



From the
Headmaster

I would like to welcome all our boys and their families back to St John's for the new academic year. A special welcome to our Lambs and all the boys who have joined us this September. It has been lovely to see all the boys happily settling into their daily routines. We hope they all feel inspired and excited by the learning opportunities around them.

Many congratulations to our Year 8 and 6 Head Boys, Kian and Ahad and their Deputies, Jay and Vihaan. We wish them every success as they take on these responsible roles, assisting the smooth running of the School.

Parent information evenings have offered a lovely opportunity to meet new teachers; we look forward to welcoming Year 6 on Monday. In the meantime, I hope you all enjoy a restful weekend.

T Jenkin

Welcome back to school boys





Welcome to our new staff



Mrs K. De Castro Gomes - Catering

I feel happy and honoured to start working at St John’s School. I hope to contribute in the best way possible. I will work in an atmosphere of respect, trust and harmony with all staff and especially the children. I hope to make true friends with the members of my team. I have really enjoyed meeting all the boys and starting to get to know them this week.

Mrs M. Desai - Year 2 Teaching Assistant

I am excited to be joining St John’s School as a teaching assistant and have received a very warm welcome from all the staff and students. I have over ten years’ experience working as a teaching assistant. I am a mum to two boys, a keen baker, and I love to read and watch Formula 1 racing in my spare time. I am looking forward to getting to know the children, helping them grow in confidence and being part of their journey both academically and pastorally. I can’t wait to contribute to the St John’s community over the coming months.



Mr C. Foster - Graduate Sports Assistant

I am delighted to be joining the School team. I graduated with a First-Class degree in Sports Business and have gained valuable experience working at Ipswich Town Football Club, where I supported a range of programmes that focused on developing young people both on and off the pitch. Sport has always been a huge passion of mine, and I am committed to helping every student progress, not only in their athletic ability but also in their confidence, teamwork, and resilience. I am really looking forward to working with the boys and supporting their journey.



Welcome to our new staff



Mrs H. James - Clarinet and Saxophone Teacher

I've had a lovely, warm welcome at St John's and I'm really excited to start teaching here. I grew up in Durham (coincidentally near to where Mr Hopwood is from) before continuing my studies at Trinity College of Music, London. Since graduating I've enjoyed a freelance career involving teaching and playing, including The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and West End Shows including Les Misérables, Miss Saigon and Matilda. I currently also teach at St Helen's and York House and, alongside this and my theatre work, I enjoy chamber music with my groups The Marylebone Trio and Clariphonics Clarinet Quartet.

Miss M. Kunaka - Cover Chef

I am really happy to be here at St John's, working with your wonderful kitchen team. I run my own catering business "Marcell's Organic Soups and Cuisine" and am passionate about encouraging everyone to eat natural food without preservatives. It has been great meeting all the boys and staff this week.



Miss A. Mahindru - Gap Student

Hello, I am super excited to be joining St John's this year. I recently completed my A levels in biology, chemistry and maths, but I also share a huge passion for music and drama, which I am looking forward to getting to help out with. Everyone has been so welcoming and I am looking forward to getting to know the boys and working with the staff.



Welcome to our new staff



Mrs T. Patel - English Teacher

I am so excited to join the amazing team at St John's School. I will be teaching Year 5 and 6 English and Year 4 and 5 Humanities. My first two weeks have been wonderful, meeting so many new colleagues and students and I look forward to many more amazing experiences to come. When I am not teaching, I love spending time reading and have just recently joined a book club! If you see me around school, then don't forget to tell me about the book you are currently reading. I can't wait to hear all about it and hand out some valuable House Points too! Thank you to all for the very warm welcome.

Mr G. Perrotta - Graduate Sports Assistant

I am delighted to have joined St John's as a Graduate Sports Assistant. I hold two degrees in Sport Psychology and have a strong background in coaching football, which has given me a real passion for helping young people to thrive through sport. Originally from Pinner and a former student at Merchant Taylors', I am looking forward to getting started this year and to making sport an enjoyable and rewarding experience for the boys.



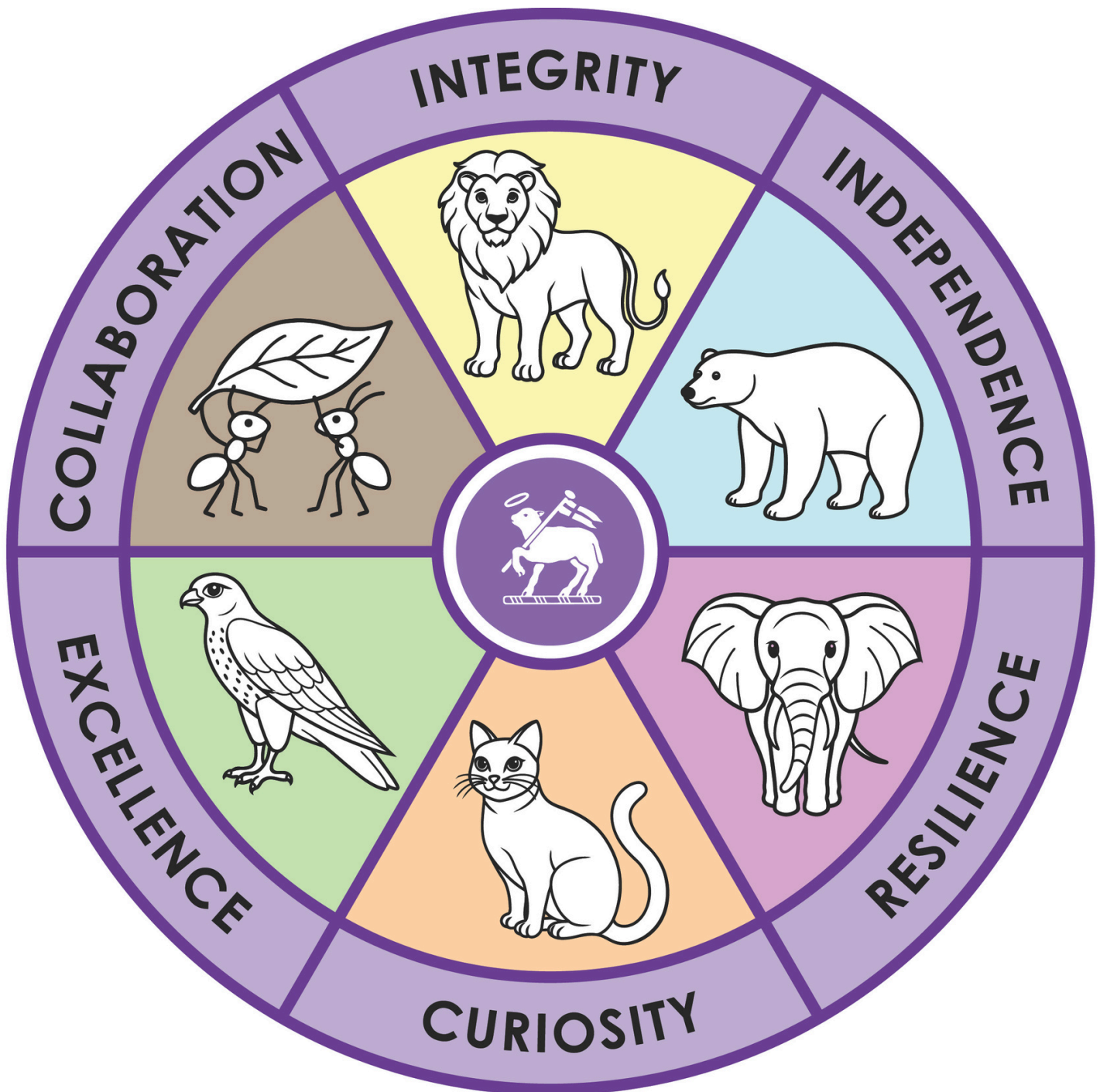
Mrs L. Ronanova - Nursery Teaching Assistant

Hello, my first two weeks are almost over and I have enjoyed getting to know everyone. I have received a lovely warm welcome, and I look forward to the upcoming year. I have been working in education for nine years. I share my home with my husband, our two children and two cats. We like cooking, playing board games and going for long walks. I'm passionate about nature and in my spare time I love to crochet. I love exploring outdoors and am hoping to share this passion with the children at St John's. I am excited about watching the children grow in confidence and supporting them to shine.



Language of Learning at St John's

Over the last academic year, we have been considering and refining our school values and in this week's assembly we launched our new Language of Learning at St John's. This will become an integral part of our teaching and learning across the School as we aim to develop well-rounded, happy, compassionate, and successful boys. We will focus on one of our core values each half term, starting with Integrity.





Our Year 8 Head Boy and Deputy chatting with Mr Jenkin



Hello Badgers!



"Be the best version of yourself."



Year 6 Head and Deputy Head Boy enjoy a brief sunny moment!



The sun shone on Year 3 in the forest



Let the adventures begin!



A new year in the Pre-Prep



Lambs



Ladybirds



Squirrels



Robins



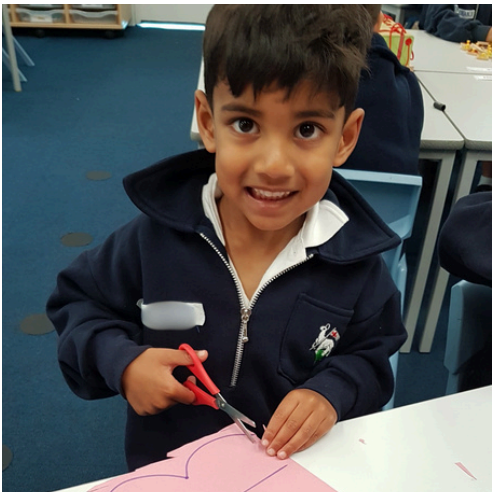
Owls



Otters



A new year in the Pre-Prep





Having fun in Nursery





Welcoming back our Juniors

We have had a wonderful start to the new school year in the Juniors! The Year 3 boys are wearing their new uniforms with pride and have settled into their routines smoothly. They have embraced their first term with great enthusiasm and are already tackling new learning adventures. Our Year 4 boys have also jumped into some exciting work. They are exploring *The Whale* by Ethan and Vita Murrow, a fantastic book that doesn't have any words! We have also started our studies on the Celts, which has sparked the boys' curiosity. All the boys are enthusiastic and ready for the year ahead. We look forward to sharing more of their progress with you soon.



Beech



Oak



Willow



Pine



Let the tapping begin

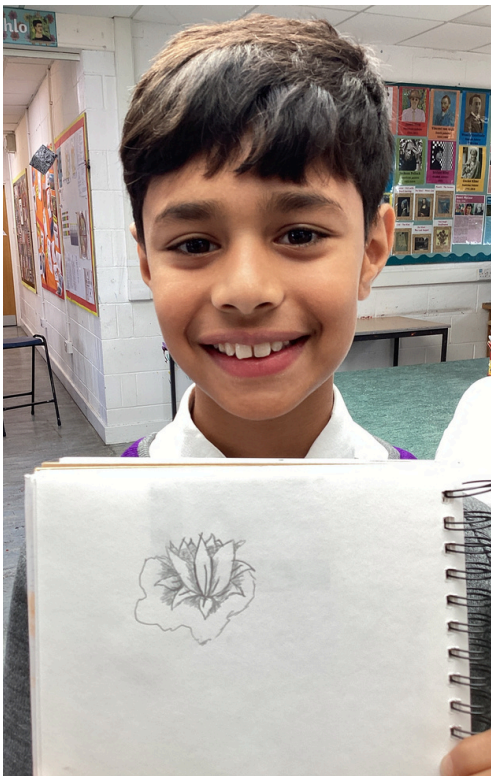
Tabla tappers enjoyed their first session back together and welcomed their new members. The boys helped each other and listened attentively. We look forward to their first performance after half-term.





A busy start to the term in the Art Room

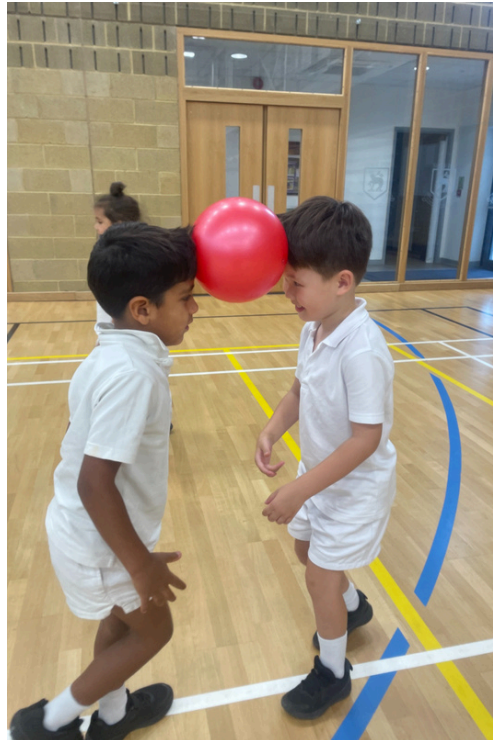
It has been a pleasure welcoming the boys back into the Art Room. Across the School, students have begun working on projects inspired by the theme 'Under the Sea', which will also be the focus of our Arts Evening in November.





We all love PE and Games!

Pre-Prep and Prep boys have all loved taking part in their first PE & Games lessons of the academic year led by Mr Spackman and Mr Kruger. They have met Mr Foster & Mr Perrotta who are working at St John's this year as our Graduate Sports Assistants. They bring with them a wealth of knowledge and expertise across all sports.





ST JOHN'S

A MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL



Open Morning
Friday 3 October 2025
www.st-johns.org.uk





Moor Park

Fun Run

Sunday 28th September
2025 11:45am



Save the Date - More
Information in Monday
Assembly

Merchant Taylors'
School Rickmansworth
HA6 2HT



Mount Vernon
Cancer Centre
Charity 