

St John's Primary School Newsletter

25th November 2022

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone for sending in such generous hamper donations today. The school is over-run with lovely gifts. The PTFA will be making them into a range of themed hampers on Monday 28th November at 6pm in the school hall. Do look out for details of how to buy raffle tickets as they will be well worth winning!

Many thanks to the volunteers who came along on Saturday to 'Love your Forest School Day'. Mrs Carr was very grateful for all of the support tidying and clearing the shed and the school field, and for all of the trips to the tip. We will organise another day in the Spring to include jobs on the school site.

Rehearsals for the Infant Nativity are now underway and the children are learning all of the songs quickly. I am sure some of you will be being treated to the songs at home and there will be scripts finding their way home soon too! We look forward to hosting our first Nativity with a live audience for three years in the week beginning 12th December. Information on how to get your tickets will be sent out shortly.

Staff have had a really busy week as Tuesday was our annual Peer Review visit from the Headteachers of the other three OPEN UmbrellaTrust schools (Cholsey, Ladygrove Park and Willowcroft). The visiting Heads spent the day at St John's carrying out a range of monitoring including observing lessons and talking to staff, children and governors. The feedback was very positive including with regard to our new Phonics scheme and Reading at the school. The Heads also gave us some development points which we will work on over the coming terms. Thank you to all of the staff for the work done in preparation and for having visitors into their lessons—it is a worthwhile but tiring day!

Thanks to Mrs Ball for running Maths Workshops for parents this week. I hope those of you who came along found them useful and you picked up some tips for supporting your child with Maths at home.

Do look at the dates below for our end of term events including an Open Morning and Christmas Film Night.

Kind Regards,

Nicky Hughes

Upcoming dates :

Monday 28th November—6pm—PTFA make up hampers in school hall

Friday 2nd December—PTFA Christmas Film Night

Monday 12th December—Infant Nativity—6pm

Tuesday 13th December—Infant Nativity—2pm

Tuesday 13th December—Open Morning for parents (9-10am)

Wednesday 14th December—Christmas Lunch

Thursday 15th December—Cake Sale

Tuesday 20th December—1pm—End of term

Year 5 Visit to Reading Museum

report by Toby

When we got to Reading Museum, we all took our coats off and we looked around the Museum and we were amazed. First thing in the morning we went to our classroom.

The boys had to wear jackets and ties around our necks and the girls had to wear dresses. Then we all went to class, we had to pray before we entered. We did Maths first, we all thought it was very interesting. After Maths, we did Handwriting. In Handwriting we learned how Victorians used to put flicks in their words, and we used blotting paper to dry our pens. After we did Geography. In Geography, we all learned about the planet and some people got to hold up the flags of the United Kingdom, halfway thorough someone in class got the cane and someone else had to wear the Dunce's hat and stand in the corner.

In the afternoon, we had the chance to do a Victorian job. We were all surprised at what the children had to do in Victorian times, there were Fire Lighters, scullery maids and lots more of interesting, and hard jobs.

I enjoyed that we got to try being a Victorian schoolchild the most, I'd rather be in the present day!

Internet Safety

Please see the attached Internet Safety sheet with important information from the Internet Safety Talk.

New Adventure Playground Fundraising

[St. John's Primary - New Playground Equipment - a Sports crowdfunding project in Wallingford by Paul Nash \(crowdfunder.co.uk\)](#)

Children in Need Day

We raised £233 for Children in Need last week. Many thanks for your donations!

Wallingford Food Bank

Do please contact us if you would like to access support from the Food Bank. We can provide vouchers for our families who need them.

Christmas Events in Wallingford

Please follow this link for a round up of Christmas events taking place in Wallingford :

<https://mailchi.mp/b97811794f61/christmas-in-wallingford-2022-round-up-of-events>

Value of the fortnight

Honesty

Sports Report
By Megan Thickpenny, PE Coordinator

It has been another busy couple of weeks for our St John's sports' teams. First of all, it was the turn of our brilliant boys to show their football prowess in a Year 5 and 6 tournament against our local partnership schools. We were able to submit two teams to the event, each demonstrating a multitude of skill and fantastic teamwork. Both our St John's Tigers team and St John's Panthers team were a pleasure to watch on the pitch. Not only did they display gameplay that would not look out of place at the World Cup, but above all they exemplified true sportsmanship and humility, ensuring they supported each other as well as thanking referees and shaking the hands of their opponents. Our St John's Panthers team made it through the playoffs, narrowly missing out on a place in the final after an exhilarating penalty shoot-out that had us all on the edge of our seats!

Next it was time for us to turn our attention to hockey. Once again we were able to submit two teams to the local Year 5 and 6 tournament; a true example of how our pupils are excited to experience new opportunities. After committing themselves to a practice session, our teams were ready to put their skills into gameplay. Our first match was both St John's teams against each other, a perfect warm up and the opportunity to try out game plays and positions. Afterwards, we faced teams from other local schools. It was a challenging tournament with matches against other very skilled teams. All our St John's players exhibited an abundance of resilience, determination and sportsmanship. We were able to secure ourselves 4th and 5th place in the tournament - a great result!



We are fortunate to have a pool of fantastic sporting talent at St John's and are eager to give all children the opportunity to experience different sports at a competitive level. If you're a keen sportsperson yourself or have a particular area of expertise, we would love to hear from you if you are willing to run a sports' club for a short period of time.

