



From the  
Headmaster

**I was delighted** to see everyone at the Moor Park Fun Run at Merchant Taylors' School last Sunday. Many congratulations to all boys, parents and staff for supporting this event and raising money for the Mount Vernon Cancer centre. Winning the schools trophy was the icing on the cake!

This week we have enjoyed our first House meetings for almost two years, welcoming the youngest boys and the new staff to each team. I was delighted to announce the House Prefects for this year. You can meet them on page 2.

In other news, members of the Eco Club presented a fascinating assembly on how we can try to reduce plastic waste at school. They are providing a plant for each class to look after in their classroom. Year 4 have been investigating bugs, the boys were very excited to examine the specimens and classify them accordingly. Not only did many of the Pre-Prep run at Moor Park, they also raised over £500 by wearing their jeans on Jeans for Genes day last Friday. Very well done boys.

In sport the senior teams competed well against Davenies and the Colts Squad experienced playing under lights at the Stonex Stadium, home of Saracens.

Many thanks to the St John's Association for organising a very successful Macmillan coffee morning at school this morning and thank you for your support.

I wish you all a peaceful first weekend of autumn.

*S. Robinson*

## Moor Park Fun Run Success

**This year marked** the 20th anniversary of the Moor Park Fun Runs which raise money for the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre, the support and information service at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. We were delighted to win the schools trophy in this special year. A fantastic effort from everyone. Thank you to all parents for encouraging your boys to take part. We were very proud to raise the shield. There were many brilliant individual performances. Vivek in 6A won the U12 Boys race and Reuben in the Badgers won the U7 Boys race. Bailey in Year 6, Darwin in Year 8 and Old Boy Sam also ran extremely well. Well done to every single boy, parent and teacher who took part. You should be very proud of your achievements.







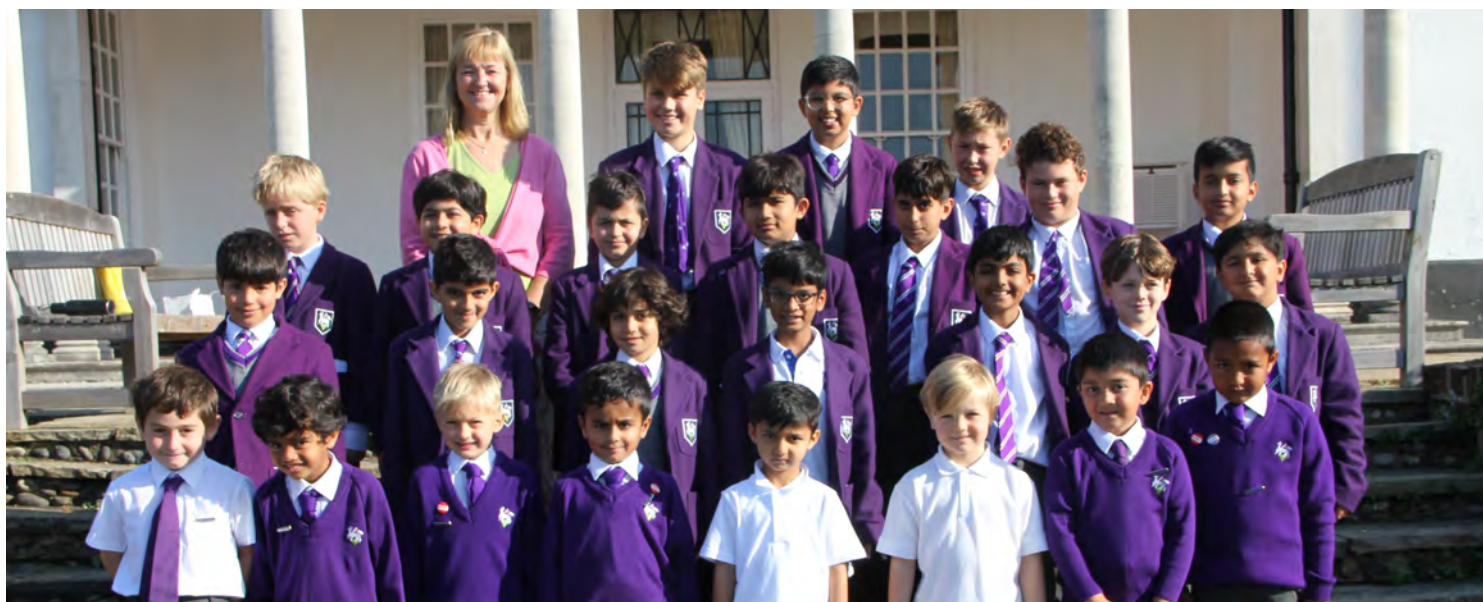
## Meet our new House Prefects

**Mr Robinson** was delighted to present ties to eight boys in Year 8 who have been chosen to be House prefects. They will assist our Head and Deputy Head boys with their duties and lead their respective Houses in all activities and events. Congratulations to them all. Representing Churchill, Aaron and Daniel; Lawrence, Aryan and Michael; Lincoln, Anek and Vihaan; Oates, Yash and Ansh A.



## A first meeting for our School Council

**On Wednesday** our newly elected School Council held its inaugural meeting in the Library. Year 8 members kindly collected the younger boys from the Pre-Prep and we discussed all the items on the agenda. There were many excellent suggestions for ways to enhance the School such as charity car washes, ways of making even more use of the Centenary Sports Hall and even a request for Sushi at lunchtime! Every boy listened and behaved respectfully as other boys took to the floor and Mrs Marshall took detailed minutes which are available to look at outside the dining hall. A super start to the School Council year.







# Place2B – Improving Childrens’ Mental Health

**We have chosen** Place2Be as our School charity this year. Place2Be is the UK’s leading school-based childrens’ mental health charity and has over twenty-five years of experience working with pupils, families and staff.

Last Friday, Jessica Brain came to our assembly to talk about the charity. She explained that our mental health is similar to our physical health, but instead of our bodies we are looking after our minds. She explained that it is really important to look after our mental health because good mental health helps

us learn and enjoy life and make good relationships. She said that our minds are like umbrellas, they only work when they are open and we should stay connected to our minds and feelings.

Jessica taught us all a tool to use if we are feeling upset, anxious or not quite ourselves which helps get air to our brains and calms us down. She is looking forward to supporting our fund-raising activities through the year and thanked us for choosing Place2Be.







## The first House meetings for almost two years

We **were all** very excited to meet up in our Houses this week, to welcome both the Year 3 boys and the Year 4 boys in person and to get to know the Year 8 House prefects and new staff. We discussed our House values and ambitions. We are all looking forward to the year ahead in our Houses.



Churchill house meeting



Churchill prefects and staff







## House meetings continued...



Lawrence house meeting







# House meetings continued...







# House meetings continued...







## Travelling Book Fair comes to St John's

**All the boys** from Pre-Prep to Year 8 have had the opportunity to visit the Book Fair this week and both libraries have been full of excited boys selecting new books to read. We were delighted to raise £570 for the English Department and the School Library. It is exciting to see so many boys enjoying their reading. Thank you for all your support.



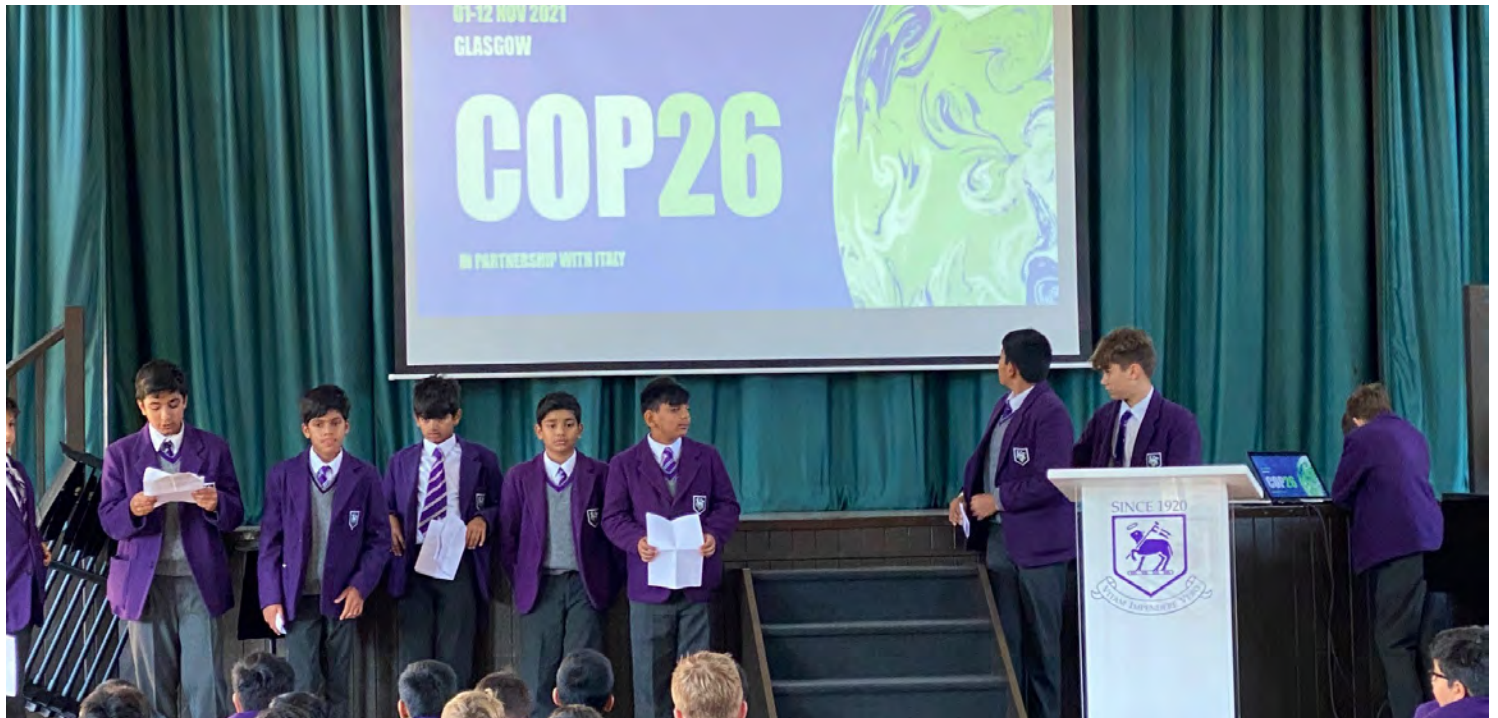




## Eco Club working towards a Green Flag Award

**This week** Eco Club presented an assembly on plastic pollution. Ali, Rahul, Ansh A, Albert, Daanish, Ansh R, Abbas and Kabir would like to ban disposable plastic packaging on morning break snacks. The boys highlighted the harm caused to wildlife in the oceans when this waste ends up in the sea. It takes hundreds of years to break down. They challenged all the boys to bring their snacks in reusable containers. The boys told us to look out for the green logo (below) on packaging which means that it is recyclable.

They also explained COP26. COP stands for Conference of the Parties. The convention is a meeting of all the world governments to try to protect the earth from climate change. Scientists and Environmentalist believe that large changes in the way we heat our homes and travel must be agreed, otherwise in the future, the planet will become too hot for us to live on. The 2021 meeting will be the 26th meeting, which is why it's called COP26.







## Mountain Biking Club

**The club managed** to get its first proper cycle away from the School this week and tried out some of the off-road trails in South Oxhey woods. The boys had great fun, speeding through the trees. We even made a up a few jumps of our own. We look forward to having more people coming to the club when hockey trials are over.







## Macmillan coffee morning

**This morning we** hosted a coffee morning in support of Macmillan. It was wonderful to be able to welcome everyone to school again to meet old acquaintances and make new friends. We are very grateful to the St John's Association for all their hard work in organising this event. The cakes were a delicious treat and there was plenty of piping hot tea and coffee. It was good to raise money to help Macmillan Cancer Support do whatever it takes for people living with cancer. Thank you for all your kind donations. Between cash and online donations, we have raised £904.50 so far which is amazing.



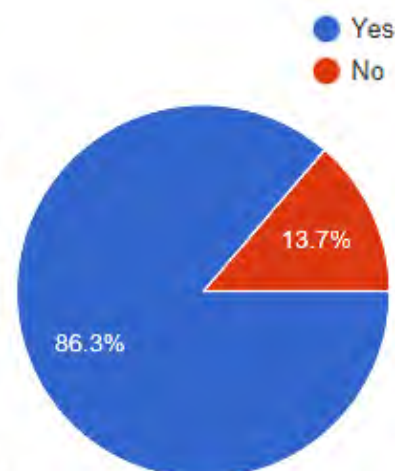


## Votes for Schools climate change and refugees

### Results



An overwhelming amount of you this week voted that Climate Change has a huge affect on children's rights. It was great to see you reflect on the specific rights which are affected. Our Eco Assembly this week helped us to understand what COP 26 is all about.



YES climate change will effect children's rights because the quality of air we breath will be more polluted and this will effect our health. There will be a shortage of food and drinking water, this will cause starvation and higher prices. Floods and forest fires will mean we lose our homes and animals will lose their habitats. Hugo, Year 4

I think that climate change will affect children's rights. As COP26 approaches, most people involved are older people. However, older people and adults are not the only ones passionate about the planet; children like Greta Thunberg and many others do too. Joshua, Year 6

### Next week's question



Be informed.



Be curious.



Be heard.



### Vocab

**Humanitarian crisis:**  
Things happening **that threaten the health and safety** of a group of people.





# Messy learning in the Lambs

**The Lambs have** been using their hands to feel different textures. They have used lots of describing words. Sticky, soft, hard, squidgy, slimy, sticky, fluffy.....







## Raising money in the Pre-Prep

**Last Friday the** Pre-Prep boys and staff came to school wearing their jeans. They were raising money for the charity Jeans for Genes - Genetic Disorder UK. The monies raised will go to help children with genetic disorders around the world. The boys learnt that it is their genes that make them different and who they are. The Pre-Prep raised £537. A big 'Thank you' for your generous contributions.







# Something is bugging Year 4

No **one** should ever tell a small boy to show more backbone but it was perhaps excusable in Year 4 this week when we studied different types of invertebrates. The boys were very excited to examine a series of insects, spiders, crustaceans and myriapods and classify them accordingly. Both classes worked

with great enthusiasm using precise scientific language. Comment of the week came from one small chap who worked out that a gastropod slithered on its stomach. Gastropod sounds like gastropub he said and that's where you fill your tummy.....

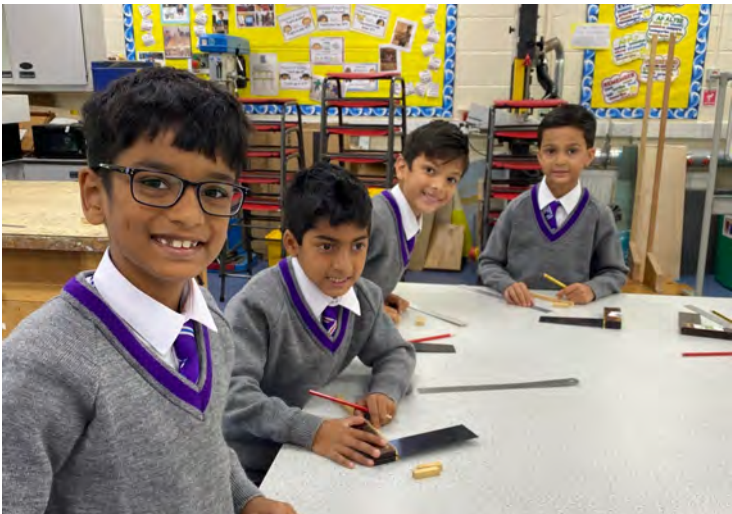






# First days in the D&T workshop for Year 3

**Year 3** took another big step into the main school this week with a first visit to the D&T studio where they learned use some tools.







# Inspirational ideas in Art

1. Boys in Art Club have been painting autumn trees 2. Alexander in 4L is painting an abstract cityscape 3. Dhruv in 3L has finished his kaleidoscope pattern 4. Aarush in 5W-S has been learning about Gustav Klimt. 5. Shrey in 5M has enjoyed creating his self-portrait.







# PHOTO 2021 GRAPHY

## C O M P E T I T I O N

Entries are now welcome from pupils and staff across the school for the Merchant Taylors' Company Photography Competition. This year's theme is **POWER** and photographs should be accompanied by a title and, if you wish, a short description (of 12 words maximum).

Our school's selected photographs will be exhibited at Merchant Taylors' Hall in the City of London in December and early next year, with cash prizes awarded to the winners and runners-up in each category of Junior (Years 1-8), Senior (Years 9-13) and Staff.

For further information and to submit your entries – by **Friday 15th October 2021** – please contact

**Ms Gillen**

**All entries should be emailed to Ms Gillen by Wednesday 13th October**

**[ggillen@st-johns.org.uk](mailto:ggillen@st-johns.org.uk)**







## Gathering momentum

**This week we** have been delighted to see so many boys at their second ensemble rehearsal of the school year. It is a joy to be able to play and sing again together and we are lucky to have so many ensembles here at St John's. Boys in our groups have enjoyed discussing pieces that could be used for future performances.

Our Senior Choir has grown in size, with a large number of boys in Years 5 to 8 opting to take part in the sessions. It has

been excellent to hear a buzz about this group from the boys, with many of them recommending songs for the choir to sing. This will make good use of keen voices!

A particular highlight of the week has been listening to the boys in Year 3 who are part of Mr Trisk's taster drum group. They have enjoyed exploring the different parts of the drum kit and performing a variety of different rhythms together as an ensemble.







## Moor Park Fun Run report

**It was wonderful** to be back at the Moor Park Fun Run and see so many people taking part in the various age group races. With the U15s, U12s, U10s, U7s, 10km walk and the 10k run so many pupils, parents and staff had the chance to take part in an event. The weather was dry, with a light wind, perfect for running. The event raises money for the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre, the support and information service at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre and what a worthy cause that is.

The U15s started and one of our old boys Sam P came in 3rd in the 3.6km race in a very good time of 00:17:47. Darwin did very well in coming 10th place in the same race with 00:19:43.

Well done to all the St John's boys who entered this race.

The U12s boys followed and we had so many runners representing St John's in this race. It was fantastic to see such a marvellous turn out. All the pupils ran well but we had some excellent performances in the top ten places. Vivek ran superbly to come first, running strongly to win in the last 100 metres. He was followed by a number of St John's pupils who came in close behind him.

U12s Boys: 1st - Vivek 00:10:53, 4th - Bailey 00:11:26, 6th - Emerson 00:12:58, 7th - George 00:13:02, 8th - Rafi -00:13:08, 9th - Alex 00:13:10







# Moor Park Fun Run report continued...

Again, huge numbers of St John's pupils took part in the Under 10s age group race. A few boys finished in the top ten places with many others finishing strongly. Well, done to all those who took part in this race.

7th - Luca 00:05:58, 8th - Teddy 00:05:58,  
At the start of the Under 7s race, it seemed as if every runner was from St John's. A fantastic sight to see. The race started and Reuben flew into the lead, followed by many other pupils from St John's. Reuben powered his way to the finish and won it by some margin. All the other pupils ran well and finished well.

1st - Reuben 00:04:33, 5th - Joshua 00:04:58,

6th - Leo 00:05:08, 7th - Sam 00:05:10, 9th - Zavi - 00:05:18

Before the 10 km walk and the 10km race. The school shield results were added up and St John's won the shield which was a fabulous achievement, especially in Mr Robinson's final year. A 10km walk was a new addition to this event and many parents too part. Well, done to all those who finished. The final race was 10km and Mr Kruger performed very well coming 4th in 00:40:48. One of our old boys, Joseph, came 16th in 00:44:47 which was a tremendous effort. Well, done to Mr Smith, Mrs Marsden, and Mrs Luke for taking part in this race.











## Colts A Haileybury Rugby Festival @ Saracens

What a privilege and opportunity to take the Colts A team on their fixture outing to none other than the home ground for Saracens, the StoneX Stadium. We enjoyed a beautiful sunset, with perfect conditions for rugby. The squad faced five strong rugby schools and the expectation was that this would be a proper test to see where we are at the start of the season. The boys stepped up to the occasion in brilliant fashion, trying at times to play a game of attacking and running rugby. The commitment in defence was top rate and they did themselves proud in this area. They scored a total of seven tries in their five matches and this could easily have been more, promising signs.

Well done to the vice-captain Leo B who managed to find the try line on four occasions. Clear targets set for going forwards and we look forward to working on these. Well done to the boys, parents and teachers for all the support on the evening. We enjoyed it!

V Clare's Court (Leo B & Bailey)

V The Beacon (Leo B & Daanish)

V Hertford

V Oratory (Bailey)

V Caldicott (Leo B x 2)







# Football League is Back!

The long-awaited return of the Year 5&6 Breaktime Charity Football League is finally upon us. The boys had been eager to sign up their teams since before the term had even started and were even more enthusiastic about getting onto the court for their first fixtures and even practising in their teams during their lunch breaks. This term we have 56 boys registered, over ten teams, with space for more to enter. By the end of term, one of these teams will be crowned Autumn Term Champions

2021, along with individual players receiving both the Golden Boot and Golden Glove awards.

Similarly, to last year, we are encouraging boys from Years 5&6 to come and spectate every fixture in the Centenary Sports Hall, there will be a donation tin at every match for boys to donate to our School Charity this term (Place2Be). This is not compulsory in order to spectate, but any money raised is a benefit for this great cause.







## U12 and U13 vs Davenies 22nd September

**U12A** 8-3 to Davenies, a result they deserved. We turned our heads on in the second half, but it was already 5-1 to Davenies. In the first half we could have gone into the rucks quicker and been more aggressive overall. The try scorers were George G, Nishant and Rafi. We linked up well with each other and had good support runners when we had the ball. Some good tackles were made by Jimi, Satyen and Ahaan who was moved up to the As at halftime. In the second half we were quicker into the rucks, especially Nishant. Moving forward we feel we can improve our tackling and by not letting them step us easily. We also need to work on the scrums because they turned over the ball from them a lot.

Man of the Match: Rafi for tackling well, running well and being in the mix of it.

Match report by Captain Archie and Satyen



**U12B**, won 11-1. We started off strongly with Krish, Ahaan and Roshan all scoring in the first 10 minutes. We fought hard and managed to keep our work rate up and score tries throughout the game. At times we left holes in our defences but managed to prevent Davenies from scoring through some great cover defence. Tactically we kicked well into space with Ahaan launching a spiral into the opposition 22, and Rehaan punting the ball a full length of the pitch, stopping just before the Davenies line to get us out of a tricky situation. With ball in hand, we scored some phenomenal tries, passing down the line and going with the flow of the ball. In the end the score was 11 tries to 1 but it could have been more if we had executed our 5 disallowed tries for forward passes. For next week we need to continue to start deeper in attack to convert these missed chances. A great team performance boys, well done!

Man of the match: Krish for his phenomenal work rate in attack and defence, and a hat-trick of tries. Try scorers: Kabir -3, Ahaan -1, Rehaan -1, Abdullah -1, Krish -3, Mihir -1, Roshan -1





**U13A** We played against a very skilful team. We started very impressively in the first half, keeping their big ball carriers at bay. Our attacking structure was kept very quiet due to Davenies defensive line speed which stopped any of our threats, making it very hard for us to get over the gain line. The boys didn't give up and kept pressing on and carrying hard. Defensively we worked hard and eliminated a lot of their threats with great teamwork within our 5-metre line. We put our bodies on the line and built the pressure for Davenies which was great to see.

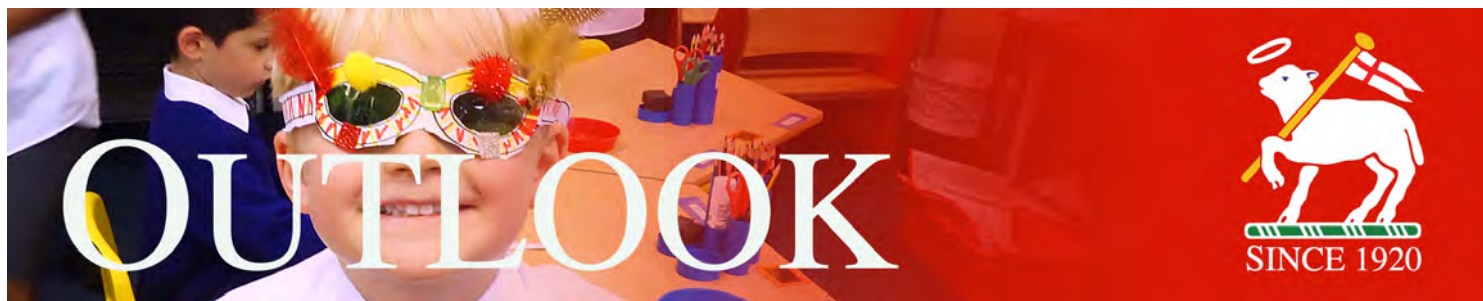
Try Scorers: Jacob x2



On another lovely day for running rugby, the **U13B** team played a game of touch rugby against Davenies. Both teams showed fantastic handling skills and some great moves were put together. Unfortunately, Davenies had the better of the game, making ground far more easily and scoring some very good tries. St John's hit back at the end of the first half with a try of their own but handling errors and situational mistakes cost the team more tries. Final score was 8-1 to Davenies, but again the team should be commended for their endeavour and improvement throughout the game.

Man of the match was Vihaan with special mentions to Darwin and Ansh.





# Bike to School Week 2021

27 September – 1 October

- ✓ **Be active** and feel more energised
- ✓ **Help the environment** by replacing a car journey
- ✓ **Improve local air quality** and reduce congestion



Let Sustrans know your family is **cycling or scooting to school** to be in with the chance of **winning a Frog bike**.

Visit [www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge)



**#BikeToSchoolWeek**

[www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek)

Registered charity no. 326550 (England and Wales) SC039263 (Scotland). Competition T&Cs apply: [www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge)







## Calendar & important dates Contact details

**Tuesday 28th September:** Year 7 Information Evening (6.30pm)

**Wednesday 29th September:** Open Morning for Prospective Parents (9.15 am)

Rugby v St John's Beaumont and Oratory: U13 A (a) (2.15pm)

Rugby v St John's Beaumont: U12 A, B (h) (2.15pm)

**Thursday 30th September:** Individual Photographs (Years 3-8)

**Friday 1st October:** Pre-Prep Individual and Sibling Photographs

Rugby v Merchant Taylors' Prep: Colts A, B (a) U10 A, B (h) (2.30pm)



***Photo of the week:** You've been framed. Cycling club took a break from their off-road ride to turn themselves into a work of art.*

**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 @stjohnsnorthwood 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

**Open Morning:** We are delighted to welcome prospective parents to the School on Wednesday 29th September. Please invite any friends or family who are considering sending their son here. It is a great opportunity to see the School in action.

**Individual Photographs:** school photographs of boys in Years 3 to 8 will be taken on Thursday 30th September. Pre-Prep and sibling photos will be taken on Friday 1st Oct.

**Drama for Years 5 & 7:** Mr Russo is producing a comedy with the working title of - "A Roman Farce" for Arts Evening in November. It promises to be a lot of fun. All boys in Years 5 and 7 have been invited to audition in the Norman Hall on Thursday, at 13.30 or from 16.00 to 17.15. Rehearsals will take place on Thursday lunchtime and after school. Find out more from Mr Russo or just come and audition.

**MTS photography competition 2021:** The theme this year is Power. See the poster on page 17. The boys have been told about the competition in their Art lesson. If you would like to enter, email your photo to Ms Gillen by Wed 13th Oct.

**Uniform sale:** There will be a sale of nearly-new uniform in the Norman Hall on Fri 1st Oct 2.00-4.30pm.

**Jeans for Genes:** Thank you to all Pre-Prep boys for wearing jeans and donating to this worthy cause. We raised £537.00.

**Moor Park Fun Run:** Thank you to all the boys, staff and parents who ran and to all the supporters. So far we have raised an amazing £2,600 for the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. To donate go to the [Fun Run Just Giving Page](#)

**Macmillan Coffee Morning:** Thanks to everyone who attended this morning. It was great to see so many old friends. You can donate here: [Macmillan Coffee Morning](#)

**Bike to School Week next week:** If you are interested in joining the Bike to School community, the information is on p27. There is secure bike storage at school for anyone who would like to take part.

**Place2Be webinar Thur 30th Sept 10.00-11.00am:** teachers and parents are invited to attend a mental health webinar, focusing on Building Secure Attachments with Children. Please click [here](#) to register for the event.

**House Points:** 1st Lincoln 7.65 2nd Churchill 7.33, 3rd Lawrence 7.15, 2.13, 4th Oates 6.77