

Young Voices raise the Wembley roof



From the
Headmaster

Congratulations to our Year 6 and Year 8 boys who have performed superbly in their Secondary School assessments. We are delighted with the large number of successes and

scholarship awards, which is testament to the boys' hard work and the support and teaching expertise of staff. Equally, I would like to reassure others who may be disappointed that other doors will open up in time.

This has been an inspiring final week of the half term. Chinese New Year has been celebrated across the School in vibrant music and colourful artwork. The Lower School have travelled back in time. Year 1 immersed themselves in a Fire of London workshop day and Year 4 explored Verulanium as part of

their Roman life project.

We were delighted to welcome Year 5 engineers and their teachers from ten local schools to our Inter-School DT&E challenge. It was exciting to watch the children connecting with each other to create innovate solutions.

I hope all boys and staff have a good break and wish all the best to staff and pupils on the ski trip!



Singing our hearts out

Young Voices 2023 last Thursday was a truly memorable experience for all involved. Eighty-five Year 5 to 8 boys accompanied by nine staff sang, danced and even signed using British Sign Language in a choir of nearly five thousand children in Wembley Arena. All proceeds are donated to Place2Be, Young Voices' nominated charity.





Safe cycling for Year 8 boys

This week, a team of instructors from Hillingdon Council came to school to train our Year 8 boys. It was a challenging week, not least because of our location on the top of a hill and the wet weather! At the end of the week, the boys were awarded with their Level 2 Bikeability badge. Well done boys.

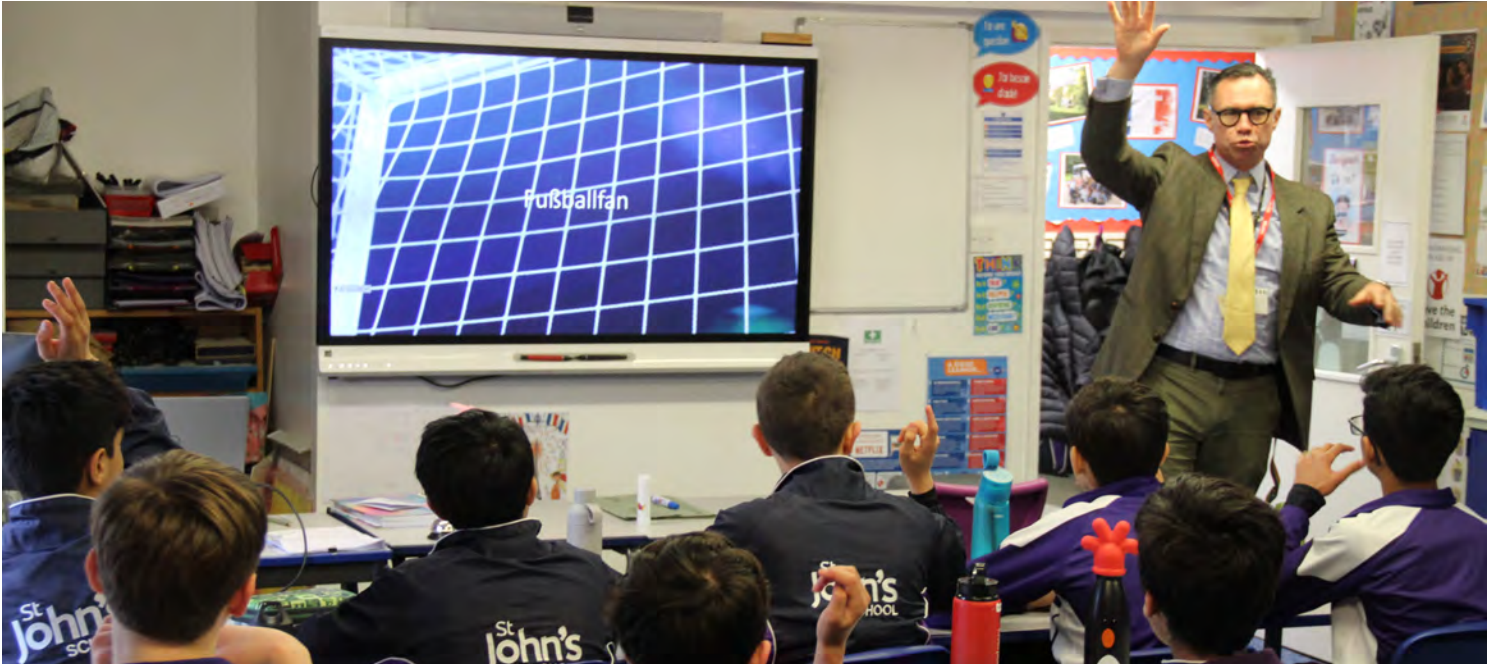




THIS WEEK

MTS Languages staff visited our Year 8 boys

Our Year 8 boys heading to Merchant Taylors' in September 2024 were treated to a German taster lesson here at St John's, delivered by Mr Pacey (Head of German at Merchant Taylors'.) The lesson focused on German football teams and the boys were soon able to say which team they supported in German. Mr Bailey (Head of MFL at Merchant Taylors') answered the boys' questions about life at Merchant Taylors', spoke about the languages they can study there and the exciting trips and co-curricular clubs on offer to them. Thank you for inspiring us Mr Pacey and Mr Bailey.

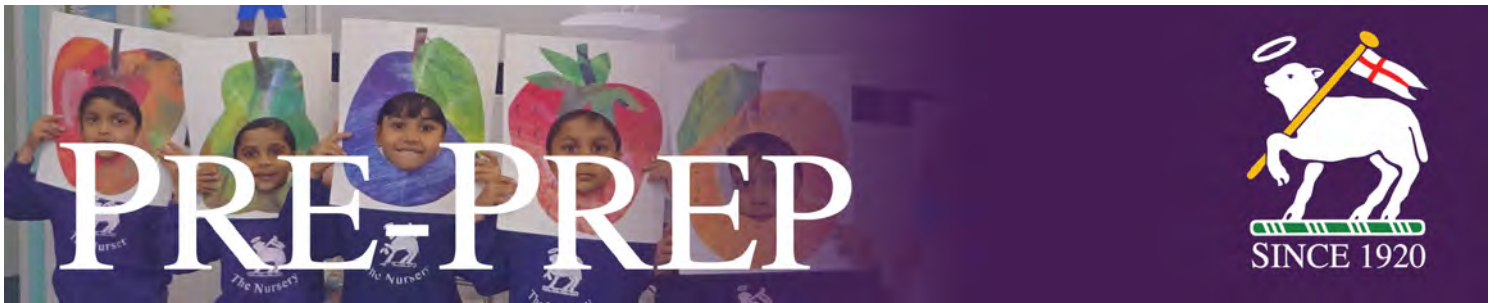




Pre-Prep Poetry Competition 2024

Every boy learnt a poem for the competition, with subject matter ranging from hugs to sea monsters. 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. Mr Spellward, 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, Jai in the Eagles was announced as the winner. Well done to all the boys who learnt their poems so well.





Celebrating festivals in Nursery

The Lambs have been learning about Chinese New Year traditions and tasting noodles. They enjoyed the creative work inspired by Valentine's Day and learnt a song called "Where did the pancake go?" in readiness for Pancake Day. At break-time we played pirates. Have fun over half term Lambs!





Celebrating festivals in Nursery cont...





We're Going on a Bear Hunt

The Robins and Squirrels have been reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', which inspired our art work. We used paint in different ways to make backgrounds for our bear pictures. We cut small pieces of paper in shades of brown and stuck them on bear outlines to make mosaics. Watch out...the bear might get you!





Year 1 enjoyed an immersive Fire of London day

It was with great excitement that the Otters and Owls met Mistress Sophie, who introduced them to the trades of 1666. Boys visited the tanner, attempted to write using a quill, made scent bags with the perfumer and learnt how to make candles with the Chandler. Learning to sew and weave with the tailor was a challenge but the boys were patient and persevered. They also met the barber surgeon and apothecary to learn about healthcare in the 17th Century, (which was a bit scary!) Well done to all the boys, who took part with great enthusiasm and huge thanks to our parent volunteers who were equally enthusiastic.





Fire of London day cont...





Year 2 celebrated the Year of the Dragon

Mrs Liu visited Year 2 yesterday to tell them the story of the Lunar New Year. She showed them how to write their names in Chinese and helped them make colourful dragons. We wished Mrs Liu a Happy New Year for tomorrow.





Year 4 trip to Verulamium

When we arrived at the museum, we had a workshop about a Roman market. We got to dress in tunics and each group had an item to find on each stall. We learnt that the Romans had a very good diet and they didn't know anything about sugar. Afterwards, we toured the museum and completed a

fun activity sheet. I enjoyed building a Roman bridge using the foam blocks. At lunch-time, we had picnic in the park and then we saw the city walls and the hypocaust. This is an underfloor heating system from a house that was there 2,000 years ago! *Zavi*





MUSIC



The Year of the Dragon

Musicians delivered an excellent assembly to celebrate Chinese New Year. Lucas and Christopher in Year 6 guided us through the story of red and the history of the Lunar New Year. Year 4 performed compositions inspired by the sounds

of China. Senior boys learned how to play the Suona and delivered a live Lion Dance improvisation with gongs and percussion. The whole school wished each other Happy New Year in both Mandarin and Cantonese.





DT & E

Year 5 DT&E Challenge

We were delighted to welcome ten schools from our local area to join in collaborative learning while making Wobblebots! It was exciting to work together to create innovative solutions and test them out. As always, we had to remember to keep iterating and not worry when things

didn't go according to plan. Huge congratulations to all the Year 5 boys and girls who took part and to their teachers for bringing them to St John's. Thanks also to our Year 8 boys who were superb leaders in supporting the event.





Year 5 DT&E Challenge







HANDS ON! MINDS ON! EDUCATIONAL CAMP FOR 5 -13 YEAR OLDS

- fantastic workshop & tools, including CAD/CAM
- solve festive themed practical problems
- robotics kits - Lego & Vex Go!
- outdoor play area and woodland
- Book early to avoid disappointment! ★

DECEMBER 18TH, 19TH AND 20TH 2023

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL, NORTHWOOD. HA6 3QY

See our program and book on www.stemden.co.uk



Our artists proudly present their work



Young Artists' Summer Show

2024

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4–19 years and studying in the UK.

Students can submit one artwork for consideration which will be judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals. Selected artworks will be displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts. Prizes will be awarded to inspiring artworks across each key stage.

How to enter

From 8 January 2024, teachers will be able to register their school. Next, students, their parents/guardians or their teachers can submit artworks via the RA website until 27 March 2024.

Important dates

8 January – 27 March 2024

Registration and submission open

May 2024

Judging

16 July 2024

Online exhibition opens

16 July – 11 August 2024

Display at the RA open

RA Royal Academy of Arts

Sign up and find out more

roy.ac/youngartists

[#RAYoungArtists](https://twitter.com/RAYoungArtists)

Made possible by Robin Hambro



Introducing “Team of the Week”

This initiative celebrates outstanding contributions, grit, and positive attitudes demonstrated during matches and sports lessons. Each week, a diverse group of students from across the School will be recognized for their exceptional dedication and performance on the field. Our aim is to foster a sense of camaraderie and appreciation for hard work in sports. Congratulations to all the members of our “Team of the Week.” Your passion and dedication inspire us all, and we are excited to showcase the incredible achievements of our talented student-athletes on a weekly basis.

MATCHWEEK 2

TEAM OF THE WEEK





Under 13 Football v Thorpe House

Another set of great matches for our Under 13s and another step along the road for many of the teams.





Under 8 v Haberdashers'

The Under 8s played some very good football against Habs last week. The boys had to adapt quickly to the stern challenge Habs presented, showing great team coordination. All teams acquitted themselves well.





Year 4 House Football

Year 4 House matches were an exciting affair on Tuesday this week. In the end, Churchill pipped Lincoln on goal difference! A great House completion with effort and passion on display.





Year 3 House Football

Year 3 House Football took place this week with a 2 tier tournament. All the boys played very well with some great sportsmanship and determination shown throughout. The final result came down to goal difference and Lawrence came out victorious. Well done to all who participated.





Under 10 and Colts Hockey at MTP

Some very close games up at Merchant Taylors' Prep last week. It was exciting to look around the new Julian Hill Cricket Centre while we were there.





An evening of trivia, fun, food and community. An opportunity to beat the headmaster's table and earn bragging rights for the rest of the year. Book the babysitter and come and join us. Friends and Family are all welcome.

**16
MARCH
2024**

**CENTENARY HALL AT ST
JOHN'S SCHOOL, POTTER
STREET HILL**

**07:00
PM**

**TICKETS £25 PER PERSON INCLUDING
AN INDIAN MEAL. ASK YOUR SJA REP
TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS.**

THE FIRST WOLAS PUBLIC OBSERVING EVENT OF 2024

VIEW THE NIGHT SKY FROM RUISLIP LIDO

Once again the West of London Astronomical Society invites you to observe the Moon and stars.

Friday 16th Feb - Sunday 18th Feb 2024.
Time 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

If the sky is clear, a quarter Moon will be visible along with Jupiter and Uranus. Other objects include the Andromeda Galaxy and the Orion Nebula.

Bring family and friends to this FREE event - members of WOLAS will be on hand with a variety of their telescopes and will be able to answer any questions you may have.

Telescopes will have coloured lamps indicating the target - change colour to change target!

Don't forget to wear warm clothing, and bring a torch. To avoid dazzling observers, please limit the brightness of your torch to your phone's light or equivalent and point it down when on site.

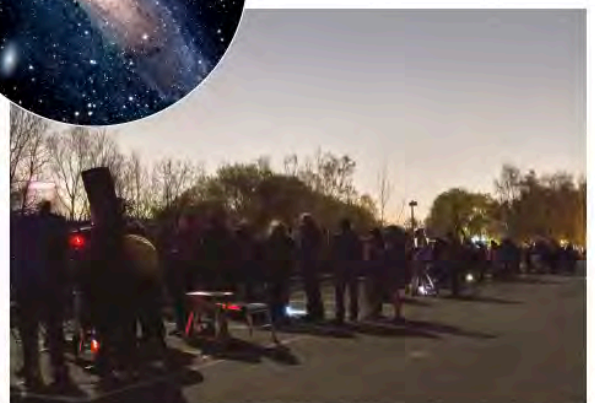
The Turntable Tea Room will be open and toilets are available next to it.

*Please visit our website for more information.
A GO/NO GO call will be posted no later than 3pm each day.*

Ruislip Lido is off Bury Street. Entry is via the gate adjacent to the car park at the end of Reservoir Road HA

**KEEP RIGHT ON ENTERING THE PUBLIC CAR PARK
£5 UNTIL 6 PM, FREE FOR HILLINGDON FIRST CARD HOLDERS,
TICKET STILL REQUIRED. FREE AFTER 6 PM FOR ALL.
CLOSES 8.30 PM.**

PLEASE AVOID THE PUB CAR PARK TO THE LEFT.



WOLAS

www.wolas.org.uk



Important dates & contacts

Sunday 11th February: Ski Trip Departs

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February: Half-term

Sunday 18th February: Ski Trip Returns

Monday 19th February: Term resumes (8.25am)

House Music Festival Rounds begin

DT&E and Art Open House (5G) (4.00pm-4.30pm)

Year 5 Online Parents' Meeting (L-Z) (6.00pm)

Wednesday 21st February: No swimming

School Council

Football v The Beacon: U13 A, B (a), C, D, E (h) (2.30pm)

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 [@stjnorthwood](https://twitter.com/stjnorthwood) and our sports department [@StJohnsNwSport](https://twitter.com/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.

Headmaster's Online Meeting for all Parents: Anticipating Political Change (6.00pm)

Friday 23rd February: House Meetings

No swimming

Football v Mill Hill & Belmont: U10 A, B, C, D (h) (2.30pm)

Hockey v Haberdashers': U11, A, B, C (a) (2.30pm)

Saturday 24th February: St John's Beaumont Rugby Tournament: U11 A VII (9.00am)

U9 A Football Tournament at Haberdashers' (9.30am)

St John's Beaumont Rugby Tournament: U13 A VII (1.00pm)

Notices and reminders

House Art Competition: The theme is Recycled Art. The boys will be competing against boys in their class. There will be House Points and prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Boys in Years 3 to 6 should plan their entry piece at home during half-term and will complete their piece at school. Boys in Years 7 and 8 should plan and create their piece at home. There is more information on the Google classroom.

Young Artists' Summer Show 2024: Ms Gillen has registered our school to take part in a prestigious Art competition. See page 17 for more information about how to enter.

House Music Competition rounds start the week of 19th February: Please remind your sons to bring their instruments, music and accompaniments to their class music lessons the week after half term.

World Book Day, Thursday 7th March: Please do encourage your boys to be creative and dress up as their favourite character from a fiction book. Please avoid football kits and dangerous items, such as swords and guns.

Whole School Litter Pick: Please add 16th March to your

diaries. The annual litter pick will take place in and around the local area. This is a great opportunity to socialise whilst helping the environment and looking after our community. Refreshments will be available at Holland and Holland. House points and Merits will be on offer for all boys who attend. Please sign up using this link. [St John's School Litter Pick Sign Up Form.](#)

St John's Association Quiz on 16th March 7.00pm: This event is always extremely popular with an excellent quiz master, good food and a bar. There are more details on page 23.

Votes for Schools: Last week's question: Can adults and children learn from each other about the online world? 82.8% said Yes.

Question for after half term: "Will you be the first smokefree generation?"

House Points: 1st Churchill 87.86, 2nd Lawrence 87.72, 3rd Oates 86.26, 4th Lincoln 83.77.

Have a great half term