

# NEWSLETTER

## ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

OUR VISION: '.....I CAN DO EVERYTHING THROUGH CHRIST WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH'

[Click here for upcoming dates or check your Class Dojo events](#)

### UPDATE FROM MISS DONNELLY

#### New School Leaflets

We are thrilled to share that our new school leaflets have arrived! These can be found in our foyer, and local Clergy members have kindly offered to display these in their churches to help market our school.

In this addition, we have our wonderful Christmas addition, designed by Beau in Year 6, her careful thought and care has really helped to express the True meaning of Christmas and the significance of the birth of Jesus.



#### Christmas Baubles

Thank you to all the families who kindly donated Christmas baubles in red, gold, silver and white. We look forward to having the tree in the main foyer decorated in readiness for the new week as we begin the season of Advent, an important season in our Christian calendar.

#### Year 6 Visit Purcell Media

This week, our Year 6's went to visit Purcell School of Music. They got to see a performance based around the story of St George but with a musical twist. The story was centred around a young boy and a reluctant dragon who refused to fight and wanted to be different. The Purcell school showcased this performative production through the use of a fantastic choir and brilliant string quartet.



#### Year 4 Eucharist

On Thursday, Year 4 lead us in worship in their Eucharistic service where they explored Paul's letter to the Colossians discussing the topic of 'the Kingdom of God and Hope'. The children brilliantly portrayed the various values that the Kingdom of God is made up of and values which Christians should demonstrate in their lives such as hope, forgiveness, love, gratitude and peace. Values which can help make a positive difference in the world.



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## Governors School Improvement Fund Exciting Painting Updates

This week, the painters have been busy finishing the corridor spaces outside the classrooms and the stair cases. The school is certainly looking bright and fresh!

Once again, this is all thanks to the donations received from the Governors Improvement Fund. Please take time to contribute to this fund via Parent Pay. All donations are greatly appreciated and go to the upkeep of the school and education of your child/children.



### Christmas Tree Festival featuring the St John's Orchestra

Join us if you can at All Saint's Church, Stanmore on the 4th December at 7pm, for the Christmas tree festival. Vote for your favourite. In the past St. John's have taken 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places.  
Can we do it again?

There will be stall to purchase goods from, even Mrs Whitfield will be selling some of her wonderful woollen creations, enjoy some food and even mulled wine!

Enjoy the evening of music played by our very own Orchestra, members including pupils and staff, both past and present!

**Have blessed weekend, Miss Donnelly**

## IMPORTANT DATES

### December

- 1<sup>st</sup> Harrow Family Hub - Behaviour workshop
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Parent Tour
- 2nd- Turning on Stanmore Christmas Lights (5pm)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints Church 7pm
- 5th Rock Steady Concert 2:30pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> English morning - all parents are welcome
- 8th SingUp St Luke Church Carol Service
- 10<sup>th</sup> KS1 (Y1&2) Nativity 2:15pm Lower School Hall
- 11<sup>th</sup> Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner Lunch
- 11<sup>th</sup> Year 4 Statutory Multiplication Test workshop 2pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Christmas Fair and Mufti Day 3:30-6pm
- 15th Reception Nativity 2:15pm

## Reminder for 3M families

From Monday, the 3M classroom will be getting painted. 3M will move into the spare Y2 class for a week- see the letter sent out earlier in the week.

## Reminders!

### St. John's to Turn on the Stanmore Christmas Tree Lights!

Don't forget to join us on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 5pm in Stanmore as our wonderful Choir sing Christmas Carols and switch on the Christmas tree lights in Stanmore.  
We warmly invite everyone to come along.



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

 5 Beethoven 99%

 4 Kusama 96%

 1 Byron 95%

**Whole school attendance:**



94.7%

# Our strengths this week!

## Nursery

This week in Nursery, we explored the traditional tale 'The Three Little Pigs', we used as a focus for some of our activities; one including using our fine motor skills to design and build own houses, carefully selecting materials and thinking about how to make our structures strong. We also started to name and identify 2D shapes: circles, squares, triangles and rectangles!

## Donaldson

This week in phonics, we have been independently using our sounds to segment and blend words, allowing us to write our own short, simple sentences with growing confidence. In P.E, we enjoyed moving like characters from the story 'The Gingerbread Man', using their large motor skills to run, jump and travel in different ways while joining in with the repetition from the story.

## 1 Byron

As part of our History unit, we have been exploring toys from different eras. This week we had so much fun exploring toys from the past, and loved playing with toys like 'Jack in the Box', 'Pick up Sticks' and 'Metal Jacks.' We are really looking forward to our visit to the V&A toy museum on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December!

## 2 Pilkey

This week in Maths, we have been learning to identify and describe 2D shapes as well as find lines of symmetry. We have also been working hard in our Nativity rehearsals in readiness for our performance on the 10<sup>th</sup> December.

## 3 Wiltshire & Morris

In Year 3 we have been learning about multiplying and dividing by 4 using a range of strategies. In Science, we explored what joints are and the different types of joints that we have in our body that help our skeletons to be able to move.

## 4 Banksy & Kusama

This week, Year 4 did their Eucharist on the values in the Kingdom of God. They did a fantastic job with their presentation which they had worked very hard towards. Well done Year 4!

## 5 Beethoven & Fitzgerald

This week in our DT lesson, we started to practice our sewing skills, which has proven tricky but we persevered and have practiced two types of stitch - the running stitch and the back stitch. If you have needle and tread at home, it would be good to continue practising this skills over the weekend.

## 6 Lennon & Williams

In Year 6, we had a lovely opportunity on Thursday to visit the Purcell Music school. This was a fantastic experience, as we learned about the range of instruments they have to offer to learn and even had the chance to watch performances. We have also been working hard at work on our assessments.



## Theme of the week

Colossians 1:11-20

## The Big Question

### What do you think the values of the kingdom of God are?

Rev. Chris led our Wednesday worship by reminding us that everyone faces different tests in life. Just as teachers can guide us through challenges, whether in computing, music, or running, Jesus supports us in an even greater way. He takes our place when life is difficult, carrying our sins and giving us hope, freedom, and forgiveness. Rev. Chris also taught that Jesus is the true expert on how we should live. By following His example and guidance, we can live well and look forward to entering the Kingdom of Heaven with confidence and hope.

## Something to pray

Dear God,

Thank you for giving us strength when things feel hard. Please help us to be patient, kind, and full of joy.

Jesus, we thank You for showing us what God is like and for holding everything in the world together. Thank You for bringing us peace and for always loving us.

Help us to follow Your example every day. Teach us to make good choices, to help others, and to grow closer to You. Be with us in all we do, and help our lives shine with Your love

In Jesus' name, Amen.



# PARENT WORKSHOPS

Committed to educational excellence

## NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

THUR  
13

### Y6 SATS WORKSHOP PART 1

Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar and Reading  
Upper School Hall at 9-10 am and repeated again at 5-6 pm

### MATHS: FLUENCY & CALCULATION

Understand what fluency is, and how to use the St. John's maths calculation policy to help your child flourish with number.  
Upper School Hall at 2:15-3:15 pm

THUR  
20

THUR  
27

### Y6 SATS WORKSHOP PART 2

Maths Papers: Arithmetic, Reasoning 1 & 2 and KS2 Writing  
Upper School Hall at 9-10 am and repeated again at 5-6 pm

"THERE IS NO SCHOOL EQUAL TO A DECENT HOME AND NO TEACHER EQUAL TO A VIRTUOUS PARENT." - MAHATMA GANDHI



At St. John's, we make a difference!

More information will be shared on our:



Our Social Media



# PARENT WORKSHOPS

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## DECEMBER SCHEDULE

### HARROW FAMILY HUB - BEHAVIOUR

This session will explore: Positive parenting strategies, Managing feelings, Sibling relationships, Routines and Setting boundaries  
Upper School Hall at 9-10 am

MON  
1

MON  
8

### ENGLISH MORNING

Join us in class during our English lesson, understand how it is taught, and support your child in their learning  
Your child's classroom from 9-10 am

THUR  
11

### Y4 MULTIPLICATION TEST

Understand the statutory assessment, and how to support your child in learning and recalling their timetables.  
Upper School Hall at 9-10 am and repeated again at 2-3 pm

WED  
17

### PHONICS IN EYFS AND KS1

Understand what phonics is, why it is important and how you can support your child in their learning  
Upper School Hall at 9-10 am and repeated again at 2-3 pm

"BEHIND EVERY YOUNG CHILD WHO BELIEVES IN HIMSELF IS A PARENT WHO BELIEVED FIRST" - MATTHEW JACOBSON,



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## Christmas Lunch

### MAINS

Roast Turkey  
Vegetable and Cranberry  
Slice

### SIDES

Roast Potatoes, Stuffing,  
Sausage Carrots, Peas and  
Gravy

### DESSERTS

Vanilla Christmas  
Shortbread

\*Menus may be subject to change

Chartwells

BACK BY  
POPULAR  
DEMAND!

