

## <u>Newsletter</u>

## Issue 8 May 2024

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Respect

Kindness Confidence Tolerance

**Self-Discipline** 

#### Key Dates

Year 6 SATs Week Monday 13th—Friday 17th May

**Reception Prince and Princess Day Thursday 16th May** 

New starter information evening-new **Reception parents 2024** Thursday 16th May-5.30pm

**Science Week** Monday 20th—Friday 24th May

Year 6-Mayan Workshop Thursday 23rd May 2024

**Reception Jack and the Beanstalk concert** -families welcome Friday 24th May-2.50pm

End of Term 5 Friday 24th May

#### Contact us:

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Website:

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

#### Dear St John's Families,

It was wonderful to see so many families last week attend our learning showcase and look through some fantastic learning. I could see how much the children were enjoying looking through their books with you and how proud they rightly are of all their learning.

May is our 'month of kindness' at St John's. It is the value of the term and something all classes are focusing on. Each class is trying to complete a challenge set by me to live out our value of kindness both in school and at home. I see acts of kindness from our pupils every day and it really is true what they say: 'kindness costs nothing.' The staff are also getting involved with a random acts of kindness mission!

It is really important for us all at St John's to know when our pupils have achieved something special outside of school. We know many of our pupils take part in extra curricular activities or competitions and we'd love to know when they've done something well so that we can learn more about their talents and interests as well as celebrate their achievements with them. Please email the school with any photos / a few lines of what your child has accomplished and I'll be sure to visit them in class to congratulate them. I'll include some in the newsletters too!

Mrs Emma Jefferson Headteacher

Ofsted Good Provider

GROWING YOUNG MINDS: A GREAT PLACE TO ENJOY LEARNING!

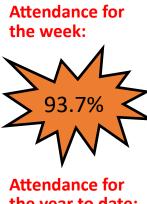
## Attendance and Safeguarding

FS RJR	91.3%
FS RAS	97.7%
Y1CT	93.8%
Y1RT	92.4%
Y2ST	95%
Y2F	97.8%
ҮЗВ	92.5%
ҮЗНС	96.6%
Y4O	92%
Y4BC	92%
Y5M	94.4%
Y5N	95%
Ү6В	82.8%
Y6D	95.5%

**Attendance Ladder** 

GREEN GROUP 97% - 100%

LLOW GROUP 5% - 96.9%



## the year to date:



NB: A school day is split into <u>2</u> sessions—AM and PM





#### Attendance Updates

Thank you so much to our families for continuing to support your child's positive attendance. We continue to have supportive, positive conversations with families around attendance and the working together approach really does ensure that we are putting the children at the centre of attendance conversations.

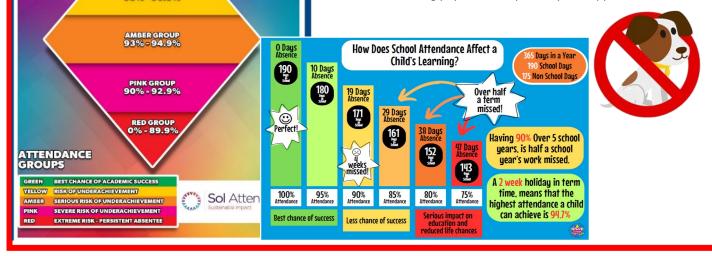
I'd like to just emphasise a couple of points from the attendance policy.

\*If your child is not at school and we haven't received a message, we will aim to make contact with you to find out the reason for absence before 9.45am. If we are unable to make contact and haven't had a reason for absence before 10.30am then we will begin to call other contacts we have for the child. On some occasions, we may undertake a home visit following the above actions in order to ensure the safeguarding of the child.

\*If your child is unwell and not at school, then the office should be informed on any subsequent days of absence and not just the first day. This is to ensure we continue to record the child's absence using the correct attendance codes e.g. if the child has a sickness bug and is off for 48 hours then the office should be informed on both days. This doesn't need to be a phonecall, it can be an email or voice message.

#### Safeguarding

Please can we remind all families that we do not allow dogs on to any part of our school site. This includes dogs being carried. Please could we ask that you respect this policy and do not bring dogs on to the playground when collecting pupils. Thank you for your support with this.



## **Curriculum and Learning**



#### Year 2 Cathedral trip

Year 2 had a fantastic trip to the Cathedral to support with their RE and Art learning. The children had a tour inside and outside of the Cathedral. They stopped to observe some of the impressive gothic architecture and even had a go at sketching some of the gargoyles. The children worked together to create their own version of the beautiful Dean's Eye stained glass window using collage materials. They also really enjoyed taking part in some activities in the Discovery Centre, including dressing up in robes and making their own Cathedral model. It sounds like you packed an awful lot into your day Year 2!





#### Sporting Success

The cross country team have had a busy couple of months! They have competed against 26 other schools in 5 races. The St John's team have performed amazingly well, finishing 3rd in both the boys and girls event. Coach Danny and Mr Morris were there every week cheering the children on and we are so proud of their success. A special mention to Charlie in Y5 who finished in 2nd place in the boy's category and to Oliver who secured a 1st place in the Year 3/4 race. Well done to the whole team for your determination, resilience and sportsmanship. You were a credit to our school.

The girls football team have now finished all of their league games for the season, ending with 2 wins over Westgate. Their impressive results have meant they won 8 out of their 10 games, scoring 49 goals in total! Fantastic playing girls.

The netball team also continue to play brilliantly. Whilst they lost 8-2 to Minster, they showed excellent team work and great communication and positivity.

Thank you to all the staff who help lead these events and to all the families who come to support.



## **Curriculum and Learning**



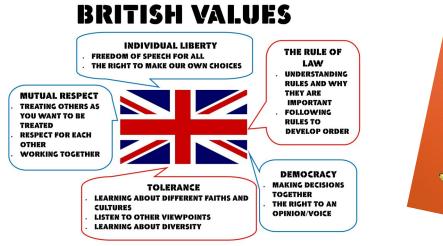
#### Year 6 Music

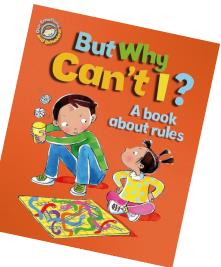
This term, Year 6 have been exploring the musical elements of pitch, texture and dynamics. They have listened to a composition by Felix Mendelssohn called 'Hebride's Overture' also known as Fingal's Cave and thought about how he tells a story with the orchestral instruments. The children have tried a variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments as well as body percussion to create their own compositions which represent waves. This week, the children have been composing in groups to tell the journey of water. They are thinking carefully about the sounds that the instruments make and have been drawing graphic scores to represent the music. Lots of fun and plenty of noise in class!



#### **British Values**

In our assembly this week, Reception and KS1 looked at "The rule of law" as one of the British Values. We explored why rules are important and that they help to make sure we stay safe and that things are fair. We read a story called "But why can't I?" where the character George thinks rules are silly and doesn't want to follow them until he sees that things then start to go wrong! We also learnt about very important rules that people in Britain must follow and that these are called laws. We know that there are laws about how fast cars are allowed to drive, about not damaging property or hurting people. We discussed that the police are there to make sure laws are followed and to keep everyone safe. They are trusted adults!





# **In Other News**

#### **Congratulations Mr Brown!**

You may have heard by now the wonderful news that Mr Brown and his partner welcomed a beautiful baby girl last week. We are all absolutely thrilled for them! We look forward to welcoming Mr Brown back next week following his paternity leave but for now, I'm sure he's enjoying being in the newborn bubble!

#### <u>MHST</u>

St John's is now engaging and working with the Mental Health in Schools Team. This is an NHS service designed to help meet the mental health and emotional wellbeing needs of children in schools. They work collaboratively with school and other services where necessary to ensure these needs are being met for all children. School can make referrals to this team of qualified practitioners who will then assess whether they are able to provide or offer support to the child. If they are, then they may undertake a programme of support in school with the child. If they can't offer support for any reason, they can signpost school and

families to other services which may be able to help. We know that this will add a hugely valuable arm to our pastoral support at St John's. We cannot ask the MHST for support without parental consent and we won't discuss any children without obtaining this first.

#### Message for the Year 6s—SATs

Next week is an important week for our Year 6 pupils as they complete their SATs. I know that Mr Dunn, Mrs Ballard and the whole of the Year 6 team couldn't be prouder of the children's hard work, self-discipline and positivity over the last few weeks when revising for these tests. The children are well prepared and I have every confidence that they will do their very best which is all we ask of them. We know they are important and the children value their importance which is why they have prepared so well for them, however, I'd also like to point out that SATs do not measure how kind or thoughtful you are. They do not measure how artistic and creative you may be and they do not measure everything that

makes you special and unique. My message to the Y6s is this: do your best, put into practice everything you have been taught and think carefully about the questions. However, also remember that your talents and successes reach far beyond the score you get from these tests and we know what amazing young people you are. Good luck Year 6—we are all with you!









# In the Community





#### Community Tea Party at the Village Hall

On Saturday 13th July, there will be a community tea party at the village hall from 11.30am—1pm. There is a bake off competition with a book theme!

Our very own St John's school choir will be performing at this tea party so we'd love to see as many families there as possible!

To enter the bake off competition, please collect an entry form from the library, parish council office or the Facebook Parish Council page.

I know many of our children would have some fantastic ideas for some book character themed cakes!



#### The Heath Village Hall and Library

The Heath Library have an upcoming interactive storytelling session for children on Saturday 11th May at 10.30am. I know how much the children at St John's love a good story so pop along if you can to make

# The Bracebridge Heath

### Do you love Baking? Could you be our Star Baker? Bracebridge Heath needs you!

The Bracebridge Heath Book Bake Off is to celebrate our wonderful furbished Village Hall and Library.

Please make an amazing cake, cookie or biscuit which has a literary or book theme. All entries will be judged on appearance alone by the public. You could work on your own or do an entry as a family or group of friends.

Could it be a Hungry Caterpillar Cake, Jane Eyre's Seed cake, a Magic Faraway Tree pile of cookies, The Crow Trap cake from Ann Cleeves first Vera book ....

Please, if you want to, donate your baking wonder to the Community Tea Party which is being held after judging.

Judging is from 10am to 11am on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July, leave your entry at The Heath between 8.30 and 9.45am.

If you want to give it a try please collect an entry form from the library, parish council office, from Facebook Parish Council pages or on the day.

The Heath Village Hall and Library Saturday 13th July 2024

#### PAACT—Parents and Autistic Children Together

Mrs Holt and I had a wonderful conversation earlier this week with Gordon Forsyth, the chair of PAACT. This is a support group for parents and families with children who have autism. We're delighted that in September, he will be coming to deliver a parent workshop with support, tips and a listening ear for anyone to attend. He will also be delivering some staff training. In the meantime, if you are wanting to find out more about this support group and the wonderful work they do, then please access their website



<u>here</u>. We will send more information out in Term 6, including the date for the September parent workshop. It's always positive to discuss SEND and to share experiences and I hope you find these parent workshops valuable and supportive.