St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 383

Arts Evening was a wonderful occasion



Arts Evening was a wonderful showcase for the musical and creative talent of our boys. The concert audience enjoyed listening to a variety of musical performances and inspiring poetry recitations from our Hunter Jones winners. Before the concert, there was a chance to visit our "Under the Sea" themed display to enjoy some of the stunning Art, and Design Technology & Engineering work that the boys have been creating.

Boys of all ages enjoyed the Astronomy Evening on Wednesday; Year 6 have been inspired by outdoor team building exercises despite the cold snap; older children have been learning about and reflecting on the challenges and benefits of AI; and rugby season has begun. There is so much for the boys to get excited about. Talking of excitement, our Christmas tree is up, and the countdown has begun for the Pre-Prep boys, who excitedly walked down to the local post box to post their letters to Father Christmas. They are looking forward to performing their Christmas plays for you next week.

Finally, we wish all Year 6 boys the very best of luck at this busy time of external assessments. They are well-prepared, confident, and will shine!

From the Headmaster





The boys all enjoyed Arts Evening

There was a real buzz of excitement on Thursday afternoon as all our boys looked forward to sharing their musical achievements with family and friends. The concert was a showcase for our new chamber ensembles. It was amazing to hear what the boys have achieved in just one term. We heard the first performance from our Big Band, Wind Quintet, String Trio, and Flute Trio as well as Tabla Tappers, Guitar Ensemble and many soloists who were performing on stage for the first time. Our choirs raised the roof with their medleys from Oliver and Wicked.



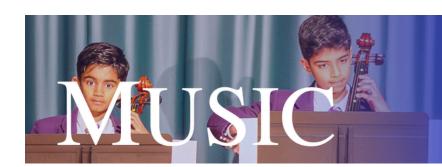
















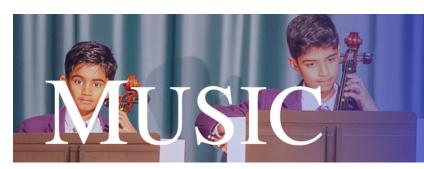


































Showcasing our Art

If you were lucky enough to come the Arts Evening this week, you would have needed your snorkel and fins because the theme this year was 'Under the Sea'. Dazzled by glow in the dark coral and luminated by lighthouses, bemused by bottle boats and fascinated by papier mache fish, we were able to share the joy of creation and innovation with just some of our impressive work













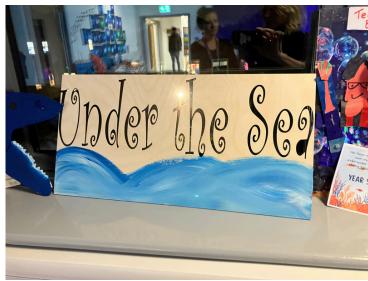


Showcasing our "Underwater" DT&E









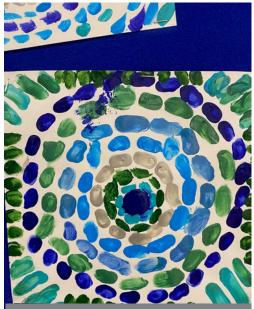






Deputy Head's commendations

This week, while we have been preparing for Arts Evening, Mr Russo visited the Art and DT&E departments. He enjoyed hearing Ms Gillen and Mrs McSween talking about pieces of work that they have been particularly impressed with recently. Here they are for you to enjoy ...



Well done Nihaal for painting this wintery patterned piece in the style of Alma Thomas. I can see that you have used gentle brushstrokes to create a cold, blizzard-like effect.



This clownfish by Aditya has been finished to perfection. I like the texture he has created on the fish's body and I love how he has chosen colourful coral to complete the piece.



Anay has framed his patterned fish beautifully with a white outline. It almost looks like it is jumping off your canvas of detailed pattern.



Kaiyan and Jay worked hard to develop multiple iterations of their coin sorting device.



Ben and Pujan have enjoyed making their hydraulic lifting machine work - complete with 3D printed driver.

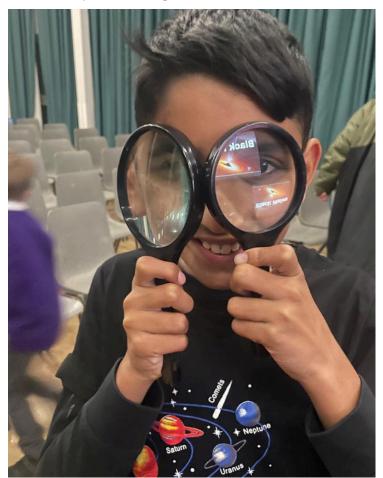


Aarav, Bilal and Anay have shown great resilience devising this idea, which they have modelled round an Oreo biscuit!



Astronomy Evening

Astronomy Evening was a great success despite cloudy skies. We had some wonderful talks from the boys. Shayan, Rian and Shrihaan in Year 5 presented a very informative talk on the solar system while Aaran and Riyan from Year 6 blew our minds with their talk on Black Holes! We had a great turn out and lovely hot chocolate and cakes. I hope to see some of you at Ruislip Lido at the weekend, where there is a greater promise of clear skies!











THE LAST WOLAS PUBLIC OBSERVING EVENT OF 2025

VIEW THE NIGHT SKY FROM RUISLIP LIDO

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

Friday 28th Nov - Sunday 30th Nov 2025. Time 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

If the sky is clear the quarter Moon will be well placed along with Uranus and Saturn whose rings are nearly edge-on. The Andromeda Galaxy, Seven Sisters and Double Cluster are amongst the many other objects in the sky.

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.

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 there are toilets 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 HA4 7TY

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.







Great teamwork in Year 6

As part of their Outdoor Learning Programme, Year 6 were set the task of rolling a ball as far as they could along lengths of guttering. The boys really enjoyed working as a team and and seemed completely oblivious to the freezing weather!













AROUND SCHOOL









Lambs posting their letters to Father Christmas



Very excited to win his tennis competition - well done



An excellent presentation on Al in assembly

ROUND SCHOOL SINCE 1920

Creative commendations in assembly





Working with increased "bouncebackability" and smiles!



Well done for learning all the Young Voices song words and for singing with confidence and enjoyment





Year 2 Science

Year 2 have been having lots of fun learning about gravity. We carried out different experiments to test our predictions!











Dear Father Christmas

He's making a list, he's checking it twice....! The Pre-Prep have posted their wish lists off to Father Christmas. Now we are all on our best behaviour in the hope that he will bring us what we wish for.











Otters and Owls







Non-Fiction November in the Juniors

This Non-Fiction November, our boys are judges for the Information Book Award's Children's Choice category. They're carefully voting for their favourites based on reliability, design, topic interest, language use and ease of navigation. This activity not only encouraged critical thinking, but all inspired them to write their own non-fiction books! Here are some of the entries. We will announce the winners in next week's Junior assembly.























"Underwater" DT&E in progress











Splendid work boys!







STEM DEN Hands On! Minds On! We change the state of the

STEM DEN DECEMBER CAMP 2025 HANDS ON! MINDS ON! FESTIVE FUN!

↑ 15th - 19th December 25 For ages 5-13⊚ Flexible booking – come for a day, a week, or the whole programme!

Mon 15th Dec: Engineering Challenge – Design and build Santa's Sleigh. Team fun and Christmas crafts.

Tue 16th Dec: Simple circuits, building a Santa Alarm, Morse Code, and a Christmas lights coding challenge.

Wed 17th Dec: Make a light-up Rudolph and fizzing Bath Bombs. Soldering option for older children (Year 5+).

Thu 18th Dec: Design and create custom Sublimation Socks. Science exploration of salt/ice and making a gnome decoration.

Fri 19th Dec: Physics experiment making a take-home Snow Globe. Science snow fun and Christmas games.

(Note: All days include outdoor woodland play and fire pit time.)

Find out more and book through the website: www.stemden.co.uk

☑ Email Us: stemdennorthwood@gmail.com

Find Us: St John's School, Potter Street Hill, Northwood HA5 3ZF









Rugby training

















Year 3 House matches







15th - 18th December 9am - 4pm

£65 per day

St John's Holiday Camp

Fun activities based in After School Club with our friendly team

Sign up Using the 'Bookings' Menu Item



https://app.involveeducation.com/involve