



What a week we had!



Welcome to a bumper 400th edition of The Lamb. Our boys enjoyed a challenging and entertaining Activity Week last week, with opportunities for alternative learning experiences both in and out of school. The residential trips all went well, and Year 3 had a great time orienteering at Ashridge House. Back at school, Year 5 were treated to a very special week. They spent an inspirational day at Merchant Taylors' School, painted with an amazing Urban Artist and worked as detectives at a Forensic Science workshop. Pre-Prep were visited by Ruislip Fire Brigade and Bruce the cow, the star of the farm visit. Well done to all the teachers who make this week a calendar highlight. This week, we've walked, cycled and scooted to school and enjoyed sharing travellers' tales. Enjoy the sunny start to the half-term break this weekend!

From the
Headmaster



A wonderful week in Wales

Years 6 and 8 and their teachers had a super week in St David's as they enjoyed the outdoor activities, each other's company and wonderful Welsh countryside. Diolch yn fawr!





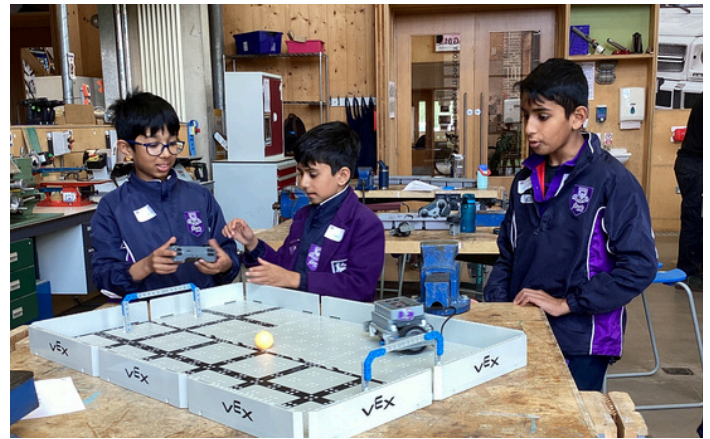
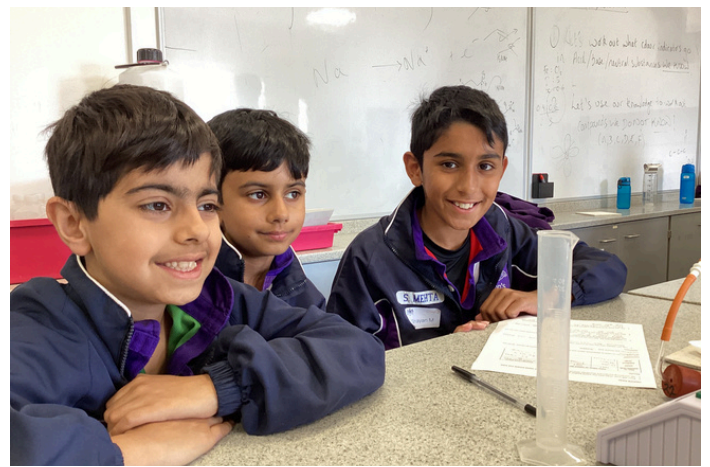
A wonderful week in Wales





Year 5 Discovery Day at MTS

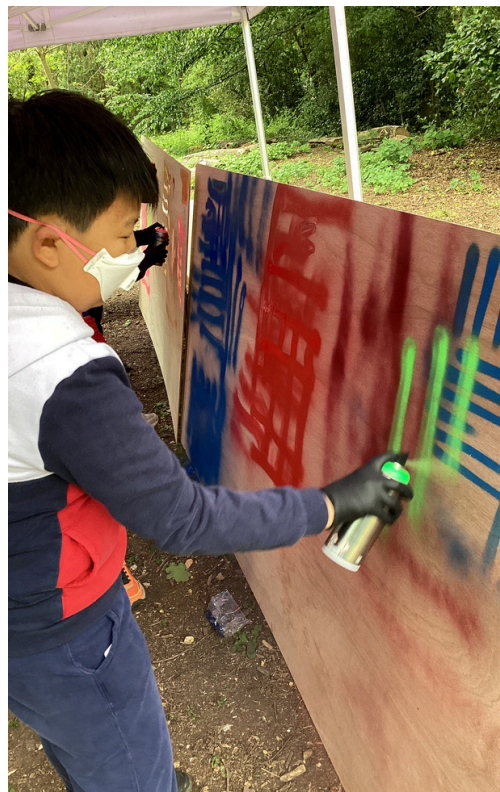
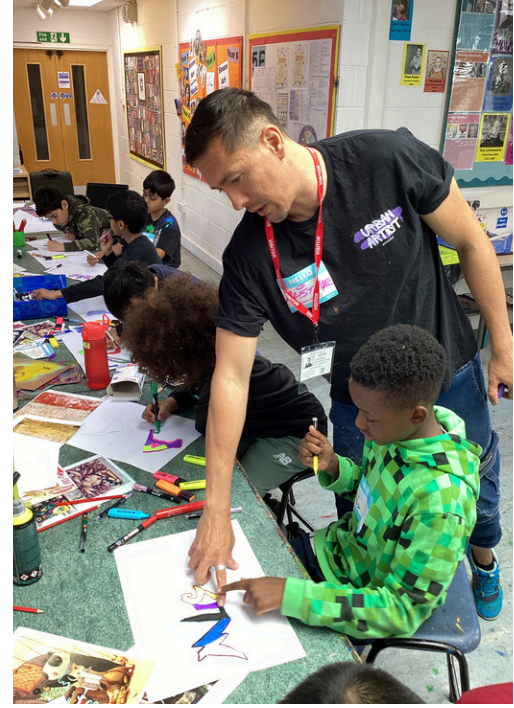
During Activities Week, our Year 5 boys were invited to Merchant Taylors' School for an exciting Discovery Day, which they thoroughly enjoyed. They were fascinated by an experiment on rates of reaction in Chemistry, challenged by a Robotics lesson in DT&E, and inspired by learning to mould animal heads out of clay in an Art lesson. They also had a chance to experience the Games and PE department with some boys playing hockey whilst others played cricket in the amazing purpose-built cricket facilities. The boys had lunch in the dining hall where they were joined by some St John's Old Boys who are now in the Sixth Form. They engaged like long-lost family. In fact, Year 5 were greeted throughout the day by St John's Old boys who were keen to catch-up. There is a lovely sense of a community within a community for St John's boys at MTS.





An amazing Urban Art workshop for Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed an inspirational workshop with Alistair from the Urban Artist Academy. The boys had fun learning about the history of graffiti and street art. Then they had an opportunity to use spray paint on a collaborative piece and some individual stencil work. We were amazed at the results!





Meet our police detectives and forensic scientists

Year 5 spent an exciting day working as forensic scientists and police detectives. In the morning, they looked into different types of crimes. They also learnt how to arrest someone correctly and then had a chance to practise on each other! The boys also had the opportunity to investigate a crime scene which involved collecting evidence and using their detective skills to solve the mystery.





Walking, cycling and scooting to school

It was wonderful to see so many families taking part in the annual Walk to School initiative. Boys walked with their families, with friends, cycled and even scooted. Congratulations to all the boys who earned Strider badges which contribute to our status as a Green Flag Eco School.



Congratulations on your Chief Scout's Bronze Award - what an achievement!



Year 8 pay Angie a quick visit at Clubhouse



Years 3 to 5 enjoyed a visit from the Happy Puzzle Company. Their problem-solving and teamwork skills were put to the test as they worked hard to solve a variety of tricky puzzles and games. Great collaboration.



The hat-trick ball!



PSHE in the Wellbeing Garden



The theme of Rev Fields' assembly was wonder

Following Rev Fields' assembly on "wonder", Mr Russo was inspired to write a poem based on the Year 6 and 8 boys surfing memories:

*I remember the glistening blue
The fear and excitement
of the unknown depth
and the dark
The surprising force of the swell,
Lifting me, rocking me, unsettling.*

*Head up, looking, anticipating,
Waiting for an opportunity
The quiet stillness all around
And then, a moment,
The momentum of the swell builds
And it's time to react*

*Arms dig deep into the growing swell
And I feel the force taking me forward
Propelling me and its out of my control
Uncertainty grips me and then I react*

*In a flash of spray
I am up and my feet
are planted on the board
I ride the wave, feel its force
Yet, I can start to navigate
the momentum
And let it carry me
onwards, forward*

*And in a flash, it is over
My heart in my mouth
And my head full of wonder*

*I want to do it again
Ride the natural force
and navigate my way forward,
again and again.*

*This is the life.
This is life!*





Year 2 had a big adventure last week

The boys were full of excitement as our coach pulled out of the St John's gates, to set off on our PGL adventure. We enjoyed fun-filled activities, exploring, climbing, and working in teams, not to mention the midnight feasts. We did our best "packing" – hopefully, you got your own son's clothes back eventually!





Nature inspires Art in Year 1

This term, Otters and Owls have been looking at how nature can inspire artists to create their artwork. We tried making sculptures of natural objects out of clay. Using the tools to create texture in the clay took a lot of concentration.





Hoses, heroes and high ladders

There was a buzz of excitement at St John's as a giant red fire engine rolled in to visit our Nursery and Reception classes. Our youngest learners were captivated as the firefighters showcased their "superhero" gear and extended their impressive, sky-high ladder. The children eagerly peered into the engine's side compartments, discovering a treasure trove of equipment ranging from thermal cameras to the powerful "Jaws of Life." The session reached a spectacular finale with a demonstration of the amazing water hose; as the loud, piercing siren began to wail, the boys watched in awe as the crew sent a massive, refreshing arc of water soaring across the playground. A BIG thank you to the Ruislip Fire Station crew for visiting us!





A MOO-VELOUS visit from the farm

The Pre-Prep field was transformed into a countryside scene as our Nursery and Reception classes enjoyed a truly a-maaaaazing visit from the farm. The air was filled with a chorus of excited cheers as our youngest pupils stepped outside to meet the stars of the show: Bruce the Cow and a group of incredibly energetic, jumping juvenile goats. While Bruce impressed everyone with his gentle, calm nature, the goats kept the children in stitches with their playful antics, leaping and bouncing around to show off just how high they could jump. The boys practised their gentle hands, walking feet and quiet voices as they observed and handled the animals up close. Throughout the session, the farmers shared fascinating stories about life on the land, teaching the children what the animals eat and how they are cared for. This immersive, hands-on experience brought the natural world to life in the most memorable way, leaving the boys with wide smiles and plenty of stories about their new four-legged friends. Thank you to Danielle and all the animals for coming to visit us.





Balancing challenges in PE for Pre-Prep

The Pre-Prep loved Mr Spackman's balancing challenges. Wobbly fun was had by all!





A fabulous trip for Year 4

Year 4 had an excellent time at Whitemoor Lakes. The boys were full of excitement as we left St John's last Wednesday morning. We enjoyed lots of fun-filled activities including zipline, abseiling, orienteering and canoeing. We also managed to fit in a little bit of sleep along the way.





Year 3 orienteering at Ashridge

Year 3 loved their trip to Ashridge. They read maps and searched for clues during an orienteering challenge, made some natural art and built dens out of branches and foliage. Luckily the thunderstorm arrived after we had returned to school!



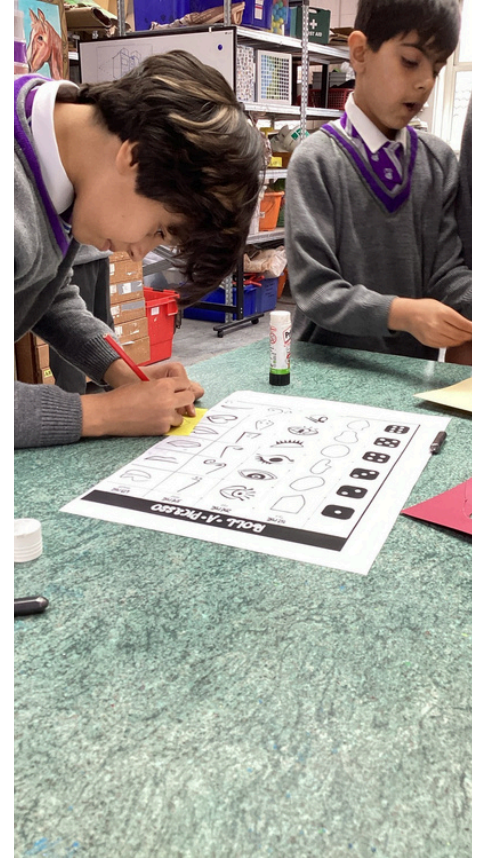
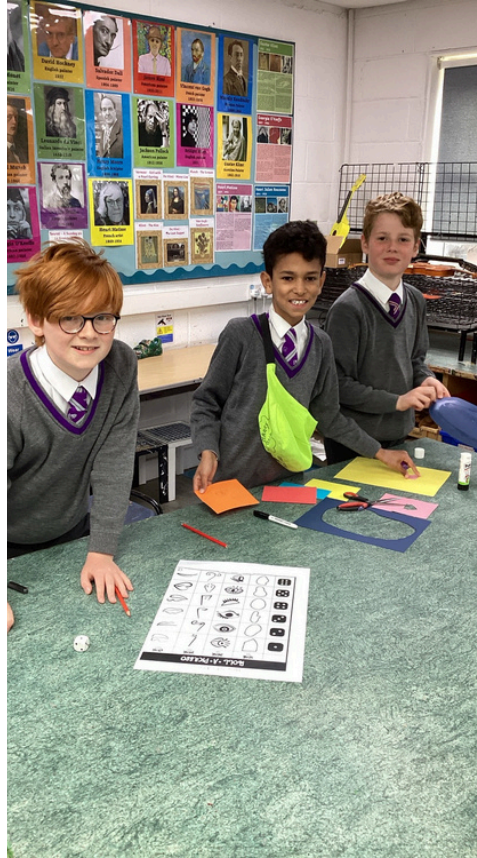


Year 3 chefs





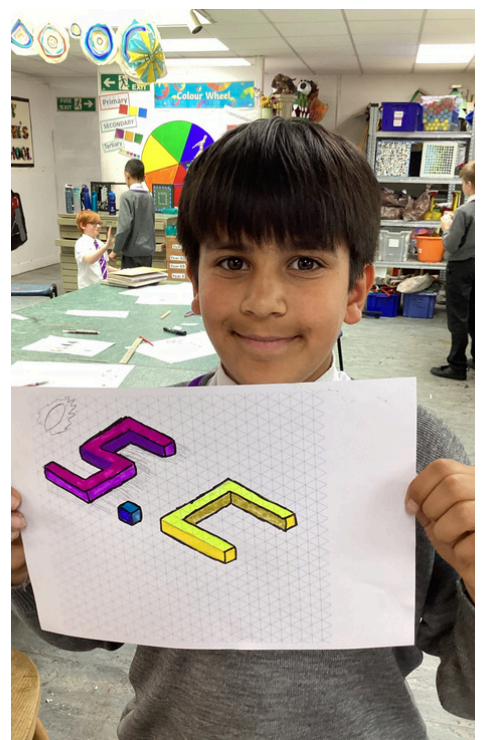
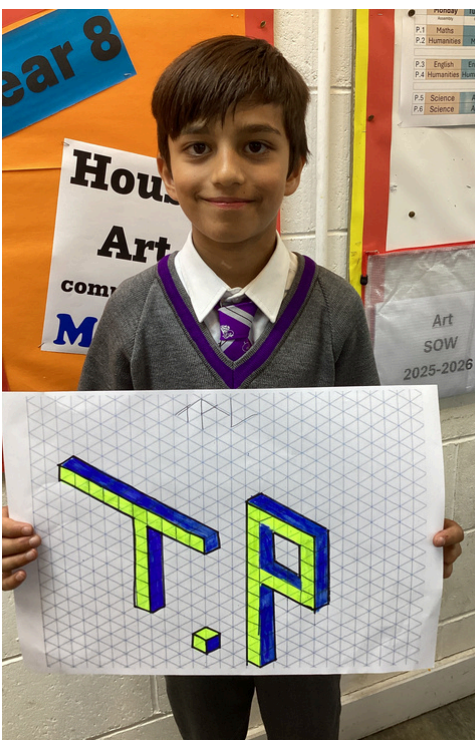
Roll a Picasso!





House Art up-date

Year 5 have enjoyed learning about isometric drawing, and we have received more completed House Art entries. The results of the House Art competition awards will be announced during an assembly after half term.







ST JOHN'S CLUBHOUSE

More fun and friendship at St John's Clubhouse







Awesome day at the U13 Orley Farm Cricket Tournament with Orley Farm winning and 3 schools finishing in second place, needing to be separated by strike rate. Rahul was the 2nd top batter of the tournament with two half centuries, scoring a total of 107 runs in the whole tournament.



U10A scored 132 runs to win v Belmont, with a hat-trick for Ben



Year 3 team v MTP



A win for the U8 B team

SINCE 1920



ST JOHN'S
A
MERCHANT TAYLORS'
SCHOOL

St John's Clubhouse Adventures

Fun friendly holiday care during May half term

Clubhouse Adventures is a relaxed, activity filled holiday club in a familiar school setting. Children will enjoy a range of fun activities, games and creative play with the experienced Clubhouse team.

✓ Tuesday 26 – Thursday 28 May (inclusive)

✓ 9am – 4pm

✓ Welcomes children from all schools

✓ Bring a nut free packed lunch

✓ Limited places available



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