



We are growing  
our learning

# St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

## Newsletter

Volume 31 Issue 5  
Newsletter Date:  
Friday 5th February 2016

We Maths  
We are all  
writers ...

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### Open School last Wednesday

Thank you to parents who visited after school on Wednesday to view their child's work and discuss their learning. It is so good to see children taking ownership of their learning and being proud of their achievements.



At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.  
Jane D. Hull

Please remember that the next payment of £50 for the Year 4 residential to Danbury is due on 12th Feb.

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Please remember that the next payment of £65 for the Year 6 residential to Kingswood is now overdue.

Diary Dates	
Friday 5th February	—closing date for entries for School Logo competition.
Week Beginning Monday 8th February	, Inter House Team, Sports Competition Week.
Monday 15th—Friday 19th February	. Half Term.
Wednesday 2nd- Friday 4th March	. Life Bus at Abbey Field.
Week Beginning Monday 7th March	. Book Week. Including Theme day on Friday 11th March. (More details to follow)
Tuesday 8th March	. Assessment Period 2 Reports to Parents.
Wednesday 9th March	. 5.00p.m.—7.30p.m. Parents' Evening.
Monday 21st March	. 2.00p.m. Year 3/4 Production 'Yee Ha.'
Tuesday 22nd & Wednesday 23rd March	. 6.00p.m. Year 3/4 Production 'Yee Ha.'



### Mud, Mud, Glorious Mud ...

Very well done to Year 3&4 pupils Brooke Rogers, Sam Card, Karina Ferreira, Elliott Freeman, Amanda Dugdale, Alfie Sayers, Jadiya Turay and Ella Lovelock who all completed their Forest School 6-week challenge. Fun and learning is the order of the day and the children are superbly coached by Mrs O'Shea and Mr Bromley at Bourne Woods. Children use teamwork to problem solve and learn more about themselves and their friends. On this last week Mr Bates joined the crew too, it looks like he had a splendid time!



### Half Term Fun



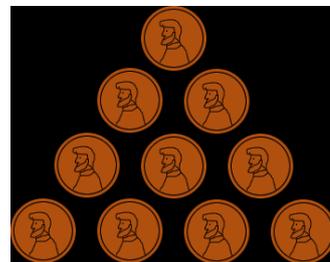
Crafty castles, fantastic fossils and monkey business during Half Term. Please see <http://goo.gl/ixH18V>

### Maths Challenge

Last week's answer— was

$$\begin{array}{r} ABCD \quad A=2, b=1, c=7, D=8 \\ \times \quad 4 \\ \hline DCBA \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 2178 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 8712 \end{array}$$

### This Week's Challenge



Can you move just THREE pennies and flip this triangle upside down?

Answers on Mr Bates' door if you are at Town site and on Mr Green's door if you are at Abbey site. The winning entry each week from each phase will get to choose a free book or maths prize.

### Awards

- Tigger Award (Trinovantes) - Ellii Bates
- Eeyore Award (Oysters) — Sarah Mustafa
- Winnie the Pooh Award (Castle) - Yasir Slimani
- Rory the Lion Award (Dutch) - Miarah Valencia
- Pluto Award (Iceni) - Sophie Olivera-Smith
- Sully Award (Mercury) - Finnley Carroll
- Diddle Award (Claudius) - Thomas McFadden
- Scrappy Award (Eagles) - Kian Feasey
- Bumble Award (Circus) - Noah St Ledger
- Simba Award (Roses) - Oliver Price
- Stitch Award (Chariot) - Luke Bill
- Hathi Award (Star) - Lui Holloway
- Mickey Award (Jumbo) - Grace Cowley
- Spot— Year 5 Spelling Group
- Heads' Award—Mrs Jonas
- Attendance — Roses

### Rights Respecting Schools Award

We have signed up for the above Award run by UNICEF, aiming to put children's rights at the heart of schools in the UK. School Councillors are our Award ambassadors and will work through the 54 Articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



This week, children completed questionnaires during Team Meetings, ready for school councillors to discuss the outcomes next week. More information can be found on the Award at <http://goo.gl/O9C6nO>

### NEXT WEEK—Sports Competition Week

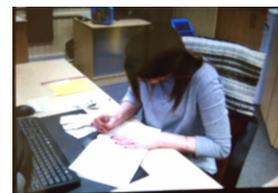
Next week all children will be competing in Team Dodgeball competitions during their PE time. Please ensure that your child has a full PE kit so that they can take part. The winning team will be announced next Friday.

And Finally ...

We say goodbye to Mrs Rees today, who has been at St John's Green school for over 10 years, firstly as an LSA supporting children's learning and latterly working in the office at the Abbey Field site. Mrs Rees is notoriously difficult to catch on camera, so I sneaked this photo in! We wish Mrs Rees every success for the future.

Have a good weekend

Tina Bourne



## Governor Update

Part of our duty as governors is to ensure we have the skills to be an effective Governing Body (GB) and we therefore attend training sessions to help us better fulfil our role.

Last Thursday evening a training session for was held at the Abbey Field site, with the aim of enabling governors to improve their knowledge and quality of their input. In other words, making our governing body more effective and therefore helping to raise standards across our school. Eight of our governors were able to attend and all found it helpful and enjoyable. We also had the opportunity to work with governors from Kendall Primary, one of our "partner" schools."

The training consisted of a slide show presentation about the role of the GB and what makes a GB effective and we then worked through some group activities. These activities were especially helpful to us as they have alerted us to the areas in which our GB needs to go forward. As a result, we were able to put together a good, concise plan of our GB's "next steps", in the continuing quest to help improve pupils' outcomes.

*Annie Fair*

### Summary of Premises, Personnel and Finance (PPF) Governors Meeting Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

Further to our promise to keep parents advised on the Governor's Meetings, I have summarised the key points from the recent meeting of the Premises, Personnel and Finance Committee ("PPF").

We reviewed various financial information including performance against budget for November and December and also the Budget Plan for 2016/2017. This includes details of funding received from County, income from catering and breakfast club and funding outstanding. Because of changes in National Insurances contributions, the costs of running the school have increased, with no additional funding being received. This is affecting all schools and is why the Committee is working closely with the school leadership to plan current and future spending.

The School Business Manager reported back on a recent School Audit, which highlighted the strengths in the schools financial practices.

The committee discussed some new ICT technology that the school is looking to move forward with

- An interactive floor, that allows up to 8 children to be 'in' the learning
- An online learning platform that will enable parents to be a part of their children's learning journey
- Computer programming modules
- An on-line payment system for parents

Staff structure, staff placement in the school, future staff needs and current staff recruitment was also discussed.

We also reviewed policies for Recruitment and Code of Conduct.

The Governor profiles are currently being updated and should be available soon on the Governor link on the website. Hope you found this informative and useful.

*Annette Whitwell* (Chair of PPF Committee)