



We are growing our learning

# St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

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We ♥ Maths

We are all writers ...



# Newsletter

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

**Diary Dates**

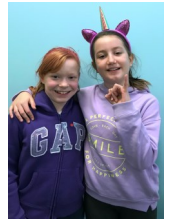
Monday 12th February—Friday 16th February.	Half Term.
Tuesday 20th February—Year 3	visiting local Synagogue.
Wednesday 21st February—Open School.	3.30p.m.—4.15p.m. AF & T
Thursday 22nd February.	Year 4 trip to Duxford Imperial War Museum.
Thursday 1st March.	World Book Day. Book Character Day. Come to school as a book character.
Thursday 29th March.	Last day of Spring Term
Tuesday 17th April.	First day of Summer Term

PLEASE LOOK ON THE CALENDAR OF THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR OTHER DATES/INFORMATION

Please remember that next week is Half Term and the school is closed.

## Purple Pinkie—End Polio Now

Parents will be very aware that the school has supported the 'End Polio Now' campaign for a number of years, in support of the organisations that are attempting to eradicate polio worldwide. In conjunction with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, every £1 that is donated is tripled to £3. Our donations from today of £445 will therefore be tripled to £1335 by the Foundation. Twenty five years ago there were 350,000 new cases of polio; in 2017, there were 22 cases - a little bit of history in the making.



Many thanks for all your purple efforts today and for your £1's.

## 500 Words

Please don't forget about the 500 word competition, details of which were on the reverse of the newsletter last week. Stories can be written or typed and you need to bring your stories into school by Tuesday 20th February for the St Helena competition. There's also the Radio 2 competition which closes on the 22nd February—<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1>



## Dragons

Our Year 5 children and parents were letting their creative juices flow this week as they had a joint learning session to make a dragon. Did it get competitive—maybe just a touch, some of the children didn't get a look in. The dragons were though—excellent and for the most part, making a few allowances for creative license, the dragons resembled the children's plans and designs. There's some fantastic writing and descriptive work coming alongside of this, so well done Year 5. To cap it all this week—Year 5 also went to the cinema to watch 'Early Man.' This was also linked to their 'Mythical Mysteries' theme. It's not been easy being Year 5 this week!



## Nirvana Day

Nirvana Day is an annual Buddhist festival that remembers the death of the Buddha when he reached Nirvana at the age of 80. It is also known as Parinirvana Day. It is celebrated by some Buddhists on February 8th and by others on February 15th. Nirvana is believed to be the end of the cycle of death and rebirth. Buddhism teaches that Nirvana is reached when all want and suffering is gone. Reflecting On Nirvana Day, Buddhists think about their lives and how they can work towards gaining the perfect peace of Nirvana. They remember friends or relations who have recently died and reflect on the fact that death is a part of life for everyone. The idea that nothing stays the same is central to Buddhism. Buddhists believe that loss and change are things to be accepted rather than causes of sadness.

On the welcome page of our website you can now take a virtual tour of Abbey Fields. Town site will follow. My thanks to Lee Brooker, a parent governor, for organising this.

## Awards

- Year 6 (Trinovantes) - Henry Aitken-McKenty
- Year 5 (Oysters) - Lola Folkard
- Year 5 (Magnets) - Katherine Thompson
- Year 4 (Castle) - Isabella Castagnoli
- Year 4 (Cavalier) - Cameron Harris
- Year 3 (Dutch) - Freya Cairney
- Year 3 (Iceni) - Henry Thornley
- Year 3 (Paxman) - Kairon Martin
- Year 2 (Mercury) - Jamie-Lee McGeachie
- Year 2 (Claudius) - Maci-Blue Cook
- Year 2 (Romans) - Charlie Hodgson
- Year 1 (Eagles) - Lucy Folkard
- Year 1 (Circus) - Roman Stallard
- Year 1 (Roses) - Tommy Randall
- Foundation (Chariot) - Sofia-Rae Laurie
- Foundation (Star) - Ava Tyler
- Foundation (Jumbo) - Izabel Bazington
- Heads' Award— Oysters and Magnets
- Attendance — Magnets



## Parking in and around the schools.

Just a reminder please that the two school car parks are for staff cars. Please could parents resist the temptation, however great, to park here, even if coming to breakfast club. The only exception is parents collecting their children from Fun4kids at the Town Site.



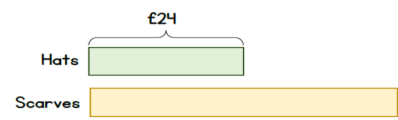
## Valentines Day

St. Valentine's Day falls on February 14th of each year. Although the name is Saint Valentine's Day, most people refer to the day as Valentine's Day, or even the Feast of Saint Valentine. It was originally a day to celebrate Saint Valentinus, who performed weddings for soldiers who were not allowed to marry. He was imprisoned for this, as well as for ministering to Christians. Saint Valentinus wrote a letter to the daughter of his jailer before he was executed. His letter was signed 'From your Valentine'. He was buried on February 14th. Valentine's Day was not associated with romantic love until the Middle Ages. By the 1700s, in England it began to resemble the Valentine's Day we know today. -On average, men spend double the amount of money on Valentine's Day gifts than women spend. -Cupid is the son of Venus. Venus was the god of beauty and love. -In Victorian times it was considered bad luck to sign a Valentine's Day card. -Many believe the X symbol became synonymous with the kiss in medieval times. People who couldn't write their names signed in front of a witness with an X. The X was then kissed to show their sincerity.

## Bar Modelling Challenge

Can you answer the question below using Bar modelling?

- 2 A hat costs £4
- A scarf costs £7
- Miley spends £24 on hats.
- She buys twice as many scarves as hats.
- How much did she spend in total?



Answers on Miss Salmon's door if you are at Abbey site and on Mrs O'Shea's door if you are at Town site.

The winning entry each week from each Year Group will get to choose a free book or writing prize.

And Finally,

I was asked this morning why I wasn't festooned in purple. In my defence I did have a purple jumper in my office. Unfortunately my purple t-shirt was in the ironing and at 6.45 a.m. this morning, although my wife did make a few noises about ironing it, I think in all honesty it would have probably been a step too far. Sometimes you have to retreat very humbly and very quickly in the interests of self preservation. It's World Book Day on Thursday 1st March—so I will up my game for then!

Have a good Half Term

Simon Billings

Books are the bees which carry the pollen of thought from one mind to another.  
James Russell Lowell (Poet.)