



## From the Headmaster

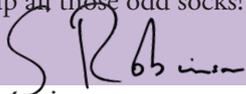
**Welcome to The Lamb.** This week, along with schools across the country, we have been focusing on Anti-Bullying. It has been rewarding to note all the thought boys and staff have put into helping us remember the importance of being kind and respectful to each other, qualities which mark out St John's boys.

I have been delighted to hear about your Diwali celebrations. The boys obviously enjoyed a really special time despite lockdown. You can read their stories and enjoy photos on pages 5 and 6.

I am always fascinated when I visit Geology Club and this week was particularly enjoyable for me as I was able to eat some of the chocolate which represented cooled metamorphic rock. The boys were eating and learning at the same time! I was also able to see the Squirrels forming their letters and read a story to the Lambs this afternoon. I would like to wish the older boys who have mock examinations next week all the best.

The St John's Parents Association joined together for their first on-line AGM. They are very excited about the online Christmas Parties on Saturday 5th December. Please book your tickets as soon as you can.

Have a lovely weekend and good luck matching up all those odd socks!



## National Anti-Bullying week



**In the Prep School** we have used Anti-Bullying as our Assembly theme this week. We have discussed it in PSHCEE lessons and in form-time and the Pre-Prep have chatted about what makes a good friend in circle time. We all wore colourful odd socks on Monday as a fun way of celebrating our individuality and uniqueness. The variety of odd socks worn throughout the School was amazing.

In Assemblies this week, Mr Robinson told the boys a story about Billy the bully and the little girl called India who was being bullied by Billy. India taught Billy a valuable lesson about why he should not be a bully and they ended up best friends. Mr Robinson used the metaphor of toothpaste coming out of a tube for words coming out of our mouths. Toothpaste comes out of the tube very easily, but is impossible to put back in. We need to be careful what we say to people and as the boys said, "If we have nothing nice to say then we shouldn't say anything."





## Anti-Bullying Assemblies in Years 4 and 5





# Taking a stand against bullying

In PSHCEE this week, 5M thought about what they wanted to choose to do to take a stand against bullying. They wrote these ideas on their puzzle pieces and designed them in their own unique way to celebrate who they are.



# Charity appeal: Childrens' Christmas Wish-list

**Louise Ashman**, who runs After School Club has been supporting a toy donation charity for several years. Toys are donated and distributed annually to local childrens' care homes and childrens' hospital wards.

This year we are supporting this wonderful charity with a collection point at St John's. Toys should be brand new and for girls and boys. Please bring your donation, if you can, and ask your son to give it to a Year 8 boy who will be waiting in the playground as he comes into school.

During the pandemic many families have been struggling more than usual and it will be difficult for them to provide Christmas presents for children. Thank you in advance for making someone's Christmas.





## Year 6 Pledges for the Planet

**Year 6** have completed almost all of the challenges they set themselves at the beginning of term. They were delighted to receive this letter from the office of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.



**KENSINGTON PALACE**

From: Miss Claudia Spens M.V.O.  
The Office of TRH The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge

**Private and Confidential**

2nd November, 2020

Dear Miss Vale and Pupils,

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have asked me to thank you for the letter you recently sent in which you told them of the pledges you have made to help the global environment.

Their Royal Highnesses were most interested and impressed to hear of the things you are doing, as each action, no matter how seemingly small, has a positive impact. There are many Charities and Organisations involved with the environment, on all levels from local to international, who would welcome your help and it is easy to become involved.

Your commitment to the Environment is truly commendable and it is you, the children of today, the adults of the future, who will make the changes that are needed for the Planet to survive.

Although unable to reply personally, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have asked me to send you all their warmest thanks and very best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Claudia Spens



# THIS WEEK



## Creative ways to celebrate Diwali

**Diwali is a** festival of lights and one of the major festivals celebrated by Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs. It usually lasts five days and it is believed that on this final day Rama returned to his people after fourteen years of exile, during which he fought and won a battle against the demons and the demon king, Ravana.

We made some lanterns for Diwali it was really fun. I made

them with my sister and my mum, we decorated the lanterns. It took two days to make them. On the first day we made the frame out of bamboo and coated it in tissue paper and let it dry, on the second day we stuck on the coloured tissue paper and drew on it with a pen.

**Dries 5M**



**This Diwali, like** many other festivals and events this year, was different because of the pandemic. Generally, we meet family and friends, but this time we had to keep it to video calls with them. On this special day, we decorate our homes with lights and make colourful rangolis. I made Lord Ganesh's with the help of my mum. We also visit temple in the morning, but this time we had to skip it because of Covid-19. I dressed up

in ethnic dress called 'kurta'. In the evening, we worshipped Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Ganesh. After that we lit up lots of earthen lamps and candles. Diwali is incomplete without sweets and I had loads of them. My mum made curry for dinner; I missed my cousins, uncle and aunt as every Diwali we get together in the evening for dinner and fireworks.

**Ayaan 5C**





# THIS WEEK



## Anay and Aryan's lockdown Diwali

**This year Diwali** was very different for us, as we did not spend it with our grandparents and cousins. However Mum and Dad still made it special for us. Hindus celebrate Diwali, the Festival of Light to remember the homecoming of Lord Rama and the defeat of Ravana, the demon. It is a celebration of good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.

We decorated our house with colourful rangoli patterns and divas and dressed up in our traditional clothes. This year I made a rangoli pattern with a variety of different coloured lentils and rice.

I was really pleased with how it turned out. My brother, Aryan made a lovely Lord Ganesh picture. During the days leading up to Diwali I helped my Mum make many delicious Indian sweets and snacks to enjoy over the festive time. To light up the dark sky we did fireworks and sparklers, they were mesmerising to watch!

The day after Diwali was the Hindu New Year's day. We spent most of the day on video calls to family living near us and across the globe to wish them a Happy New Year. Although I was just at home it was a really exciting and busy day.

Anay 5M





# Geology Rocks!

**Year 6** have been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to join Geology Club this year with Mrs Walker. The boys have had fun examining different rocks, learning about the formation of our world and using forensic geology to solve crimes.

The past two weeks, however, have certainly been the most fun; using chocolate to learn about the rock cycle and eating it afterwards! Last week the boys learnt how sedimentary rocks were formed in layers, shown by grating different types of chocolate into a container. We then watched this melt

and learnt how heat and pressure turns the sediments into metamorphic rock. As the chocolate melted, we were able to mix the layers of chocolate together and the boys understood that when this molten rock comes out of the ground as lava and cools, it forms igneous rock.

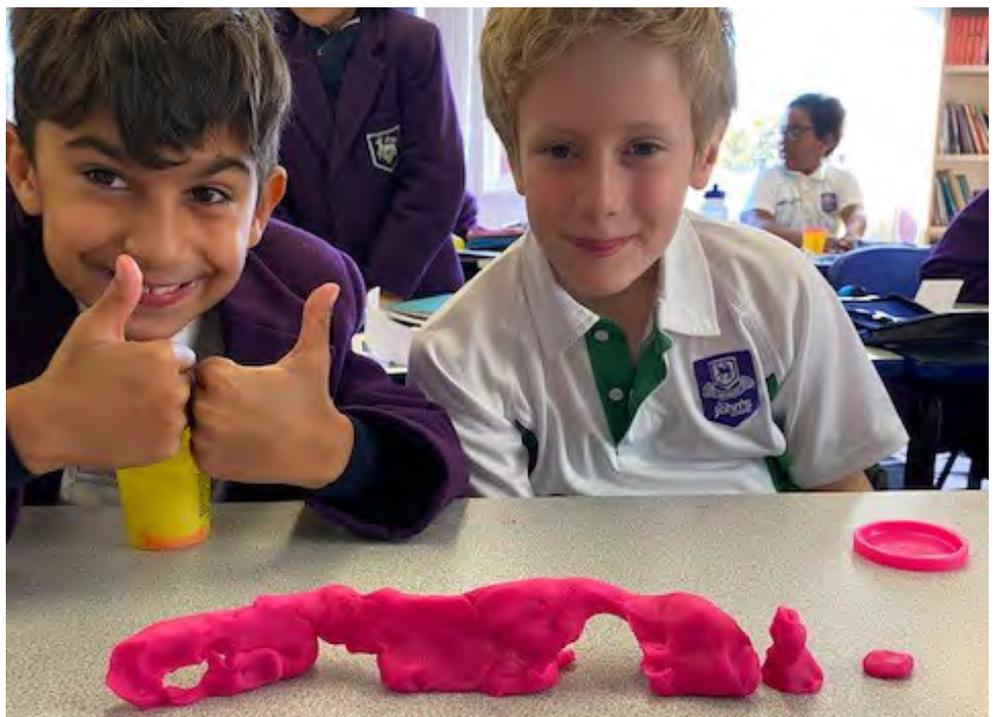
The boys and Mr Robinson were then able to enjoy eating this metamorphic rock in the club this week! Alongside eating chocolate, we looked at different types of fossils and played a fun board game to show the process of fossil formation. Well done to all the boys for their active participation in our club.





# Learning about erosion with playdough

**Last week in** Geography, Year 5 learnt all about the formation of caves, arches, stacks and stumps. After an interesting lesson where the boys watched videos on this topic and read about the hydraulic action of the waves, boys paired up and each received a pot of playdough. They had lots of fun creating a cliff and then slowly re-enacting how the cliff erodes away, over millions of years, to create the stacks and stumps that we can see around the coast of the UK. A very enjoyable lesson all round!





## Opening doors in Creative Writing Club

We thought you would enjoy some examples of exquisite descriptive writing from the Year 6 Creative Writing Club. The boys have been discussing the symbolism of doors in literature and how this has influenced everyday language, where we use idioms with doors.

In our first session we discussed phrases such as 'let's leave this door open, in case you change your mind' or 'you never know

what is going on behind closed doors.' We also saw an example of story writing that included a scene with a door.

In the second session, the boys were given various images of doors and they had to plan and describe their chosen door image.

It is always impressive to see how creative and imaginative the boys' writing is.

### The Door of Doom

As I stepped forward, my eyes were caught by a beam of silver light shining down on a door that spoke words of the past and words to a riddle revealing the mystery behind it. It attacked me with its deceiving, hypnotic look. Looking up, the sharp point was a warning to what dangerous things lay inside.

Turning my head to my right, intertwining branches locked themselves together like this was the end. To my left, bendy branches hugged themselves round the door as an act of protection against what was to come. Drooping my head down, a carpet of leaves either side leaving a pathway in-between, was stained with a red tinge like blood.

A tangy, acidic taste invaded my mouth, making me continuously retch. This intensive toxic smell attacked my sinuses, warning me, shouting at me about what was going to happen next.

I stepped forward on one foot, then another, then another until my hand lay a fierce grip on the door handle.

I pushed and pushed as much as I could. A creak, and the door was open... Before I could open my eyes, bang!

**George G 6A**





# More from the Creative Writing Club

## Heavenly Door

Swish! Swish! The leafy green hedges swayed and danced, swayed and danced, swayed and danced in the wind's croaky breath. It blew gently and made the leaves wave elegantly like ballerinas in "Swan Lake". Surrounded the door like it was their duty, they concealed its hidden wonders. Dry crisp ombre autumn leaves were shaded with crimson and amber

colours and were accompanying the avocado green leaves. Creative, colourful plants were like a carpet of festive confetti. Intertwining branches pushed each other like a cheerful crowd who wanted to see who could experience this beautiful scene first. Rich wafts were coming from the flowers, invading my nostrils and flowing through my body.

Tall and proud, the exquisite door gave an air of superiority, as if it was a majestic mountain. My eyes looked at the beautiful

marble door, which was the colour of pure pearlescent white and created a path of exuberance. It exhilarated me with hope. On either side of the door, flowers bloomed here and there, creating a rainbow of hope, waving to each other in the wind's breath. On the flowerbeds, azure blue tulips blossomed and thrived. White flowers peeped out from long strands of green grass. The brick surrounding the door was a musty brown

colour, almost mud-like. Smooth, grey boulders were concealed by the long strands of grass.

The leaves carried on dancing, as the evening was born and the sun said farewell to the clouds that were carried away by the trees to the horizon.

In the distance, the light was shining before my eyes. Ragged and mud-like, the trail was leading me to a new world. Beside the door, there were very dark windows hiding deceptively from the world. The stony path glowed as the sun set on it and led me to the door, whilst the leaves bowed down to me. White pale, the guiding light magnetised me close enough to touch the door. As I nonchalantly strolled up to paradise, happiness filled me.

I had reached the door and I was elated. I outstretched my hand to open this exquisitely bright

door, which was sleeping with tranquility and was groggily waking up. I saw an amazing site that seduced me with its wonders. It made me feel as though I had been filled with glory. An enchantment of happiness invaded me as I walked through this heavenly door.

I entered, and I saw something beautiful...

**Jamie 6M, Kian D 6A, Kush 6V**



# PRE-PREP



## Hearts full of love in the Pre-Prep

As part of Anti-Bullying Week the boys and teachers in the Pre-Prep all came to school wearing odd socks. This was to celebrate what makes us unique and different. Across the week and specifically in circle time we have discussed what makes a

good friend.

The boys have realised that being a good friend does not cost any money but being kind and a compliment here and there can really make someone's heart fill with love.



## A slimy week in the Lambs



**The Lambs have** been learning about touch and enjoyed feeling lots of different textures. We learnt different describing words, hard, soft, squidy, smooth, slimy, stretchy, silky and many more.



# PRE-PREP



## Up, up and away!

As part of our topic about 'Famous People', Year 1 have been learning about two French brothers called Joseph and Étienne Montgolfier. The Otters and Owls were fascinated to learn about how the Montgolfier brothers worked together and persevered, posing many questions, as they invented the hot air balloon way back in 1783.

In our Art lesson, the boys made their own hot air balloons and enjoyed putting pictures of a sheep, duck and cockerel into each of their baskets underneath the balloons. These animals were sent up into the sky first, as a test, before risking taking people as passengers.

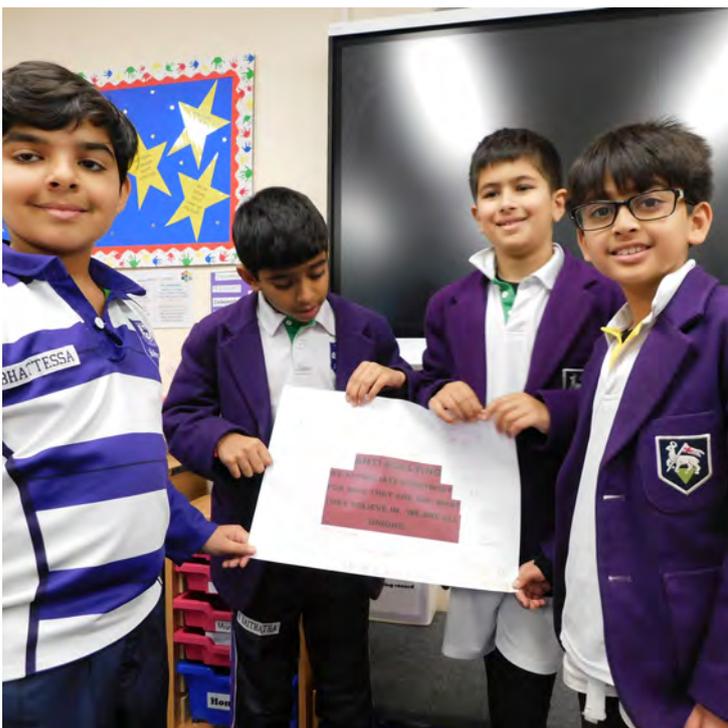
Up, up and away!





## Anti-Bullying week in the Juniors

Year 4 have all signed their Anti-Bullying poster which says: *We appreciate everybody for who they are and what they believe in. We are all unique.* This poster will be kept in the classrooms as a reminder for the boys. We spoke about how everybody is valuable. "Don't measure how valuable you are by the way you are treated," said the horse. Year 5 designed individual socks and all signed their Anti-Bullying poster.





## The Science of teeth in Year 4

**Year 4** have been learning all about teeth in Science. We've looked at the incisors on lions, the molars on elephants and even stared at ourselves in the mirror. As a little light relief at the end of the day everyone made their own set of Dracula fangs to help the boys remember what an incisor is and does. Some of the photos were really quite alarming. When asked what she thought, Miss Morgan announced they all looked fangtastic! No wonder she is Head of Lower School.





# Autumn leaves in Year 3

1. Year 3 have been printing leaf pictures this week. 2. Eliot in 3H with his leaf print. 3. Dev in 3W has enjoyed creating his print. 4. Dylann in 3W with his leaf print. 5. This standing cat was made by Cato in 4S, during Junior Art Club.

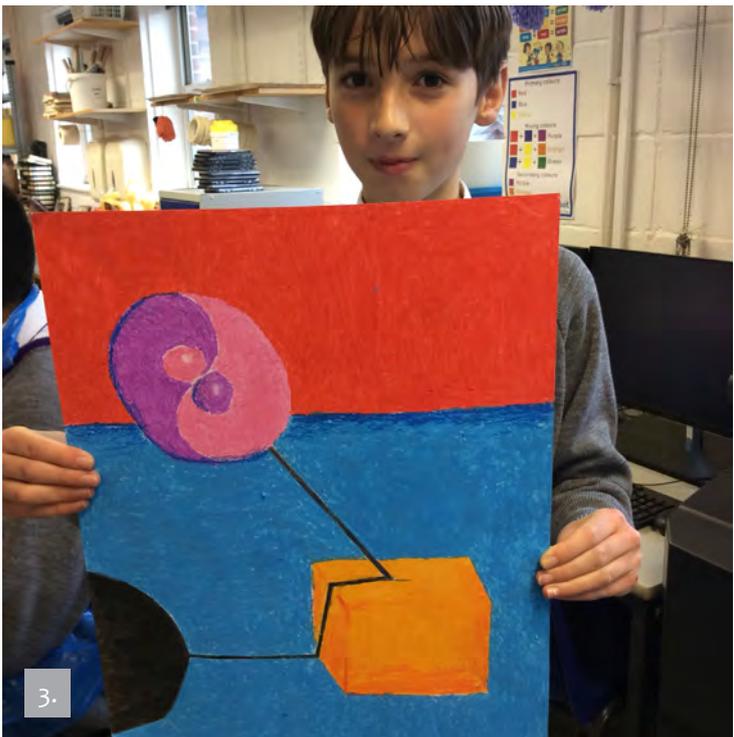




# Good enough to eat

These boys in Year 8 have completed their oil pastel food drawings.

1. Jaidev in 8L, 2. Rodrigo in 8L, 3. Edward in 8L, 4. Sam in 8L





## Cricket Club gets in the nets

The **cricket nets** have been busy since the return from half term with Years 5, 6, 7 & 8 all having their cricket clubs in the new Centenary Sports Hall. This new facility has allowed us to run these sessions onsite throughout the winter instead of hiring external nets, maximising training time for the boys. In addition to the Sports Hall, the new sport specific monitor on

wheels has been used recently to analyse the bowling technique of the boys instantly, giving quick visual feedback to further their bowling actions. Not only have we been able to use the indoor nets, but the space to the side is perfect for small sided batting games and lots of fielding practice to keep fitness levels and fielding skills primed ready for the summer term.





# More bowling analysis



# OUTLOOK



St John's Association  
invite you to attend their

## **VIRTUAL** **CHRISTMAS** **PARTY**

An interactive  
Panto with Magic  
and afterwards  
games, music  
and dancing!



**Saturday 5th December**

£5 per child

**Lambs & Reception party at 1pm**  
**Year 1 & Year 2 party at 2pm**  
**Year 3 & Year 4 party at 3pm**

Please email below with your child's name if they would like to attend or for further information

Lambs: [sjaxmaslambs@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmaslambs@gmail.com)

Reception: [sjaxmasreception@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasreception@gmail.com)

Year 1: [sjaxmasyr1@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr1@gmail.com)

Year 2: [sjaxmasyr2@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr2@gmail.com)

Year 3: [sjaxmasyr3@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr3@gmail.com)

Year 4: [sjaxmasyr4@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr4@gmail.com)

St John's Association  
invite you to attend their

## **VIRTUAL** **CHRISTMAS** **PARTY**

£5 per child

1 hour of interactive  
**Street Magic Show**  
plus magic workshop



**Sat 5th Dec**

**Year 5 & Year 6**  
**party at 3pm**  
**Year 7 & year 8**  
**party at 4pm**

Please email below with your child's name if they would like to attend or for further information

Year 5: [sjaxmasyr5@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr5@gmail.com)

Year 6: [sjaxmasyr6@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr6@gmail.com)

Year 7: [sjaxmasyr7@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr7@gmail.com)

Year 8: [sjaxmasyr8@gmail.com](mailto:sjaxmasyr8@gmail.com)

# OUTLOOK



MERCHANT TAYLORS' COMPANY

HAMPERS PACKED WITH HISTORY  
BRINGING THE MAGIC OF MERCHANT TAYLORS' AT CHRISTMAS TO YOU

There is something for everyone with our range of six Christmas hampers and gift boxes, all of which can be delivered straight to the door of a loved one.

Items may include wines selected by our Company Butler, deli produce that champions the best of British ingredients, coffees and teas from artisanal suppliers in addition to the quintessential Merchant Taylors' preserves and festive treats, which includes the homemade Merchant Taylors' Christmas pudding



Place your order here: <https://www.merchant-taylors.co.uk/hampers>  
For all enquiries please email the events team: [events@mtaylorsevents.co.uk](mailto:events@mtaylorsevents.co.uk)  
Limited availability whilst stocks last, and standard delivery charges apply

# OUTLOOK



## SuperCamps

NORTHWOOD COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

### WINTER

Join us on camp this Winter season as we celebrate the splendour and excitement of our "Winter Wonderland" Camps. With a brilliant selection of winter sports, team-building games and festive crafts to inspire and excite, children can look forward to themed activities such as "present dash", "bouncing baubles" and "snowball slam". Our partnership challenges from The LEGO® Group are back, with chances to win some SUPER LEGO® prizes.

**14th - 24th December\***



Ages 4-12 years - Childcare Vouchers Accepted - Ofsted Registered - COVID-Secure

[www.supercamps.co.uk](http://www.supercamps.co.uk)

CAMPS OPEN: 8AM-6PM

## Childrens' Christmas Wish-list



It is sad to think that many children will be going without toys this Christmas but we can help with a donation to Childrens' Christmas Wish-list. Every year they take in donations of new toys and distribute them to local homes, childrens' care homes, womens' centres, Harrow CAMHS and local childrens' hospital wards.

This year we are supporting this wonderful charity with a collection point at St John's. The toys should be brand new and for either girls or boys. You do not need to wrap the gifts as this will be done by the homes of the receivers.

If you are able, please send in your donation with your son who can hand it to one of the Year 8 boys when he arrives at school. Many thanks in advance for your generous gift - you'll be making someone's Christmas.

# OUTLOOK



## Calendar & important dates Contact details

**Wednesday 25th November:** Year 6 Mock Examinations

**Friday 27th November:** Reception to Year 7 Nasal Flu Vaccinations

**Thursday 26th and Friday 27th November:**

Year 8 Mock Examinations

### NEW CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

Why not test your knowledge of what has been happening in the news with your family this weekend... If you click the link below you will find 20 questions on a Google slides presentation to discuss and answer

[Link to the quiz](#)

Please use the link below to fill your answers in on a Google form.

[Submit your answers here](#)

We hope you enjoy the Quiz.

**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

**GI Questionnaire:** Further to Mr Russo's email regarding the school survey, please see the different livelinks below for your convenience:

[Link to parent preview survey](#)

[Link to parent live survey](#)

Parent Password: SJS12359PA

**Year 6 December English Clinic:** If you are interested in attending the English Clinic in December, please make sure you give your signed slip to your English teacher by 26th November. Year 6 parents have already received an e-mail and letter containing all the information about dates and times.

**Maths Clubs:** Mr Bleakley and Mr Colgate will be running a Maths clinic every Monday after school from 16.00 to 17.00 for boys in Year 6. Please ask your son to let their Maths teacher know if they would like to attend or email Mr Bleakley directly: [RBleakley@st-johns.org.uk](mailto:RBleakley@st-johns.org.uk)

**Year 6 & Year 8 Mock Examinations:** These examinations will take place next week in the Norman Hall. Year 6 on Wednesday 25th November; Year 8 on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th November. Parents have been sent the timetable by e-mail and the boys have been given their own copies. Good Luck boys!

**St John's Association foodbank appeal:** This year more people than ever are relying on foodbanks this Christmas and we would love you to help us to help them. If you are able, please send in a donation of long life dry goods, stationery or cosmetics asking your son to hand it to a Year 8 boy when they arrive at school. Cutoff is Wednesday 10th December. Goods will be delivered to Hillingdon Foodbank before the end of term. Many thanks for your generosity.

**Votes for Schools.** Last week's question was "Is it important to fit in at school?"

46.7% said yes and 53.3% said no. Next week's question is: "Would you want to be a politician?" Please discuss over the weekend. Click the photo to view the slides.



**House Points:** Totals so far Lincoln 35.21, Lawrence 34.16. Churchill 32.82, Oates 29.36

Have a relaxing weekend