



GOLDEN EAGLE

"Love one another"

10th March 2017

DIARY REMINDERS

Monday 13th March

Science week

Y3 Classical Road Show Trip

Friday 17th March

Y4 Classical Spectacular Trip

Y3 Bake Sale.

Monday 20th March

Parents' Evening

Tuesday 21st March

Rec 2 Parents' Evening

Saturday 25th March

Family Bingo 5pm-7pm

Monday 27th March

Parents' Evening

Thursday 30th March

School Discos

Last day of term for Nursery

Friday 31st March

Last Day of term 1.30pm

For Y3 and Y4 trips, both groups need packed lunches and water bottles. Y3 needs any costumes plus school uniform.

There are still parents who have not paid £4.50 for this trip. If you are one of these, a letter has been sent home with your child. Please send the money in a named envelope before the trip.

PARENTS' EVENINGS - 20TH AND 27TH MARCH

To make an appointment for **Monday 20th March** and **Monday 27th March 2017** for all classes from Nursery to Year 6, you will need to go online to book. **There is a link on the School Website.**

(Alternatively, type the following into the top URL bar:

<http://www.parents-booking.co.uk/stjohnsce>)

IMPORTANT: PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN MRS POPOVA'S CLASS (Rec 2): YOUR MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 21st MARCH.

THERE ARE MORNING AND AFTERNOON SESSIONS AVAILABLE.

The system will be live on from **9am on Tuesday 14th March** and will be open to take your bookings until **5.00pm on Sunday 19th March**. You will **not** be able to make an online booking after this time.



Next week (13th – 17th March) it is British Science Week, and next Friday 17th March we will be having a Science dress-up day.

Teachers and children are invited to dress up in a science-related outfit: this could be as an animal, planet, astronaut, type of weather or a famous scientist! To celebrate all the fantastic outfits we will then have a **science dress-up parade in the playground at 9:15am on Friday 17th March**. Parents and family members are invited to wait in the playground after morning drop-off. The children will then come down in their classes and parade around the pitch in their costumes.

We hope to see lots of you there!

REAL LIFE AUTHOR VISITS ST JOHNS SCHOOL

Lotte Moore came to visit the Early Years and Key Stage 1 today. She read two books ('Dixie and the doughnuts' as well as 'Wheezy the wobbler') to the children in Nursery and Reception and asked them to think about what they would do if they were the characters. She inspired the children to think about writing and writing down their ideas. It was a delightful morning of literary fun. **Lotte's books will be on sale at the end of the day.**

Lotte will also be in on 16th March talking to Key Stage 2 about her experiences during World War II and reading extracts from her book 'Lotte's War – Bunkers, Bombs and Barrage Balloons.' These books will be available to purchase next Thursday.



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MUSIC AT ST JOHN'S



A group of violinists, cellists and clarinetists from St. John's had a fabulous afternoon on Thursday at Bute House School, taking part in an Orchestra Day alongside children from Sullivan and Addison Schools. Director Ali based the piece they created on the journey of a river from mountain stream to a big city, using themes from two pieces by Aaron Copland, *Fanfare for the Common Man* and *Appalachian Spring*.

When we had rehearsed these sections, we had juice and biscuits and time to play in the wonderful playground, followed by sectional rehearsals led by instrumental tutors where each group devised a section of the river's journey. We then had a short time to hear each other's sections, learn the first part of the Gershwin tune *I've got rhythm* and discuss the running order before putting it all together in front of an audience of parents.

Everyone agreed what a fabulous piece the children had created. I was particularly impressed with Bridget's long quiet note, the violins' tremolos and Faris's wonderful clarinet ostinato. Overall our children acquitted themselves really well and were a credit to St. John's.



**Are you available between
10am and 12 noon on
Saturday 25th March 2017?**

We are planning to start to remove the climbing ivy currently running along the fences and walls on the Munster Road side of the school and request the help of any available volunteers.

If you can spare either your time or any gardening equipment, we would be most grateful.

Please let the school office know if you are able to help.

PLAYGROUND ACTIVITY LEADERS

A year ago we introduced PALs to the school playground and these pupils have been having a positive impact on playtimes at school ever since. Their roles include teaching new games to other children, befriending lonely children and helping to maintain equipment.

The current group of year 6 pupils have now come to the end of their time as PALs and will now hand over to year 5. Applications have gone home today with interested Year 5 pupils, and the successful applicants will be starting their training in the next week.

As for those Year 6 pupils who have contributed so much to the playground, they were rewarded with a certificate in assembly today and deserve a big 'Thank You' from everybody involved at St John's.

PALs 2016-17: Brandon S, Ethan S, Mikhael P, Oliver S, Klea D, Hadley G, Issy R, Elen P, Helena H, Leyla J, Daisy D, Paris F, Dylan H, Sidney C, Mateo P, Ethan I, Merlin M, Finn D, Toni-Lauren O, Charlotte C.

SWIMMING SUCCESS

The St. John's swimming squad produced an excellent qualifying display on Tuesday 28th February in the Borough Gala Heats. Swimmers from the squad qualified for eleven of sixteen finals so hopes were high going into finals day on Friday 3rd March.



On the day the team performed magnificently, finishing with five individual medals (Lasse – Gold Year 6 Breaststroke & Bronze Year 6 Backstroke, Bridget – Gold Year 6 Breaststroke, Ryan – Bronze 2 length Freestyle Championships & Bronze Year 5 Breaststroke) along with six other point-scoring performances.

The total of 50 points was enough to ensure the squad finished joint 4th overall (even though the school was initially given second place and awarded a trophy!).

St. John's swimming squad 2017 – Jack C, Lasse VW, Bridget T, Leyla J, Ryan M, Kyros S, Victoria L, Saffiah R, Freddie P.



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FINAL COUNTDOWN FOR GIRLS' FOOTBALL



The Mayor's Cup quarter-finals produced mixed emotions for St. John's on Friday 3rd March 2017. Both teams arrived fully focused and in great form, having won a combined twelve of their fourteen games this season (with two draws). The girls, playing first, found themselves 1-0 down at half time to Sir John Lillie, but our team showed great determination and skill to dominate the second half and draw level with a goal by Ella. After a nervy period of extra time the match went to penalties, where Isabel H stepped up to smash home our first effort and Violet performed heroics to keep out two SJL spot kicks. This meant Miriam was presented with the opportunity to put the team through to the semi-final, an opportunity she calmly took!

The boys started superbly in their match with SJL in their quarter-final. At half time the score was 0-0 after the SJL keeper had managed to keep his side in the game with three saves to deny the waves of St. John's attacks. The message at half time was to keep playing as we had been and attempt to finish off one of our opportunities. Unfortunately SJL produced an extremely strong second half performance in a very close game and scored a crucial goal midway through the second half. With our team now having to get more people forward to try and score an equaliser which would have taken the game to extra time, we were caught by a counter-attack and eventually ended up losing 2-0. The boys who have represented the team this year can be extremely proud of the effort and style they have shown whilst wearing the school colours.

In the semi-final the girls faced off against St. Thomas of Canterbury School. Now playing with fluency and looking well-organised, our girls controlled the game from the start. Two superb finishes from Alexia and Saffiah meant the game finished 2-0 to St. John's and the team could enjoy being crowned Southern Champions 2017. They played the final at Hurlingham Park today with a full match report and photos to follow in next week's newsletter.

ROYAL MAIL CHRISTMAS STAMP COMPETITION

We are delighted that our school has been invited by the Royal Mail to design the next Christmas stamp and we now need you, creative, budding artists to come forward.

The competition theme is:

What does the Christmas season mean to you?"

If you were sent one of the official entry forms please can you return your entry by Monday 13th March.

You could win up to £1000 of vouchers!

PTFA NEWS

FAMILY BINGO EVENING

Saturday 25th March
5-7pm, Lower Hall

GREAT BINGO PRIZES

PIZZA

KID'S AREA

CAKES

RAFFLE

BAR

HOT DRINKS



TICKETS £4 CHILDREN UNDER 4 FREE

INC. 1 BINGO CARD, 1 RAFFLE TICKET, 1 DRINK
DOORS OPEN 4.45

On sale 13th-17th March in playground
at dropoff and pickup

CASH ONLY (limited tickets available)

A copy of the minutes from the PTFA meeting held on 1st March 2017 is available on the school website.



"Love one another"

Year 6 have been working really hard on producing excellent pieces of writing, and in particular writing in role as a character. We have attached an extract from Mateo's diary entry about the departure of the Endurance for you to enjoy.

August 8th 1914

Dear Diary,

Hot and sweaty, I rolled over among my vast white blankets, shielding my eyes from the stubborn beams of blazing August sunlight. My mind still fixed on the horrifying nightmare which had been bothering me since early morning, I let my eyes gradually slide open. Suddenly, I bolted upright, realising that the day had come; the day I set off on the Endurance towards the hazardous, icy challenges of Antarctica!

With waves of various emotions towering over my perplexed mind, the truth slowly dawned on me. I glanced to the left side of my decently sized bed, and noticed that it was empty apart from my wife's pillow, which was soaked in tears. At this sight, I winced in agony. I had been looking forward to experiencing one of my final special moments with Emma - waking up with her.

As I climbed out of bed, trying to block out the disappointment

nagging at me, I stretched my muscular arms and yawned loudly. While I brushed my teeth, which needed to be sparkling for the public, I could hear the light footsteps of my son ~~desc~~ descending down the ancient wooden stairs.

Soon after, I found myself in our beautifully-smelling kitchen, welcomed by many warm hugs and wet kisses from both Emma and my son Thomas, who had blonde hair and very large freckles. They knew this was the day I journeyed to Antarctica, and our half smiles at breakfast were finally broken by Thomas' tearful outburst. Despite my soothing actions, nothing could mend his shattered heart. Feeling guilt and desperation, I said, "Come with me, my son. Let me show you something."

Through uncontrollable sobs and sniffs, Thomas obediently followed. We reached the corridor, where all my bags lay, unzipped and almost full. I hastily grabbed something from the smallest one: a picture. Even though the frame was cracked and chipped, it was clear the photo held an image of me, Emma and a baby Thomas, all laughing in a refreshing summer breeze.

I showed the it to my dear son, who was enthralled by the unique picture. It brought a wide grin to his face, but, while he wrapped his arms around me, tears were flowing from his eyes like a waterfall too. I stroked his tender cheek until the moment my wife, who usually stress stressed about leaving the house, shouted, "Charles, you'll be late!"



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Blue Tie Awards

- Y1H Archie M For his excellent efforts in Maths. Archie always pays attention in lessons as he really wants to make sure he understands the new learning.

- Y1DH Jadon Y For his continuous growth in confidence in all areas of the curriculum. Jadon has especially shown his perseverance in phonics and his writing.

- Y2O Astrid K For showing a great understanding of how to answer word problems involving money in maths all week.

- Y2R Rodrigo CG For showing more focus in lessons and showing a better attitude to his learning.

- Y3C Zahara B For improving the quality of her writing in all subjects, for sensible behaviour and contribution during the 'Earthquakes' topic and for much improved focus on her own tasks in general.

- Y3P Tommy CI For an improvement in presentation across the year and a being a great role model for learning behaviour in class.

- Y4B Harry M For showing more confidence in expressing his opinion.

- Y4S Sophie C For showing a great depth of understanding with her decimal work.

- Y5W Martha P For using her next steps suggestions to constantly improve her work.

- Y5M Michael E For working hard to learn his times tables and applying this knowledge confidently in maths.

- Y6F Mateo P For showing enthusiasm and a great work ethic in all areas of the curriculum and setting a brilliant example for other learners through his behaviour in class and in the playground.

- Y6CR Gabriella M For her excellent contributions during our shared write yesterday and for working extremely well in Maths.

If your child has a medical appointment during school hours, please ensure you present the letter or appointment card to the office, so the absence can be recorded accurately.

ATTENDANCE - Our Target is 96%

Our Average this week is 97.2%

Class	% Attendance	Lates
NN	97.7	4
R1P	97.9	1
R2M	96.6	0
Y1H	99.3	3
Y1DH	96.7	2
Y2R	96.8	1
Y2O	96.0	4
Y3C	98.2	2
Y3P	97.1	2
Y4P	98.0	4
Y4S	97.4	1
Y5M	98.3	2
Y5W	94.0	2
Y6F	98.0	1
Y6CR	96.1	1



DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS SPARE EACH WEEK?

If so, we would love to have you help us with various tasks within the school library.

If you are able to lend a hand on a regular basis or even as a 'one off, free afternoon' please contact the school office.