



Respect Kindness Confidence Tolerance Self-Discipline

Key Dates

Friday 28th November

Christmas Fayre 3.30-5.00pm

Thursday 4th December

Early Years Open Afternoon - Sept 2026

Friday 5th December

Year 1 Road Safety Workshop

Friday 5th December

FoS School Discos

Y1,2,3—3.30-4.30pm

Y4,5,6 - 4.45-5.45pm

Tuesday 9th December

Early Years—Nativity 2.30pm

Tuesday 9th December

Year 6 Trip—Holocaust Centre

Wednesday 10th December

KS1 Nativity (pm)

Thursday 11th December

KS1 Nativity (am)

Friday 12th December

Y6 Class Assembly—9.15am

Wednesday 17th December

KS2 Concert—Y3/4 families 1.45pm

Thursday 18th December

KS2 Concert—Y5/6 families 1.45pm

Friday 19th December

End of term—Christmas Party Day!

Dear St John's Families,

The festive period has truly arrived at St John's! Nativity practices are in their final stages and we can't wait to welcome you into school over the next couple of weeks to watch your children perform in their nativity or concert performances. The children and staff have been working really hard to make sure they put on a fantastic show!

It's always the best time to work in a primary school in the lead up to Christmas. There's excitement and a buzz around the corridors which is always a treat to see and be part of.

I'm looking forward to being joined by some pupils next Sunday at the Christingle service at St John's Church with some poems and prayers being shared by them.

Our choir are also working hard, preparing for their performance at the Age UK Concert on the 10th December which is always a lovely evening raising money for a worthy charity.

Our newsletter this week is full of exciting learning that the children have been getting up to in class. We've had some brilliant workshops for some of our year groups linked to their History and Geography learning.

Year 1 will be having their road safety workshop next week with the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership and Year 6 are visiting the Holocaust Centre as part of their learning about WW2. This is always a very reflective and solemn experience but one which we know they take so much from.

Thank you for all your support so far this year and we look forward to an exciting last few weeks of term!

Mrs Emma Jefferson

Headteacher

Contact us: - 01522 530954

Email: stjohnsenquiries@prioryacademies.co.uk

Website:

<http://www.stjohnsprimaryacademy.co.uk/>

Attendance and Safeguarding

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



RJR	95%
RAS	95%
1T	98.1%
1HC	97.1%
2ST	94.9%
2F	97.1%
30S	95.8%
3B	96.8%
4T	96.9%
4D	99.4%
5N	96.1%
5M	95.7%
6B	95.5%
6C	95.9%

Attendance for the week:

96.4%

Attendance for the year to date:

97%

Attendance Updates

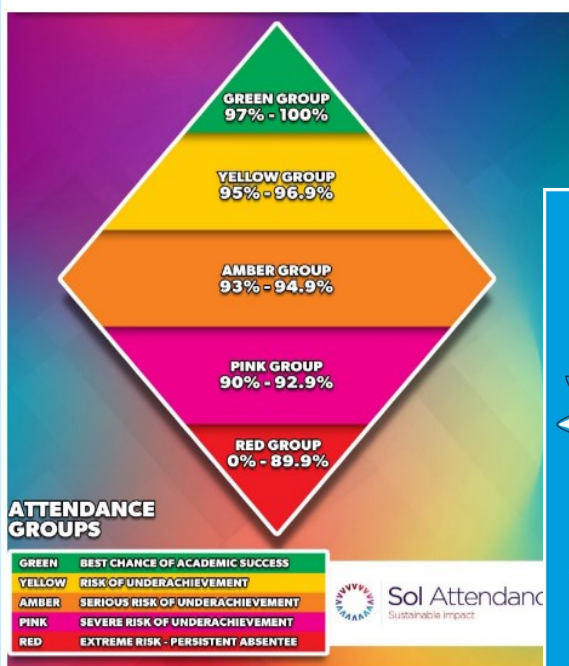
Please can we remind families that the start of the day for EY/KS1 is 8.50am and so the doors open at 8.40am. We are seeing a number of children in EY/KS1 be late because they are arriving in time for their older siblings to come through the KS2 gates at 9am. We begin phonics and reading teaching straight away so this means children are missing out on their crucial learning time in these key subjects. KS1 children should be dropped off at their gates / doors before 8.50am to ensure they are ready to start their day on time.

Illness and Holiday Absences

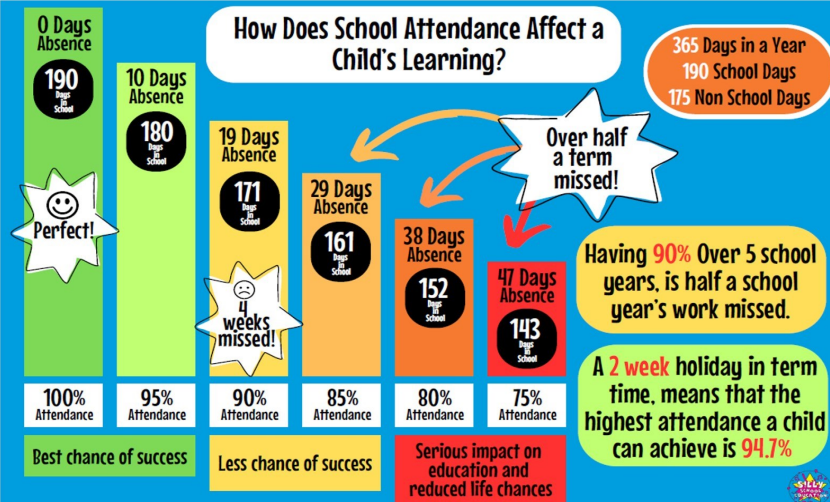
Please can we ask families when reporting absence for illness to give a clear reason for illness. We are having some voicemails and emails reporting absence which just says that a child is "unwell" We are expected to record a specific reason for absence so we need to know what the illness is e.g. tonsillitis, chicken pox, sickness etc. This will help ensure we are recording absences correctly in line with our attendance policy.

Please note that with any absences that are reported as illness but are attached to a requested holiday, we will conduct a home visit again to ensure that we are coding attendances correctly e.g. if a holiday has been requested for 4 days and a 5th day is reported as illness, a member of the attendance team will complete a home visit to be assured that the correct absence code is being used. If we have reason to suspect that a family may be on holiday and they have not let school know this, it is the trust policy to ask for evidence to show otherwise.

Attendance Ladder



How Does School Attendance Affect a Child's Learning?



Learning in Class



ST JOHN'S
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Year 3

Year 3 were very lucky to explore Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age artefacts in the classroom. They examined each object closely and drew detailed sketches, paying attention to tiny clues that might help them work out what the artefacts were and how they were once used. Before learning their true identities, they shared their own ideas, using evidence from their observations to support their thinking. This hands-on investigation helped them understand how historians piece together the past. It also strengthened their critical thinking skills, encouraging them to ask questions, make predictions, and think like real archaeologists.



Year 3 have also been busy developing their sewing skills, practising neat and accurate running stitch and cross stitch, as well as learning how to applique different fabrics. Everyone has shown great focus and improving dexterity as they work with needles, thread, and material. They are now excited to begin designing their Christmas cushions, planning how to incorporate all the techniques they've learned. Later in the term, they'll bring our designs to life by making the cushions themselves. It's been wonderful to see the children's creativity, confidence, and independence grow as they prepare for this festive textile project.



Year 4

This week Year 4 enjoyed a workshop about Volcanoes and Earthquakes. The children took part in many different drama activities including a gameshow about the different tectonic plates, freeze frames to show the three different ways a volcano can be described - active, dormant or extinct and a game using different actions to show the different parts of a volcano. Even the staff managed to have a go but didn't last very long before they were out. As you can see the children had lots of fun!



Learning in Class



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Year 2

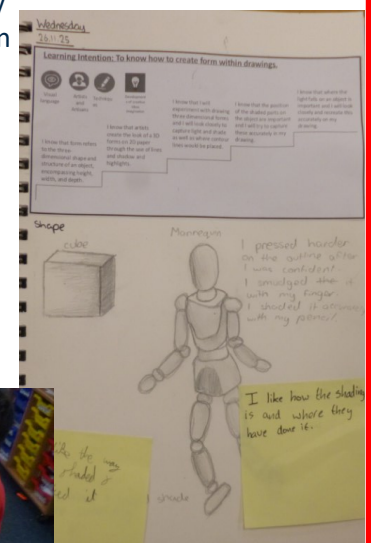
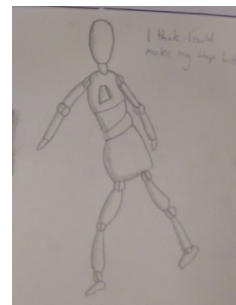
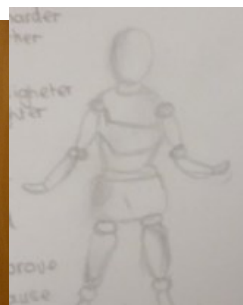
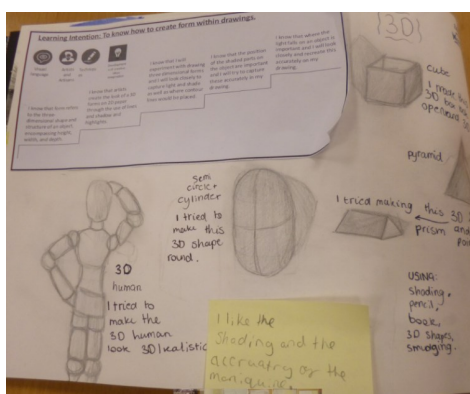
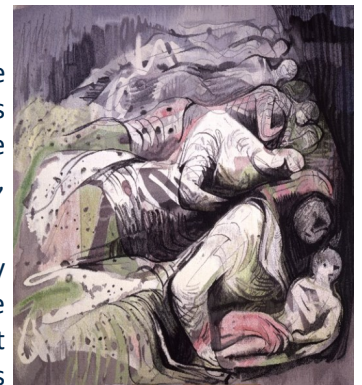
Year 2 have been learning about explorers in their History learning this term and had a workshop this week with One Day Creative all about Neil Armstrong and the Moon Landing. There was much excitement in the classroom and I walked past at one point to American flags being waved with great enthusiasm! The children acted out parts of Neil Armstrong's life and learnt more about the Moon and Space. It was very much enjoyed by all.



Year 6

Year 6 have been thoroughly enjoying their drawing unit this term. They have experimented with mark making and wax resist techniques inspired by the sketches of Henry Moore. He was an artist and sculptor who created images such as this one showing the people of London sheltering from the Blitz in the underground tunnels, which links to their History learning about WW2.

This week, they focussed on creating different forms to give a 3D impression. They tried drawing some 3D shapes, noticing where the light hit the object and where shadows were cast. They then had a go at drawing some mannequins in different poses. It took a lot of concentration, and they had to add detail to their sketches through shading and using the techniques they have been learning. They were very proud of their attempts and thought about how they could improve them even further.



In Other News



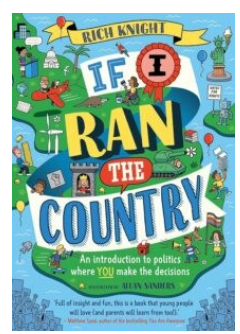
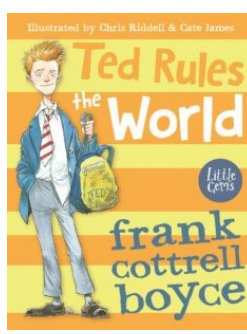
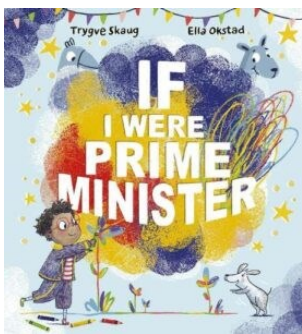
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UK Parliament Week

This week is UK Parliament Week—a week aimed at helping children understand more about Parliament, how Government works and how laws are made. My assembly to KS2 this week was on this theme and I was very impressed with what the children knew about our Prime Minister and some even knew who our local MP is. We learnt about the difference between the House of Commons and the House of Lords and the children learnt some key terms such as 'bill,' 'act,' 'debate,' and 'petition.' They also found out that their voice matters and the different ways they can raise issues which are important to them.

UK PARLIAMENT WEEK
24-30 NOV 2025

Recommended Reads for UK Parliament Week



ONLINE SAFETY Q+A PRIMARY PARENTS



Lincolnshire
County Council
Working for a better future



**WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER
6 - 7:30PM
MICROSOFT TEAMS EVENT**

Discover the Digital World Your Child is Navigating!

Join the Stay Safe Partnership for an essential online safety event for parents. We'll provide the latest information and practical tools to help you:

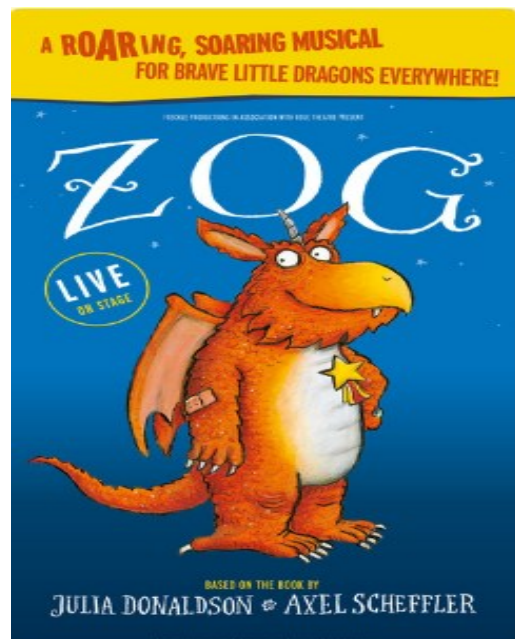
- ✓ Understand what your child experiences online
- ✓ Use parental controls effectively
- ✓ Navigate age-appropriate apps, games, and social media
- ✓ Ask your burning questions about online trends and risks

Feel confident keeping your child safe while they explore the online world.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/staysafepartnership/1929114>

Theatre Trip!

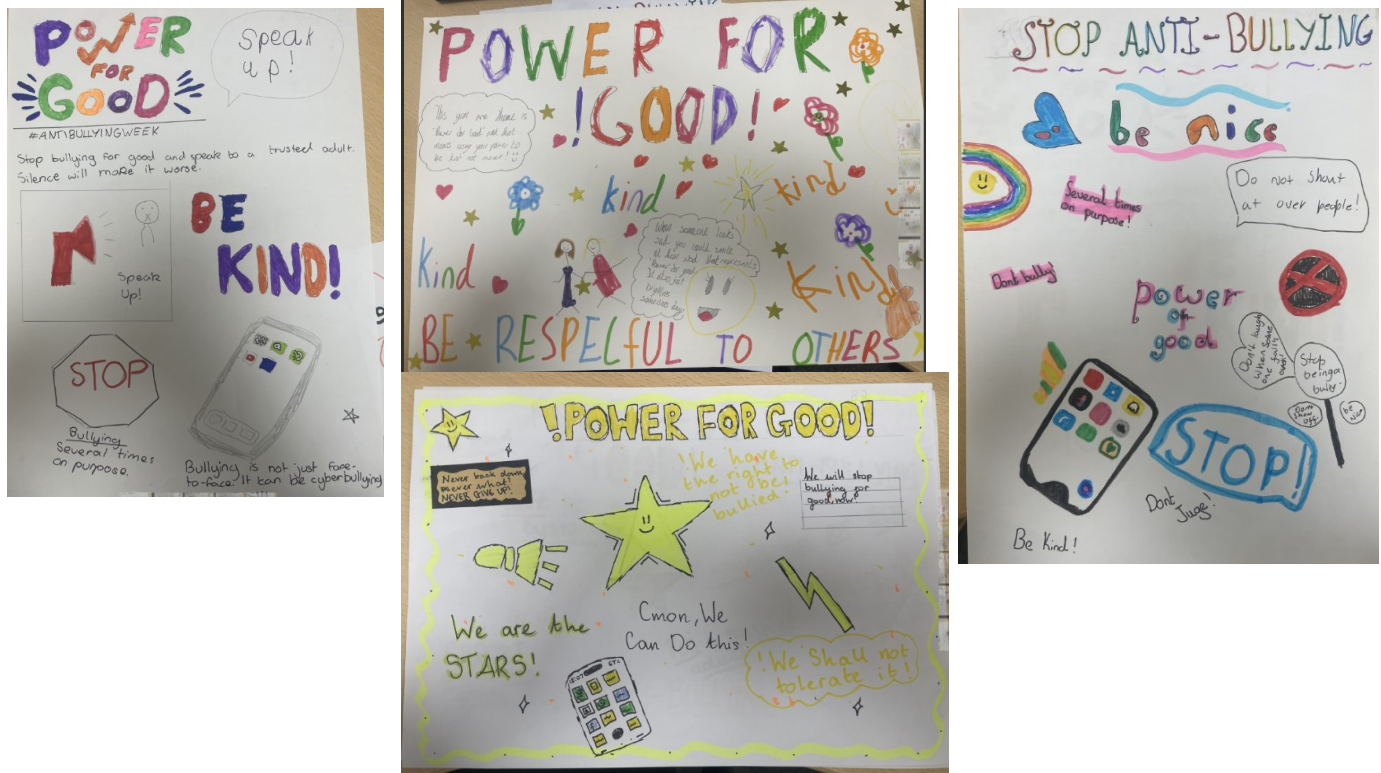
After the success of taking some of our KS2 pupils to see Annie at Lincoln Theatre Royal, we're delighted to say that we have booked another theatre visit, this time for the children in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 to join in with and it's a fantastic one! Watch out for the letter coming home next week if your child would like the chance to come!



In Other News

Anti-Bullying Week—Poster Winners!

In the last newsletter, we shared some of what we got up to during Anti-Bullying week. I had the really difficult job of having to pick some of the winning posters that were designed by the children working together with children in a different year group but in the same house as them. It was very tough but here are some of the posters I chose for the clarity and boldness in the message of using “Power for good!”



FoS Update

Friends of School just wanted to share a quick update about the year so far and all the exciting things we have planned.

Thank you everyone for helping to fund the KS1 Trim Trail so far, we have a big target of £6000 to raise and are very close! Hopefully, money raised from the Christmas Fayre and upcoming discos will help us to entirely fund this for the children.

Money raised recently:

*Christmas Card Project £571.39

*Pumpkin/Diwali Candle Parade £50



Friends of School funds have paid for transportation for all classes on school trips, hosted a Year 6 Leavers Disco and look out for an exciting project we have coming up for the new house point system in school!

We really need the school community to help us make this happen. We are a very small group of parents and most of the hard work is done via What's App. If you would like to help in anyway, please do get in touch via the school office or our email address stjohnsprimaryacademy_fos@outlook.com

In the Community



ST JOHN'S
A PRIORY ACADEMY

BEAVERS

TIME FOR FUN

For fun, friendship and activities that get you thinking as well as doing.
Bracebridge Heath Beaver Colony has spaces available for an immediate start!

Ages 6 to 8

Wednesday evenings 5:45pm to 6:55pm

Have a no obligation free trial!

Message us on - 07966 079519 for more details.

Follow the QR code to add your young person to the waiting list.



Scouts
21st Lincoln
Bracebridge Heath

YOU ARE INVITED TO

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY 20TH DEC
10 TILL 12

LOTS TO DO - COLOURING, GAMES, CRAFTS, STORIES,...

** At The Bracebridge Heath Library **

This is a free event

Christmas
FAMILY
FILM

6TH DECEMBER 25
THE HEATH
VILLAGE HALL & LIBRARY
STARTING AT 4.30PM

RELAX WITH YOUR FAMILY AND WATCH A
FESTIVE FILM ON OUR BIG SCREEN

DR SEUSS'
THE GRINCH

TICKETS
£2.50 EACH

Purchase from the
Library or Parish Office
during opening hours.
Cash only please.

PICNIC STYLE!

Bring your own
refreshments, a
cushion or a rug!



Lights switch on

Sunday 30 November 25
3 to 4.30pm
The Heath Village Hall & Library

Drop in & join us for

- The lights switch on
- Storytime with Santa
- Crafting a Christmas wish for our wishing tree
- Refreshments - mulled wine & mince pies
- Live music from the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra

