



We are growing our learning

# St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

## Newsletter

Volume 31 Issue 8

Newsletter Date:  
Friday 4th March 2016

We ♥ Maths  
We are all writers ...

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The Book Fairs will be coming to both our school sites next week and we will also be giving the children their free £1 voucher on Monday. The book fair at Abbey Field will be from Monday 7th - Thursday 10th March from 3.15 until 4.15 and at Town from Wednesday 9th until Friday 11th March. You are of course very welcome to go to both!



### Maths Champions

On Tuesday, four of our Year 6 boys took part in a maths competition against other local schools. Jacob, Liam, Ben and Samir flew the flag for St John's Green as they tackled various rounds. The first round was all based on reasoning, which apparently they whizzed through. Next up was an explanation round, where they had to accurately describe something, in order for another team member to draw an exact representation. The final round was all on statistics, which was apparently quite challenging and made them really use their brains. Challenge aside, the boys won the competition and will now go on to compete with the top 15 schools in the country. Really well done to the boys, very impressive and in response to a statement from Ben—it is most definitely good enough for me.

### Oysters Parents Evening

Please note that class Oysters Parent Evening only will be on Thursday 19th March from 5.00p.m.—7.00p.m. and NOT on Wednesday as Mr Green is unavailable. My apologies for any inconvenience.

### Cleaner Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a cleaner at the school. The post is for 2 hours a day, 3.15 p.m.—5.15p.m. and is payable at £7.52 p/h. If you are interested please enquire at either of our school offices.

### Life Bus

You will, I hope, have noticed the 'Life



Bus' which has been parked outside our Abbey Field site for the best part of the week. The life bus programme, enriches the PSHE work we do weekly with children in school and promotes healthy bodies and healthy minds. Every child in the school has had a session on the Life Bus where, depending on their age, they have experienced sessions ranging from: Decisions, Friends, My Wonderful Body and Meet the Brain. The sessions challenge the children to make the right decisions and how decisions we make affect ourselves and others. Hopefully your children have come home and talked about it.



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

Jane D. Hull

### Police Incident

Yesterday afternoon at approximately 3.25p.m., three of our Year 6 boys were walking from the Abbey Site to the Town Site. As they passed the small park on Flagstaff Road, by the zebra crossing, a group of older boys approached them individually and both pushed and tripped them up. The older boys then ran off. Due to the timing of the incident, I cannot imagine that there weren't other parents around at the time and I would ask you please that if you did see anything, either to come and see me directly or to contact the police on their 101 number. We have reported the incident to the police. The boys were obviously a bit upset and shaken up and did the sensible thing of coming straight to tell us at the Town site.

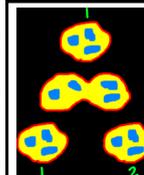
### Book Character Day

Only a week to go until our book character day, which is next Friday 11th March. As mentioned in the note we sent to parents yesterday we will be giving out prizes in each Year Group for the best dressed Character. Mrs Burke has also prepared a special book character dinner menu for the day.

### Diary Dates

- Week Beginning Monday 7th March. Book Week. Including Theme Day on Friday 11th March. (Book Character Day. Children and Staff can come to school dressed as a book character)
- Tuesday 8th March. Assessment Period 2 Reports to Parents.
- Wednesday 9th March. 5.00p.m.—7.30p.m. Parents' Evening.
- Week Beginning 21/3/16—Easter Egg Competition
- 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.'
- Thursday 24th March. Last Day of Spring Term
- Monday 11th April. First day of the Summer Term

### Maths Challenge



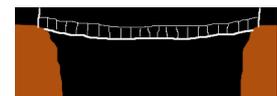
The rule: Every minute, each amoeba splits into two amoeba. At 5 pm, you put one amoeba in a box... At 6 pm, the box is full of amoebas...When was the box half full?

Last week's answer— was

At 5:59 pm the box is half full of amoebas... Then, one minutes later (at 6pm) they all split again and the box is full.

### This Week's Challenge

Dark Bridge



Four people have to cross a bridge... It's very dark and they only have one flashlight... They can't make it across without some light.

No more than two people can cross at a time.

Phil can cross the bridge in 1 minute.

Karen can cross in 2 minutes.

Stinky can cross in 5 minutes.

Bubba can cross in 10 minutes.

How can they all get across in 17 minutes?

Answers on Mr Bates' door if you are at Town site and on Mr Green's door if you are at Abbey site.

### Awards

- Tigger Award (Trinovantes) - Sinead Winsborrow
- Eyore Award (Oysters) — Zachary Dixon-Fleming
- Winnie the Pooh Award (Castle) - Henry Aitken-McKenney
- Rory the Lion Award (Dutch) - Marcel Rayner
- Pluto Award (Iceni) - Arhant Ghodeswar
- Sully Award (Mercury) - Aisha Rudderham
- Diddle Award (Claudius) - Cameron Harris
- Scrappy Award (Eagles) - Lola Butler
- Bumble Award (Circus) - Egor Steward
- Simba Award (Roses) - Fadl Fataw
- Stitch Award (Chariot) - Shaneil Campbell
- Hathi Award (Star) - Scarlett Wyman
- Mickey Award (Jumbo) - Luke Brand
- Spot— Aimee Cohen
- Heads' Award— Year 6 Maths Team
- Attendance — Oysters & Trinovantes

And Finally ...

For those of you following the trials and tribulations of Colchester United this season, you will, I hope, have noticed that Colchester actually won on Tuesday night. I don't think this will save Colchester from League 2, but stranger things have happened. Sadly I missed this game that they were screening live at Weston Homes because we had a governors meeting (please see the reverse of the newsletter) and I'll now probably have to wait until next season for them to win again....

Have a Good Weekend

Simon Billings

## Governors Summary of the ECM meeting Tuesday 1st March 2016

The Every Child Matters Committee (ECM) is the committee of the governing body which deals directly with the curriculum and children.

Governors received verbal updates on attendance, safeguarding, training, the family operations hub, sports and pupil premium.

As the pupils are coming to the end of AP2, governors received a review on how the teachers monitor the children's progress. Specifically, governors were shown how the school is tracking and monitoring those children who are not at Age Related Expectations and the actions that teachers are putting into place to help ensure all children reach Age Related Expectations. Governors were delighted with the concentrated focus and interventions that the teachers were using to support the accelerated learning of children not yet at Age Related Expectations.

With the expanding school, governors were shown how Trello works. This is a program which keeps the staff up to date with diary events and updated information. This is a great additional tool for the staff.

Specific areas of focus for the ECM Committee were Pupil Premium spending & effectiveness (one to one meetings with all Pupil Premium children parents were increasing engagement), diversity of the library (there was a general consensus that the Governors were pleased with the amount and range of books in the school's libraries) and would like the school to continue adding to this in the next financial year, information on staff training and the impact from this training and staff knowledge of policy updates. Governors also discussed how the sports funding is being spent and the impact within the school.

The Governors received reports from the school SENCO and update on PHSE, which included the whole school programme, Jigsaw, as well as updates on the wonderful school council and the life bus, assemblies and awareness days which we were invited to attend.

Governors agreed the following policies: Child Protection, Behaviour Policy, Charging and Remissions Policy and Educational Visits Policy.

In conclusion, Governors identified what we had achieved that will benefit the children which were: Agreement on the policies.

That we would continue to monitor the impact of the class teacher's strategies on reducing the children not at Age Related Expectations in the next Assessment Period.

That Governors would work directly with core subject leaders to provide additional challenge.

That the school would maintain the reporting of CPD and that some individual case studies would be tracked to monitor the ways that individual CPD positively affects good practise in other classes.

That the school would continue to invest in variety and diversity of books for the library.

Sarah Burke

Staff Governor