



# NEWSLETTER

10<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to this week's newsletter; you'll see it's been a busy week!!

## News from around the Classrooms ....

### OUR LIFESKILLS ADVENTURE by Rachel Ryan and Emily Walls

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the Y6s got the chance to go to a place called 'Lifeskills'. It was an amazing experience where we learnt skills that would help you in an emergency or in everyday life.

First we went on a coach to Bristol, the Create Centre, the location of Lifeskills. When we arrived we were split into groups of four and given a guide. Then we had our series of challenges. Some easy, some quite difficult.

We had a great time and we hope the Y5s will have fun too.

### Y5 Golden Oldies

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November the Year 5 children were invited to take part in an event at St Michael's Church to commemorate 100 year anniversary of the end of The Battle of Passchendaele, which ended on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The children were dressed up in WW1 clothing and sang a series of WW1 songs and also learnt a little about the work of the Golden-Oldies Charity. Bea and Ida have written a report of their morning. Some of the children even made it on to the BBC Points West news programme last night! There is a selection of photographs below, which were taken during the morning.



## St John's Youth Speaks - Champions 2017!



On Thursday afternoon two teams competed in the Bathavon Youth Speaks Public Speaking competition. The children had to write their own speeches on an issue that was important to them. They had to work as a team to present the speech, answer questions from the audience and manage the proceedings all without reading from a script!

The two teams were:

Global Warming - **Speaker** Rachel Ryan **Chairperson** Erica Parker  
**Proposer of the vote of thanks** Aoife Kestell

Loneliness - **Speaker** Emily Walls **Chairperson** Penelope Lamarina-Scott  
**Proposer of the vote of thanks** Eve Mussert

The children have been preparing for weeks, giving up one, or even two of their lunch breaks each week to practise. The way they represented themselves and the school was impeccable. Their performances were professional, clear and persuasive.

The standard was incredibly high this year and we were extremely proud when Rachel got a special mention for having interviewed other younger children in the school and including their views in her speech. The head judge said this was particularly impressive as it showed a whole school approach from St. John's. The team talking about loneliness also got a special mention for Emily's heartfelt and emotive delivery. This team went on to be crowned this year's champions. Many congratulations to all the girls involved – you did us proud!

## Maths Workshop

A massive thank you to all the parents/carers and children who attended our Maths Workshop on Tuesday. It was a wonderful opportunity to talk about how we do maths at St



John's. Thank you also to the parents who threw themselves in at the deep-end to have a go at some of the maths activities offered by the different year groups. [Click here](#) to download the presentation.

As the workshop was such a success, we are hoping to do more next year.

In particular, a workshop for parents with children in Y5/6 to go through all the written methods (this will hopefully be in Term 3). Our Calculation Policy shows you how maths is taught through our school. It also shows the written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. [Click here](#) to download your copy.

## Sports News

### St John's v Oldfield Park Juniors (report by Mr P Barry)

On Thursday night the heavens thankfully didn't open as they looked like they may as St John's girls football team took on Oldfield Park.

The game started evenly with neither team gaining a foothold but both having a lot of the ball with Phoebe W and Hannah G showing why they are cross country champions, never knowing being seen standing still.

After a while to settle into the game both teams started to threaten each other's goal. Flossie G managed to pull off a string of saves to protect St John's goal while our girls threatened with Helena D'S and Ruby Waving showing some skill on the ball.

The first goal of the game went to St John's. A hopeful ball into the box was fumbled into the net by the opposition goalkeeper giving the girls a massive lift.

The game continued to ebb and flow with each team having chances and some excellent defending from Poppy B and Eloise H-L repelled a number of Oldfield attacks.

At the end of the second half Oldfield managed to equalise through their star player with a precise shot giving Flossie G no chance. Shortly later Oldfield added a second to go into half time with a 2 – 1 lead.

The second half started the same way that the second half had mostly gone with both teams having a lot of ball but neither team creating many chances. Beatrice D and Eloise H were showing some skill on the ball and lots of enthusiasm around the pitch and lots of St John's passes were looking for both. Erica P and Maisie B were both defending well making sure that Oldfield did not get many chances.



In the final quarter of the game Oldfield started to pull away scoring a couple of goals through their star player.

It was fantastic to see the girls enjoying themselves so much and playing with a smile on their face. So much so that we can't wait to do it all again!

### **Celebration Assembly KS1**

The following children will be awarded certificates in celebration assembly on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 9.10-9.35am in the hall:

Ducklings – Ralphie S, Cora M

Hedgehogs – Oscar R, Olive H-L

Owls – Caspar S, Nicola C

Kingfishers – Jahmiah H-H, Maya P

Dragonflies – Edward M, Maia B

### **Celebration Assembly KS2**

The following juniors will be awarded certificates in celebration assembly on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 8.55-9.25am in the hall:

3/4SH – Mason G, Joe H

3/4JH – Freya E, Daniel K

3/4PB – Gracjan B, Samantha Z

5/6FH – Enzo A, Francesca V

5/6CY – David K, Sofia M-O

5/6OMcD/CC – Ema R, Ida D

## **Notices**



**Infant Nativity** – if you need to book time off work to come and watch your child in their nativity play, the dates are Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec (1.45pm), Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec (1.45pm) and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec (6pm). More information regarding costumes, timings and tickets will follow soon.

**First Holy Communion Meeting** – There is a meeting for parents of children in Year 3 or above, who are interested in finding out about First Holy Communion for 2018. It will take place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm at St Alphege's Parish Hall. Please contact Moira Horton for more information, tel 07845 220009.

**Tennis Coaching** – Due to unforeseen circumstances Greg White will no longer be coaching tennis at St John's. The current coach Brandon Jaggon-Clemmings will continue with the tennis sessions until Christmas to ensure continuity for the children.

## PTA News

### **Film Night – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

*Information and order forms have gone out this week regarding the Film Night which is taking place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Please check your children's bags for these forms – there are spare ones in the office if you need them!*

## Diary Dates

14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Vision Meeting for governors and parents 5-6pm, school meeting room
16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	School Day start time consultation 2.30pm, Meeting Room
17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Mufti Day for Children in Need – donation of £1
20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	School Uniform consultation 2.30pm, Meeting Room
23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	PTA Film Night
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Infant Nativity 1.45pm
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Infant Nativity 1.45pm
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Infant Nativity 6.00pm
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	PTA Christmas Disco
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Lunch (info to follow)
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of Term 2
2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan 2018	Inset day
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Start of Term 3

### **Inset days**

The Inset days for the rest of this academic year are as follows:

- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

School term dates can be found on the St John's website, [www.stjohnscatholicprimary.org.uk](http://www.stjohnscatholicprimary.org.uk); please do take a look for more news and information.

Best wishes

Angela Bennett  
Head Teacher