asking them their favourite colour from a list of six colours. With clip boards and class lists, the boys gathered all the information themselves and then made a tally, followed by a matching bar graph.













Outside inventions

Year 3 have been devising games to play this week to supplement their diet of football. One group devised a limbo game which they excitedly demonstrated to their classmates.









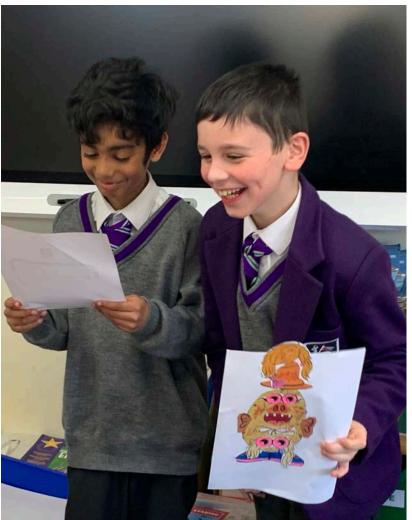






Working together in Junior PSHE

Year 4 have been learning about how to work collaboratively in PSHE. One task was to produce the funniest Mr Potato Head in teams and these are the results!













Singing our hearts out at Wembley Arena

On Monday, ninety-three Year 5 to 8 boys accompanied by nine staff set off for Wembley Arena, complete with purple glittery top hats for a memorable musical experience. The boys have been rehearsing with Mr Corin since September, learning the songs and actions for this concert. We sang, danced and beat-boxed our way through the day in a choir of nearly five thousand children, raising funds for Place2Be and having great time. "I enjoyed being a backing singer for Heather Small" Nathan Year 5.











Singing our hearts out at Wembley Arena













Playing and singing for the Lord Mayor

Our special guests were treated to musical performances around the School. Taking advantage of the sunshine, they listened to a performance by Year 8 boys Shane, Remika, Mithil and George on our new outdoor musical instruments. Inside our Tabla Tappers and Junior Choir were on show in the Norman Hall to round off a very special visit.











Pre-production goes into overdrive!
The boys at Potter Street Studios are creating their own sets

Like hungry town planners at

The boys at Potter Street Studios are creating their own sets for the forthcoming film-making project. With the stories being hammered out in English, the sets built in art and the edit being finalised in ITC, this is cross-curricular gold! All pupils in Years 5 to 8 are painting three different backdrops for their film. They have chosen locations all over the world, witness George R's Arizona desert and imagine the desert adventure therein. Yash has created a most rugged Yosemite canyon type forest whilst Jay takes his action to the rolling serenity of rural Wiltshire.

Like hungry town planners at a post-war rebuilding conference, our junior architects offer their homes of the future. A veritable garden city will spring forth from Potter Street Studios once Aarav K and George F are let loose. George is the first boy in decades to build his own pub, the cosy 'Bedford Arms'. All these structures can be seen in the 'main street' set that has been built. Our plastic lady lends a sense of decorum but we fondly imagine she is a high-end realtor-cum-producer who encounters the St John's houses and declares "roll camera one!".











Pre-production goes into overdrive!











U11s and U10s v Merchant Taylors' Prep

The U11 teams both battled hard in their fixtures last Friday. Rafay and Neer scored for the U11As with Rafay and Liam playing particularly well throughout. Noah also gave a notable performance on the wing. The star of the U11B team was goalkeeper Charlie who managed to stop five 7 second shuffles, helping us to a draw. A great team performance.









Both U10 teams gave their all in these matches. For the U10As well done to Oliver for his top performance and to the whole team for their enthusiasm and hard work. Lucas was very good in goal for the B team and made several important saves. Other notable performances from Khyan (the captain), Svanik and Yousef, who showed great determination from start to finish.





Football v Thorpe House 8th February

On Wednesday our 1st to 5th X1 boys played their first fixtures of the season against Thorpe House, who have been playing together since September. The 1st team worked hard throughout their game and the afternoon was a good learning experience for them. A great win and performance by the 2nd XI boys and a fantastic team effort. The first goal was a fantastic curling effort by Khyan into the top corner from the edge of the box and George grabbed a second for the team after a great run and cross by Nishant. The goal scorers for the 3rd team were Thomas and Ayaan and the game was fairly evenly matched. Remika made some strong saves for the 4th team and goals by George and Leo secured a draw. The boys in the 5th team played some good football, creating several decent chances and were well-supported by Rishi who made some great saves.













Football v Thorpe House 8th February





Krüger Sports Camps



The February Half Term Camp is open!
With lots of variety to support the main sport this term, football. A cricket day for early practice for the summer term and the popular Courts Sports on the Friday to bring in even more variety for our youngsters.

MON—Cricket
TUES to THU—Football
FRI—Court Sports

For more information & bookings go to <u>www.krugercamps.co.uk</u>







Important dates and contacts

Tuesday 14th February: Classical Civilisation Trip to Italy departs

Saturday 18th February: Classical Civilisation Trip Returns

Monday 20th February: Term Resumes (8.25am)

House Music Festival Rounds begin

Tuesday 21st February: Year 3 Parents' Meeting (4.30-6.30pm)

Pre-Prep Parents' Meeting (6.00–8.00pm)

Wednesday 22nd February: School Council

Football v The Beacon: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th X1 (a) (2.30pm)

Astronomy Evening (5.30pm)

Thursday 23rd February: Northwood Adventure Lecture (2.00pm)

Pre-Prep Parents' Meeting (3.30pm-5.30pm)

Year 3 Parents' Meeting (6.00pm-8.00pm)

Friday 24th February: House Meetings

Cross- Country v St Martin's: U11, U13 (a) (2.30pm)

Hockey v Haberdasher's: U11 A, B (a) (2.30pm)

Saturday 25th February: U9A Football Tournament at

Haberdashers' (9.30am)

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. Many thanks.



Notices and reminders

House Music: Please remind your sons to bring their instruments, music and accompaniments to their class music lessons the week after half term.

Trip: Tues 14th – Sat 18th Feb Classics trip to Italy

Astronomy Evening: The planets are aligning perfectly for our Astronomy Evening on Wednesday 22nd February 5.30pm. Do come along, you can use a School telescope or bring your own. Please e-mail Mr Lawrence if you plan to attend: clawrence@st-johns.org.uk

House points: 1st Churchill 83.13, 2nd Oates 78.81, 3rd Lincoln 78.14, 4th Lawrence 76.98

Votes for Schools: this week's question: Should influencers be responsible for our online safety?



Next week's questions: Do we get enough rest?"

Have a great half term break and all the best to staff and students setting out on the Classical Civilisation trip.