



From the Headmaster

This morning we had the pleasure of welcoming Mrs Geddes back to the Pre-Prep to judge the annual Poetry Competition. The finalists all performed their poems with clear and expressive speaking voices and it was a pleasure to listen to them all.

Matt Charlton, a representative from Place2Be gave the boys an insight into the purpose and importance of our Charity. Some of our Year 1 boys completed a charity run for Place2Be last weekend. You can read about it on page 3.

Mrs Savage presented an excellent assembly on Internet Safety, exploring the theme of respect and relationships online, whilst 5C presented a fascinating assembly on Wednesday about their hobbies and interests, a particularly relevant subject in Children's Mental Health week.

It was good to see the Year 8 boys heading out onto the open road on their bikes this week. We hope this training will have inspired them to travel on two wheels more regularly.

We were delighted to host the Inter-School D&T Challenge. Many thanks to Mrs McSween for the inspirational day which was much enjoyed by all the participating schools, you can read more on page 7. I had an amazing day in Bath last weekend watching the U13A hockey team on tour. You can read an excellent report about it on page 22.

I hope all the St John's families have a restful half term break.



Pre-Prep Poetry Competition

This morning the Pre-Prep held their annual Poetry Competition. Every boy learnt a poem for the competition, with subject matter ranging from spiders to teachers. The preliminary rounds were very difficult to judge, but eventually three boys from each class were put forward to recite their poem in the final. Mrs Geddes, who we all know well, was faced with the difficult task of choosing the class winners and eventually the overall winner of the competition. Each boy recited his poem clearly and confidently. After much thought, Mrs Geddes announced that Maahir in the Otters was the Pre-Prep Poetry Competition winner 2022. Well done to all the boys who learnt their poems so well.





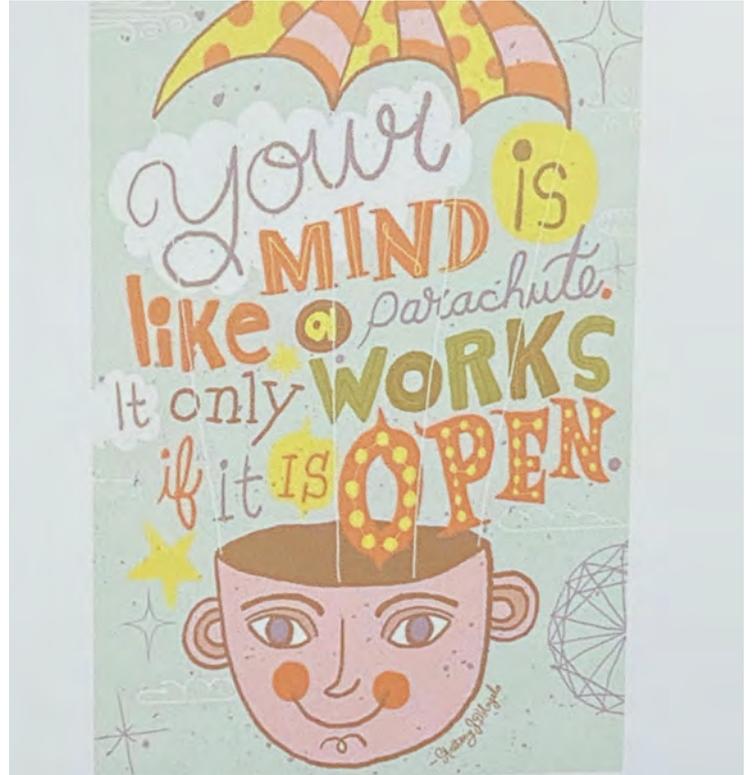
Pre-Prep Poetry Competition cont...





Finding out more about Place2Be

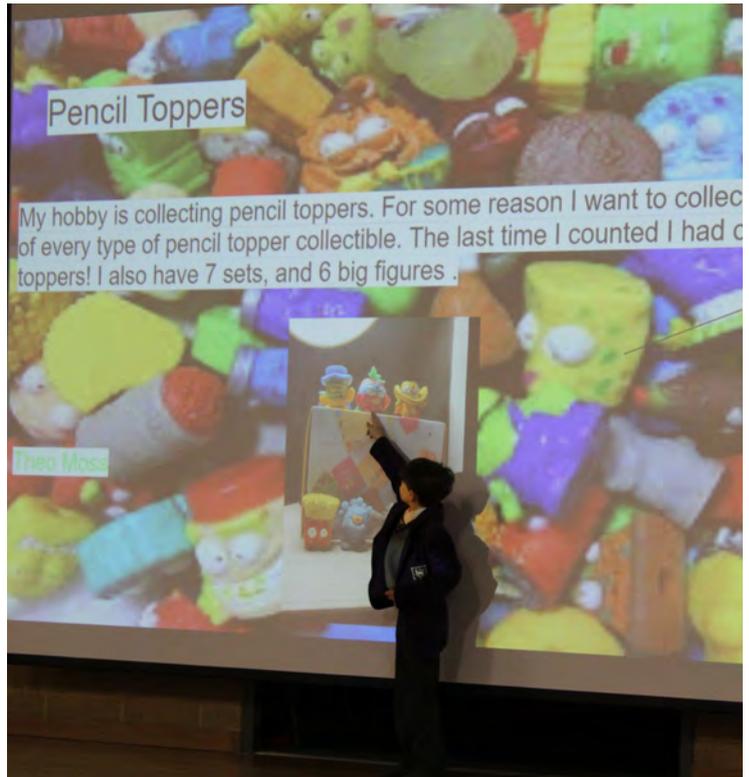
It was really lovely to welcome Matt Charlton from Place2Be to our assembly this morning. He spoke to us about how our charity donations would be spent helping young people with their mental health and also about how our minds are always growing, like a tree.





Hobbies and Interests Assembly by 5C

On Wednesday 9th February, 5C presented an assembly on 'Hobbies and Interests', which tied in with this week's theme of Children's Mental Health. We all know that having interests is particularly good for our mental wellbeing and the boys in 5C showed that they have an incredibly diverse range of activities that they enjoy in their spare time. They all spoke extremely clearly and with great confidence about these activities and they produced a lovely slide show, including YouTube clips, to accompany the presentation. Very well done to all of 5C for their hard work in putting this assembly together.





Year 8 Bikeability

This week's Year 8 Bikeability cycle training course was a huge success. Carried out by Hillingdon council-trained instructors, it is for students to achieve level 1 and 2 proficiencies.

The St John's bike shed was choc-a-block with all types of bikes during the week (so much so, the staff had to find alternative bike parking arrangements) nevertheless, it was pleasing to see, much better environmentally, compared to a full car park! We hope the experience the boys enjoyed this week, will encourage them to use their bikes more regularly both now and in the future. Many congratulations to all the boys who passed and enjoyed this commendable course. For more information about the course please visit <https://www.bikeability.org.uk/about-cycle-training/cycle-training-for-schools/>





Safer Internet Day

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day across the country and we joined with thousands of other children to explore the theme of respect and relationships online. The boys voted on whether different text and WhatsApp messages should or should not be sent and why and we discussed the need to respect each other online as well as face to face. The boys were totally engaged throughout and hopefully learnt more about the wonders of the Internet as well as how to treat their peers online.

Tuesday 8th February 2022

#PlayYourPart in creating a better internet

ALL FUN AND GAMES?

Exploring respect and relationships online

saferinternetday.org.uk

Safer Internet Day 2022 UK Safer Internet Centre ALL FUN AND GAMES? Exploring respect and relationships online #SaferInternetDay saferinternetday.org.uk #PlayYourPart

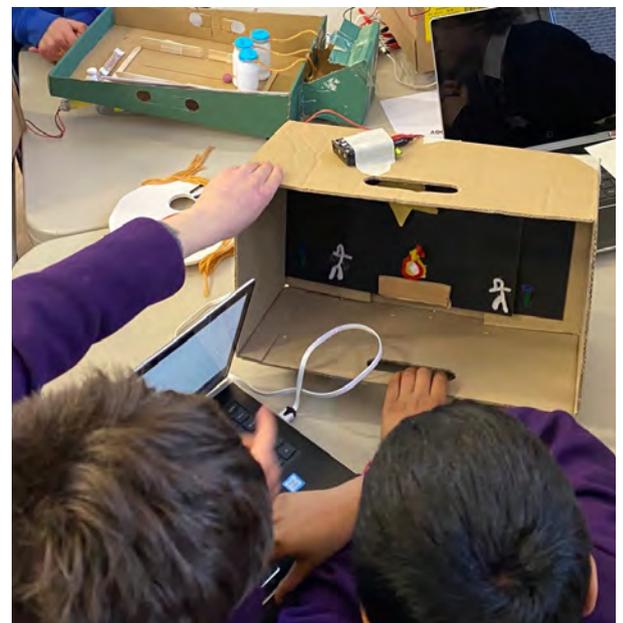
All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online



Let's get ready to..... Crumble!

It was such a pleasure to welcome students and teachers to St John's for our annual D&T Challenge this year. Working in teams, each group were given some fun tasks to learn how to use Crumble kits in the morning and then were left to their own imaginations with an open-ended 'design and make' build for the afternoon. It was exciting to see what each team would build. St Helen's built a beautiful diorama complete with a well-drawn horse, St John's a super sleigh-like vehicle, Merchant Taylors' Prep made a fun moving snake, Devonshire House built a wonderful boat with

lights, Belmont were proud to show their moving manikin all dressed in sequins, York House made a fantastic moving firework display, Frithwood Primary built a fabulous robot with lights shining through its mouth, Harvey Road Primary built a fantastic spinning face and Holy Trinity made a super robot with light up eyes. Just look at their wonderful design drawing too! It was so good to see each team approach the challenge from a different perspective and all the adults were impressed by the level of drive and determination shown by all the young people. Well done to everyone who took part!





Quiz Club Science Challenge

Our boys took part in the second round of the Quiz Club Science Challenge last Friday. The boys were asked 30 multiple choice questions through a video link and their answers were submitted online, through their laptops. We were up against some very tough competition, amongst some of the brightest young scientists in the south of England. Team 1 came 52nd and Team 2 came 73rd. It's great to see the boys enjoying their science.



Gardening Club

Our intrepid team of gardeners, Anay, Neer, Ansh, Ananda, Kayhan, Dhilan and Rishi busied themselves this week in picking all the produce from one of our beds, consisting mainly of spinach. Some produce was fed to the science turtles who are partial to vegetables. With the Pre-Prep eager to use one of our beds so that they can sow their annual crop of potatoes, now was a good time to pick one of our batches of excellent winter vegetables that we planted in the autumn of 2021 and provide a spare bed for them. So far, we've been delighted with the produce that the boys have diligently attended to over the last few months, full marks to them. No pressure on the Pre-Prep to repeat our success with their spuds....





Weddings in the Lambs

During our topic on wedding celebrations, we dressed up as bride and groom. We looked just like Betty O'Barley and Harry O'Hay, characters from the book, 'The Scarecrows' Wedding'.





Year 1 fundraising for Place2Be

Year 1 have been fundraising for Place2Be, our school charity. Anay, Logan, Veer and Sam completed a charity 1.8km run on Sunday 6th February. Quite a long way for little legs! Well done to all of the boys for this amazing achievement! A special well done to Logan who came in 5th place in an amazing 9 minutes and to Sam who came in 6th place in 9 minutes 11 seconds. The boys have raised an incredible £716 for Place2Be. The just giving page is open until 13th February. If you would like to donate, please do so on <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stjohnsottersandowls>.





Running for Place2Be cont...





International studies in the Pre-Prep

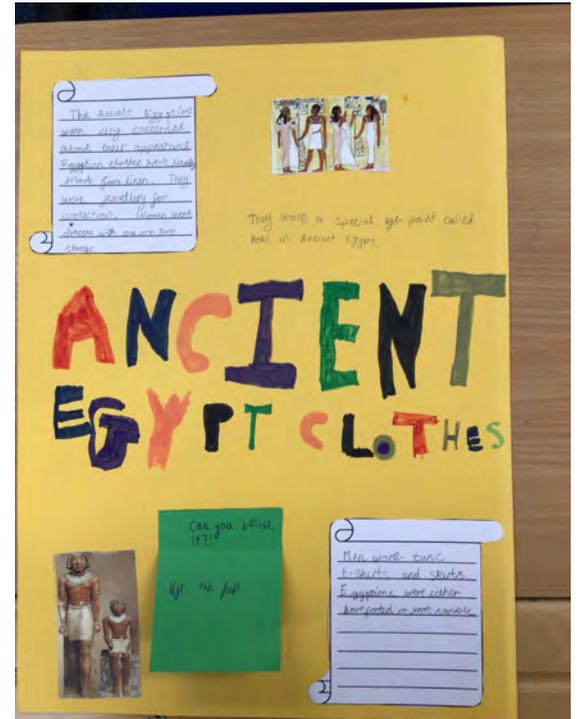
The Pre-Prep boys finished learning about North America with some food tasting. Reception loved making a stack of pancakes, with blueberries and golden syrup from the USA. Year 1 had a mixed reaction to poutine, a favourite in Canada – sweet potato fries with grated cheese and gravy! Year 2 enjoyed their quesadillas from Mexico, filled with cheese and dry fried by Mr Colgate.



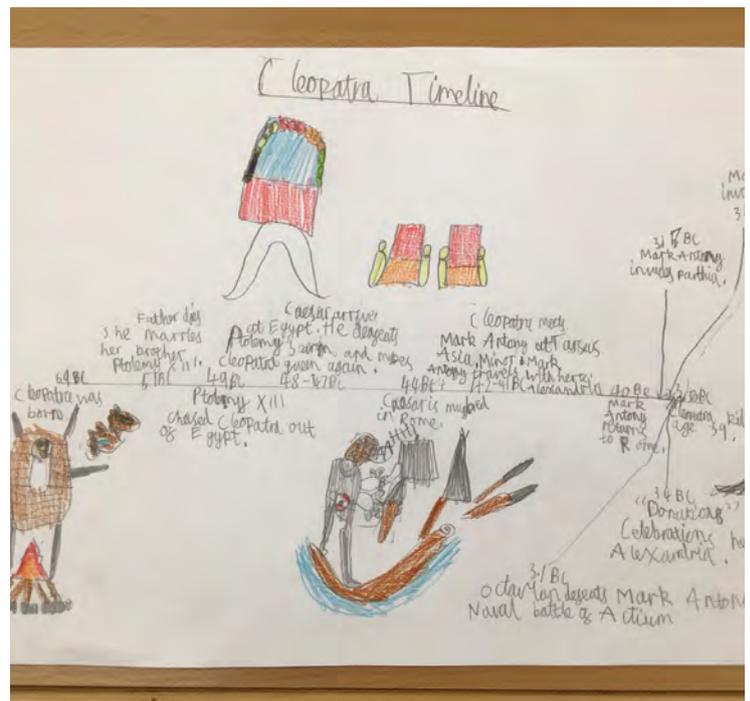
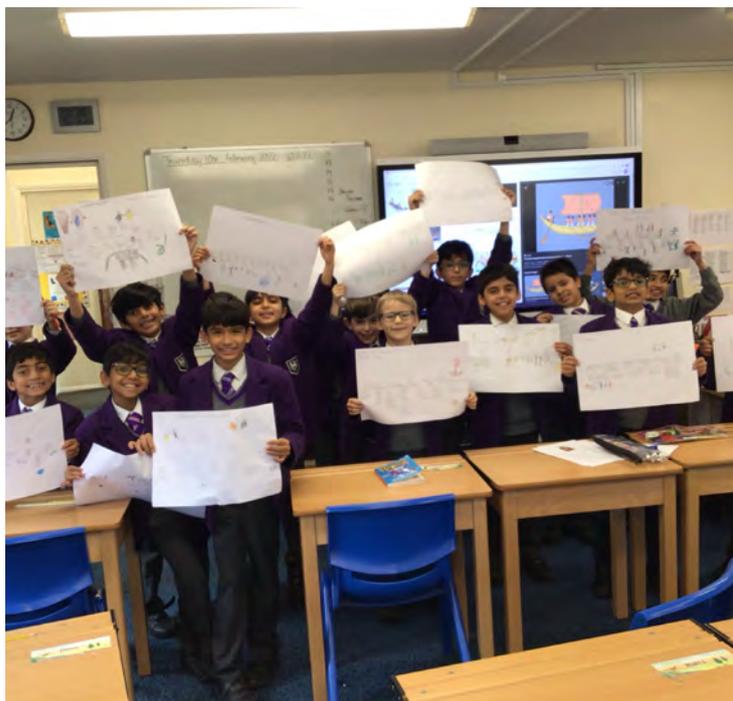


Learning about the Egyptians

As part of our Ancient Egypt topic, the boys have used the laptops to research facts about Ancient Egyptian clothing. Then, working in pairs, the boys have produced creative posters to display their knowledge. Great teamwork and independence was shown in completing this activity – well done!



Y3 have practised placing dates on a timeline by ordering the events of Cleopatra's life.





How do our teachers measure up?

Year 4 have been working with units of measure, turning metres into centimetres, using decimals to turn grams into kilograms and learning to estimate sensibly. This culminated with the boys estimating and measuring the respective heights of Miss Little, Mr Haley and Mr Smith. At just over two metres, several boys were able to covert Mr Smith's height into a decimal fraction of a kilometre! He really is tall commented one chap, whilst several took great delight in pointing out that the shortest by far really was Miss Little.





Wrapping up the half term in Music

This has been such a positive half term in music, we are delighted to hear the boys going from strength to strength in all of their musical endeavours. This week we were treated to excellent performances in assembly from Tanay in Year 5 and Khyan in Year 6. Both Tanay and Khyan performed pieces by Einaudi. Years 5-8 really enjoyed listening to them.

In class lessons, many year groups have completed performance projects, a strong level of engagement has been shown by all. Year 6 are featured in photos below, rehearsing and

performing their 'rock n roll' performances.

Is it encouraging that many boys are making use of the practice rooms to practise in between their instrumental lessons. Lucas in Year 3 is featured practising his drum fills on the drum kit. Congratulations to Ahaan in Year 7 who sang 'Shallow' by Lady Gaga at the Harrow Arts Centre last week at the annual concert of Artistic School of Music, where he has been training for two and a half years. He is working towards his Grade 5 singing exam in March.





A great week in D&T

A wonderful week in the D&T workshop this week. While it's been cold, the sun has been pouring in and we have heard the birds singing as we work. Year 3 have enjoyed testing their Egyptian water lifting devices and Year 6 have been adding finishing touches by painting their book ends. And Alex... discovered a fun invention he hadn't seen before!





Wrapping up the half term in Art

It has been such a busy term in the Art room. Here are some of our latest projects. 1. Year 4 have been making Roman shields. Khyan is pictured with his. 2. Nathan is ready for battle 3. The Jaguars in their testudo formation. 4. Ronnie has made a lovely hummingbird collage for his Valentine. 5. Alistair in Year 7 has completed his mixed-media, self-portrait. 6. Kush has drawn his shoe.





Wrapping up the half term in Art cont...

Here are some of the Year 6 Mona Lisa re-creations: 7. Ayaan and Leo 8. James C 9. Ishaan 10. Alexander W-M 11. Ethan 12. Hrishi and Rian





Wrapping up the half term in Art cont...

13. Look what Rian in Year 6 has been working on at home. Wow! Year 5 have been creating nets to make Minecraft models.
14. Josh 15. Aary 16. Shrey





House Art Competition

The **House Art** Competition is an annual competition that every boy in Years 3-8 takes part in. The theme this year is 'Our Beautiful World'. Please see Google classroom for more information about this competition. Good luck!



Our Beautiful World



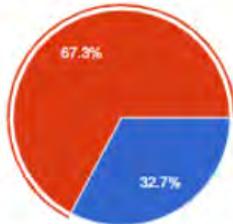
VOTES FOR SCHOOLS



Votes for Schools is a way of connecting us to what is going on in the world around us, through topical debate. Use the Votes for Schools Google Classroom to access the material and discuss at home and at school. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs McSween vmcsween@st-johns.org.uk

Results

- Yes
- No



The internet can help you catch up with friends if they are far away from you for e.g. you can't yet afford the trip to Australia to see a relative with an app like WhatsApp you can see people. The internet can also be a fun place to connect with friends in an amusing way because technology has advanced, and you can send an 'imoji' which is like an emoji, but you can do it in video calls and stick it on your face. Overall, the internet can be very good for relationships but to be used in an appropriate way (not sending inappropriate messages) if you use it the right way. Bailey, Year 6

Last week's question

Is the internet bad for relationships?



Happy Chinese New Year!
It is also known as the Lunar Year or Spring Festival.

I think the internet is bad for relationships because people could get cyber bullied. Also, people might use the internet too often and not interact with friends or family. We could get impatient because when we are on the internet, we get answers very quickly; but relationships take some time. Dhruv, Year 4



Your thoughts

I think that the internet is bad for relationships because if someone plays a video game online with friends or family and loses, they might feel upset because their opponent might be sending messages like "You're so rubbish at this game." Khyan, Year 4



Have a wonderful half term. We look forward to some more topical questions when we get back. In the meantime, keep your ear to the ground by watching the news and by reading newspapers and magazines.



Vocab

Do punishments work?



After half term...

Punishment:

When something happens that you don't like because you broke a rule.

Crime:

Doing something that is against the rules of a country (the law).



Be informed.



Be curious.



Be heard.



Bath Hockey Tour 4th-6th February 2022

4th February: We all bounced out of our beds and arrived at St John's on a wet, cold, and windy day. We had the first two lessons of the day, and at 11 o' clock, went to Merchant Taylors' Prep for a mini training session where we practiced short corners and played a small match. We received two playing shirts, with both logos of our respective schools, and a black beanie hat to help us in the cold - ideal for our hockey tour to Bath! By lunch time, it was sunny, but the temperature hadn't improved. We hopped onto the minibus to Bath, and roughly at 2 o' clock, found ourselves at a service station, where we bought lots of snacks and energy drinks!

We continued on our journey and before going to the hotel, we went to Dauntsey school for the first of three matches. It was a slightly sandy pitch, and our team wasn't fully used to the slow speed of the ball. We warmed ourselves up after a long journey, and started playing.

St John's 0 - 0 Dauntsey B team

St John's 2 - 2 Dauntsey A team – Scorers: Hamza x1, Blake x1

St John's/Merchant Taylors Prep 1st Team 4 - 0 Dauntsey B team – Scorers: Thomas (MTP) x2, Amay (MTP) x1, Hamza x1

St John's/Merchant Taylors Prep 2nd Team 0 - 2 Dauntsey A team

We enjoyed our post-match tea, and then proceeded to the Travelodge in Bath, where we were going to be staying. The majority of us watched football in the evening, and ordered

pizza to our rooms. Finally, after a long day, we went to bed.

5th February: We woke up early on Saturday, ready to play our next two matches. It took roughly 5-10 minutes to get to Prior Park School - it seemed to be a palace of a school with fantastic views of Bath!

St John's/Merchant Taylors Prep 1st Team 7 - 9 Prior Park A Team – Scorers: Thomas (MTP) x3, Amay (MTP) x1, Blake x1, Hamza x2

St John's/Merchant Taylors Prep 2nd team 13 - 1 Prior Park B Team – Scorers: Aarav (MTP) x5, Lucas x2, Sahib B x2, Sahib S x4

We quickly had tea and proceeded to Monkton Prep. The weather had started to become a bit blustery. A few injuries had also set us back a little but that didn't faze us.

St John's/Merchant Taylors Prep 1st Team 2 - 4 Monkton Prep A Team – Scorers: Aarav (MTP) x1, Thomas (MTP) x1

St John's/Merchant Taylors Prep 2nd Team 10 - 0 Monkton B Team – Scorers: Aryan (MTP) x1, Amay (MTP) x3, Lucas x2, Sahib B x1, Sahib S x1, Hamza x2

After a long day's play, we went to Nando's in the evening, and watched the Six Nations. It was a fantastic hockey tour, I would like to say a huge well done to our team for their efforts: Aryan, Daniel, Oscar, Blake, Sahib B, Sahib S and Lucas. I would also like to thank Mr Pawson and Mr Kruger for their help and organisation throughout the trip!

By Hamza 8J





U13 Hockey v The Hall, Wednesday 9th Feb



U13A Lost 5-3

This was a fantastic game which went from end to end. The Hall were very well organised in defence and in attack. They had a few talented players who gelled very well and put us under pressure at the back. Oscar, Amos and Daniel worked incredibly hard to keep the front opposition players at bay. However, The Hall got an early goal and we seemed to be chasing the game. We battled very hard and always took the game to The Hall. One lapse in concentration cost us another goal but we stuck at it. Lucas made a superb pass from the mid-field and found Sahib S who drilled the ball into the goal. We just needed to be a little sharper in our passes, shooting and decision making which would have helped us to score more goals. We certainly missed Blake in the mid-field and without his class we just found it difficult to break down the opposition defence. 3 – 3 and in the last two minutes The Hall managed to score two more goals to make it 5-3. This was a great effort as a team and all the boys must be congratulated on their efforts. Well done! Scorers Hamza 1, Sahib Singh 2

U13B Won 8-0

On Wednesday 9th February the U13B team played against The Hall. St John's built the pressure right from the start of the game. Our attacking structure improved as the game went on as we were working hard off the ball creating space to pass into. Defensively we were solid throughout the game not allowing The Hall time on the ball and building the pressure constantly. Overall, it was a great game played by all. Well Done! Scorers: Ansh 1, Yash 2, Ruben 1, Thomas 1, Darwin 1, William 1, Joshua 1





U12 Hockey v The Hall, Wednesday 9th Feb

U12 A Won 11-1

The A's started the game strongly playing 8-a-side on a nice, large pitch. Some good stick work and passing saw the team score a quick goal. Unfortunately we switched off a bit after this and let The Hall back into the game with some sloppy defending. After this, the pressure was all from St. John's and we continued to press high up the pitch and scored 4 more goals in quick succession. This then led to a bit of complacency and the boys started to focus on individual skills rather than playing as a team. Half time score 5-1. In the second half the A's looked to play much more as a team, moving the ball around quickly and producing some excellent attacking play. This led to another 6 goals being scored in the second half to round off a comfortable win for the boys. Scorers: Nishant 3, Rafi 3, Rehaan 2, Rahul 1, Remika 1, Emerson 1. Man of the match: Emerson for an excellent display in midfield



U12B Won 20-0

After a couple of last-minute changes in selection, the boys were on the coach and raring to go. Captain Mithil started to warm up the team as Shane padded up in goal. We started very strong, giving The Hall little ball to play with and quite early established a lead. After 10 minutes The Hall started to work the ball into our half and had a couple of shots, but Shane had this covered all match with his few calls to action. After a quick injury break, the boys regrouped and started to move the ball into space and scored a plethora of well worked team goals to reinforce our dominance further. The score was 20-0 at the final whistle, and it was great to see the boys pleased with their amazing performance but also respectful of the opposition. Well played boys. Scorers: Kian P – 3, Roshan – 5, Mithil – 4, Mihir – 3, Kush – 2, Ahaan 3. Man of the match: Mithil



U10 Hockey v Gayhurst, Friday 4th Feb

U10A Lost 1-2

The Gayhurst team out did us marginally in drive, skill, and as it turned out, numbers of players on the pitch! Once an even contest, the match was quite closely fought with Rafay rising to the occasion in midfield and taking on the opposition's main man. Aary scored our only goal amid few opportunities in the D. Niam was kept very busy at the back with Gayhurst making many attacks. The hockey seemed generally frustrated with few long passes and probably too much time with individuals on the ball. Once the key principle is grasped that the hockey ball is and should be the fastest thing on the turf, the game will start to sing. Good luck in your next fixture, boys. MoM: Rafay Sabir



U10B Lost 5-0

In their 2nd outing of the season, the U10Bs looked to find their first win after last game's 1-1 draw. We played very defensively in the first half, unfortunately giving away a few foot fouls leading to 7 second shuffles, but Theodore stepped up in goal to keep us well in the game. In the second half we expanded our passes a little more, aiming to play wider and keeping possession of the ball which allowed us to work the ball into the box for Caiden and Liam L to have a few decent shots on target. Despite our best efforts, with some great diving defence from Shrey, they capitalised on our attacking mentality to win 5-0.

U10C Two teams

With some recent new additions to the Wednesday after-school hockey club, St John's were able to produce 4 teams to play against Gayhurst, including 2 mixed ability C teams. This gave the opportunity for all boys to play competitive fixtures against Gayhurst. Both C teams displayed promising technical skills and a strong desire to win the ball in tackles. With this passion for winning the ball back we struggled to keep our width, but when we spread out eventually, both teams were able to take a few shots on target, leading to an exciting game of hockey. After sustained pressure on one pitch, Taarun managed to execute a great team goal to finish the game 1-1. Well done to everyone involved.



SCAN ME



Have a go at badminton

Gala Academy will be operating in the Centenary Sports Hall, Monday – Friday (19:00-21:00) and Saturday (09:00 – 13:00). There are a variety of sessions available, including beginners Badminton courses for 6-8 year olds, aiming to develop co-ordination, fitness and strength, Daily Drills for adults develop intense cardio footwork and court agility. There are places available for booking.

All details are at: www.gala-academy.co.uk



Welcome to Gala Academy

Just play badminton

Learn to play badminton or improve your existing skills

Gala Academy has a course to suit everyone from 6 years to adults.

Limited spaces, so book fast!

For more information check out our website

www.krugercamps.co.uk



FEBRUARY HALF TERM

MON, 14th = INDOOR CRICKET

TUES, 15th = HOCKEY

WED, 16th = FOOTBALL

THU, 17th = FOOTBALL

FRI, 18th = COURT SPORTS

For more information go to www.krugercamps.co.uk



Heath Robinson 150th Anniversary Competition

Submission deadline
15th May

Age categories

5-7yrs

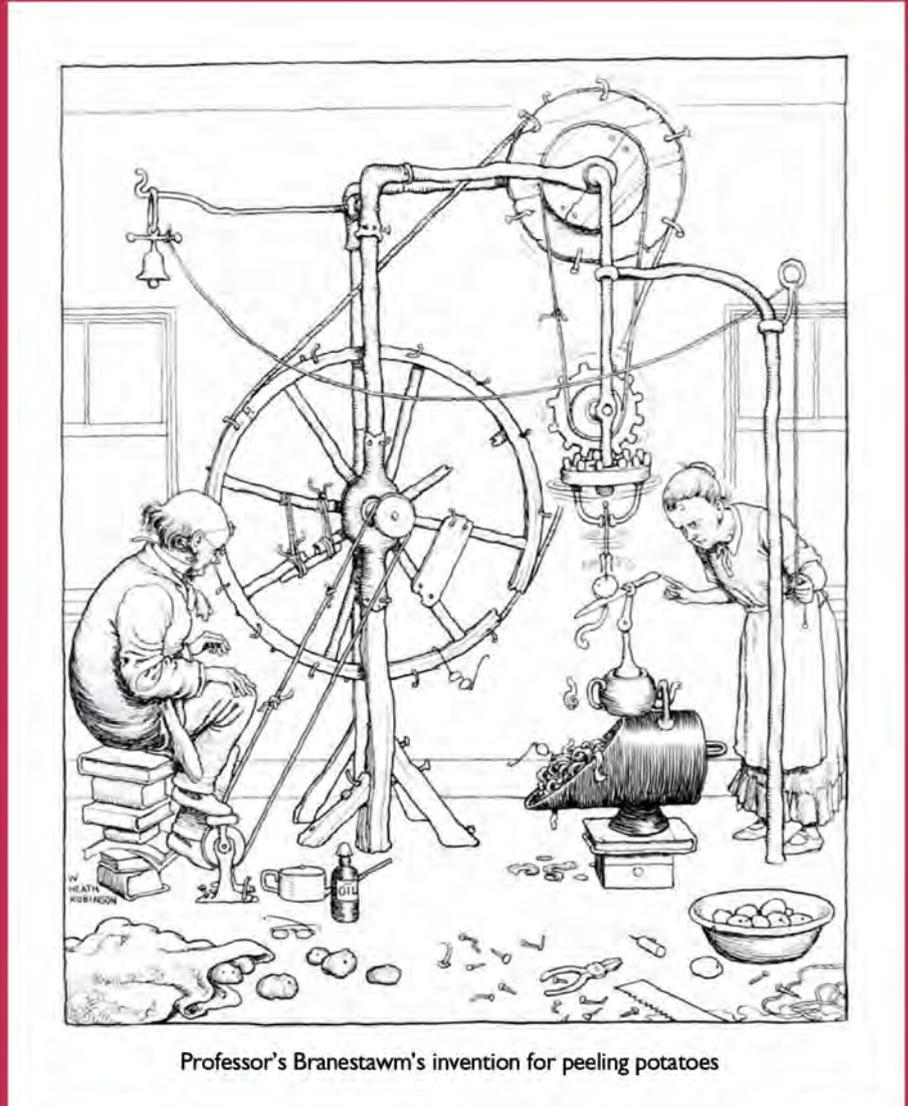
8-10yrs

11-14yrs

15-18 yrs

Submit entries (1 per person) via email (good quality image of 2 to 4MB) to:
learning@heathrobinsonmuseum.org

For Entry form and full terms and conditions see
www.heathrobinsonmuseum.org



Professor's Branestawm's invention for peeling potatoes

Heath Robinson was known for his humorous illustrations which commented upon issues in every day life or invented madcap contraptions to solve everyday problems. We want you to do the same on the theme of :

“What would Heath Robinson make of life today?”

Shortlisted art will be exhibited in the Museum over the summer and prizes of art materials will be awarded to the winners in each age category.

OUTLOOK



Calendar & important dates Contact details

Saturday 12th February – Sunday 20th February Half-term

Monday 21st February: School resumes 8.25am

Piano Festival in the Norman Hall (5.00pm)

St John's Association Meeting (7.30pm)

Tuesday 22nd February: Belmont Interschool DT Designers' Day (Year 6) postponed

Year 3 Parents' Meeting (4.30-6.30pm)

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

Wednesday 23rd February: School Council

Football v St Paul's: 1st, 2nd, 3rd XI (a), 4th, 5th, XI (h) (2.30pm)

Thursday 24th February: Visit by Young Shakespeare Company (Years 5 & 6)

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

Year 3 Parents' Meeting (6.00-8.00pm)

Friday 25th February: House Meetings Cross-Country v St Martin's: U11, U13 (a) (2.00pm)

Football v Haberdashers': U11 A, B (h) (2.30pm)

Saturday 26th 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. The website will have announcements in case of emergency.

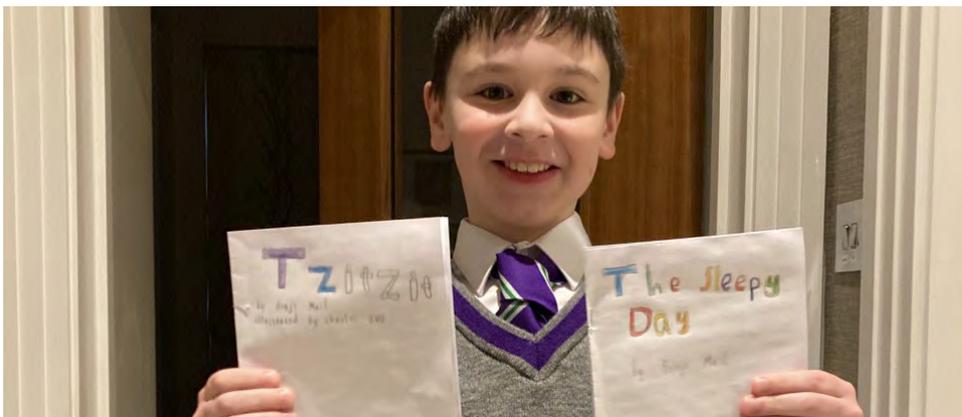


You can also follow us on twitter @stjnsnorthwood and our sports department @StJohnsNwSport

Mailings: If you have received The Lamb from someone else and would like to be sent your own copy 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 for inclusion in The Lamb. Many thanks.



Pic of the week: Benji in 3L has been writing stories and making books at the weekends.

Notices and reminders

House Art Competition: The theme this year is "Our Beautiful World." The information about this year's competition is on Google classroom.

House Music Festival: First rounds for St John's Young Musician of the Year start on Monday 28th February. Please make sure that your son brings his instrument and music into school on the days that he has a class music lesson during the weeks beginning 28th Feb and 7th March. If your son's piece has piano accompaniment, please ask him to bring it in to the music department as soon as possible.

World Book Day Thursday 3rd March: We will all be dressing up as our favourite book characters on World Book Day. You might like to think about an interesting costume over half term.

Heath Robinson Art Competition: To celebrate the 150th anniversary of Heath Robinson's birth, the Heath Robinson Museum in Pinner has set up an exciting art competition for children and young adults. If you are interested, please see the poster on page 28.

St John's Association Quiz Night Saturday 19th March 2022: Please note the change of date. The Quiz will be on-line and more information will follow soon.

Badminton: Gala Academy is operating in the Centenary Sports Hall. Places are available for booking. See page 26.

House Points: Lincoln 1st 82.29, Churchill 2nd 82.13, Oates 3rd 78.27, Lawrence 4th 76.40

Have a great half term break.