



St. John's CE Primary School

Spring Newsletter March 2024



Best wishes from St. John's.

Diary Dates:

- Inset days: Friday 24th May.
- Summer Term starts: Monday 8th April.
- Yr 6 parents for children going to Moorside High School. 1 to 1 device meeting / Wednesday 17th April / 3:45pm at St. John's.
- Next Parent Forum: Wednesday 17th April at 6pm.

2023-2024 Statutory Assessments / SATs (Standard Assessment Tests):

- Year 1 / Year 2 Phonics Screen: Week commencing Monday 10 June 2024.
- Year 2 SATs: May / June 2024.
- Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check: the 2-week period from Monday 3 June 2024.
- Year 6 SATs: Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May 2024.

Internal School Assessments: Assessment weeks for all years take place during the second half of each half term.

Vision and Values / Worship

This term we have learnt about 'forgiveness': what it means, how it affects us, and what action we can take if we need to forgive or be forgiven.

For the next half term in Worship, we will focus on the value of 'friendship' and how this links to our school vision and SHINE values.



St. John's Church:

We are forever thankful to Reverends Steve and Michael who have visited St. John's this term to lead Worship, deliver the 'Love Life Live Lent' program to our Year 5 pupils, and for welcoming us to St. John's Church for another joyous Easter service.

PTA:

A huge thank you to our star PTA volunteers who have continued to support the school by organising Mother's Day gifts, the Easter raffle and PTA Spring Term Disco. A fabulous £690 was raised from these events so thank you to our families for your contributions! Funds raised by the PTA help to fund new resources, new initiatives and school trips – the little extras that make a difference!

New Staff:

We have welcomed a number of new staff to St. John's recently and very much look forward to them being part of the team: Mrs Potts, TA in Year 4, Mrs Traini, TA in Year 5, Mrs Hine, TA in Year 6, and Mr Sheldon-Gwinneth (Mr Jeff), caretaker.





Clubs:

Choir, chess club / board games, recorders, homework, craft club and drum club will continue – please get in touch if you'd like to book a place.

BeeActive Sports Club will continue next term – more details to follow shortly. The club will be limited to 20 spaces.

Our new **Craft Club** with *Caverswall Creative Hub* started this term and pupils have produced some excellent pieces of work! Places are filling up quickly for this club, so if you'd like to book for the Summer Term (Fridays 3:30-4:30pm), please email the office office@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk



Attendance:

Please remember the importance of children being in school and the effect that absence can have on your child's attainment.

Attendance over the course of an Academic Year

Attendance %	Annually	Missed Days in a year	Missed Weeks	Missed Days Over 4 Years	Impact over 4 years
100%	Excellent	0	0	0	
99%	Very good	1.9	0.38	7.6	
98%	Very good	3.8	0.76	15.2	
97%	Very good	5.7	1.14	22.8	
96%	Good	7.6	1.52	30.4	Approx. a half term
95%	National Average	9.5	1.9	38	1/5 of a year
94%	Below Nat. Average	11.4	2.28	45.6	
93%	Below Nat. Average	13.3	2.66	53.2	
92%	Requires improvement/worrying	15.2	3.04	60.8	Approx. 1 term
91%	Requires improvement/cause for concern	17.1	3.42	68.4	
90%	Cause for concern	19	3.8	76	2/5 of a year
89%	Serious concern	20.9	4.18	83.6	
85%	Major issue	28.5	5.7	114	3/5 of a year
80%	Major issue	38	7.6	152	4/5 of year

Absence due to illness: If your child is unwell, please refer to the following guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> If your child is going to be absent, please leave a message on our absence phone line before 9am (01782 550309).

Attendance is monitored regularly and we may be in touch if your child's attendance falls below 92% to see how we can support you. We work closely with the Education Welfare Team to ensure that children and families are supported in the best possible ways. **Arriving late will affect your child's attendance.** Gate times: KS1: 8:35am – 8:50am / KS2: 8:45am – 9:00am

** Holidays during term time will not be authorised – this is based on guidance from the Education Welfare Team and the Department for Education. Please note that if you record your child as absent due to sickness, but are on holiday, schools have been advised to refer to the Education Welfare Team.*

St. John's Sport:

Firstly, thank you to Mr Redfern for organising our sporting events, and to Mrs Bickerton for giving her time to help coach our netball teams.

Pupils did an excellent job of representing St. John's in the Staffordshire Moorlands School Sports Partnership netball tournament with a result of third place.

Key Stage 2 pupils showed amazing teamwork taking part in the 'Sport 4 All' event at Brough Park with their bowling and archery skills.



Our gymnastics team put on an amazing performance in the competition at Uttoxeter Gym Club. The team have worked hard to practice, master and refine their skills which certainly paid off! Pupils achieved individual medals: 2 gold, 4 silver and 2 bronze with the team taking overall second place just half a point behind the winning team.



Music at St. John's

We are so proud of our Recorder Club members who took part in the Stoke on Trent City Music Service 2024 Recorder Festival this term at The Victoria Hall. Led by Miss Parish, our musical star, our musicians played perfectly on stage to a huge audience!



Agents of Change:

We are bursting with pride for our super, swimathon swimmers who raised over £1000 and swam 8 miles. Inspired by Kevin Sinfield, Year 6 pupil, Harry, chose the Motor Neurone Disease Association as the recipient of the money raised to help those affected by MND.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, to Mrs Rhodes, one of our school governors, and one of our star swimmers for representing St John's at [Leek Rotary Club](#) presentation evening.



The Euan Bould Award:

Congratulations to the recipient of the 'Euan Bould Award' for displaying our school value of 'strength'. Well done Xander. This award is chosen to honour the memory of a very special and courageous young man, Euan Bould, who we had the privilege to know in our Reception class.



Charity Donations:

As a school community, St John's raised a fantastic £420 for Dougie Mac last year. We have received a bronze leaf that has been on display on their tree in their reception for the last year. We have had it handed over to us to put on display in school. Thank you!



Comic Relief

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our 'Red to Toe' day for Comic Relief – we raised £150 towards this great cause.



In Other News:

PTA School Disco Time Change

The times for our discos will be changing to 3:15pm-4:15pm for Early Years and Key Stage 1, and 4:30pm-5:30pm for Key Stage 2 – more details to follow. The Summer Term disco is Thursday 4th July.



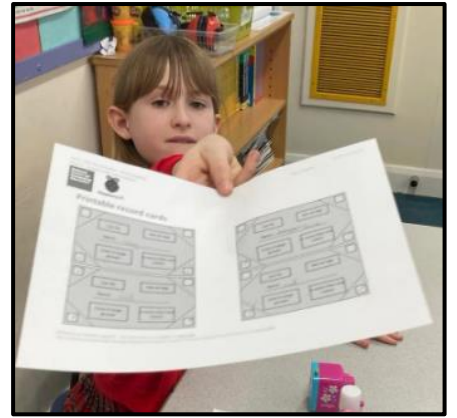
Spring Term:

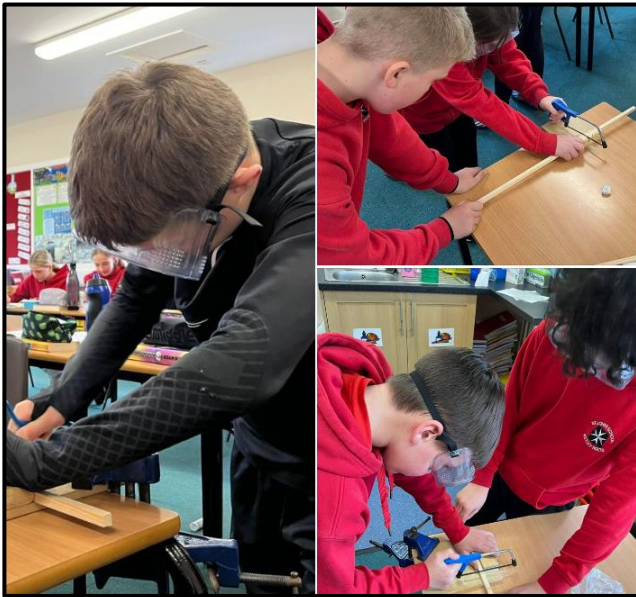
Pupils continue to live our school Vision and SHINE values on a daily basis. This term has been five, action packed weeks full of: exciting science experiments; fun at break and lunch times; learning to play tag rugby; designing and making moving toys; discovering how sound works; making our own fractions; learning about plants and their life cycle; celebrating World Book Day in style; an overnight stay at Stanley Head Outdoor Education Centre; laser tag with our friends from BeeActive; a visit to Ashbourne to see the QEG's production of the Addams Family; a trip to the Potteries Museum to learn about Reginald Mitchell and his Spitfire; making Easter cards for our elderly friends; and lots of learning of course!



To see what children are learning each half term, please see our Year Group Curriculum Maps on the 'Curriculum' section of the website.









Keep up to date with our news and what's been going on with our school Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnswetleyrocks>



Pupils shining outside of school...

Huge congratulations to Henry who can now swim non stop for 1000 metres! Not only can Henry swim this far, he's mastered all of the swimming strokes including the notoriously difficult butterfly. His collection of certificates and medals demonstrates Henry's hard work and commitment. What an excellent achievement – well done Henry!

Super stars Jaylen and his sister Aleya have so far raised over £100 for 'The Great Tommy Sleep



Out 2024' fundraising challenge designed to support the thousands of veterans who are experiencing homelessness in the UK right now.

They encourage you to brave a cold night to sleep out under the stars (tent or no tent). The challenge doesn't replicate rough sleeping, but it does give you an idea of the situation too many of our nation's heroes find themselves in. They plan to sleep out during the Easter holidays. What an amazing thing to do to raise awareness and funds to help other people.



Well done to Toby who recently moved up from Beavers to Cubs and was awarded the Chief Scout's Bronze award for his time in Beavers at a special ceremony, and to top it off, Toby was presented with his award by the Lord Mayor himself! Excellent achievement, Toby.

A huge well done to Maisie whose hard work and dedication has resulted in her achieving her first Taekwondo grading.

Maisie achieved her first belt: white purple stripe. What a fantastic role model.



We love to hear about the achievements and success of pupils outside of school, so if you have anything for our next edition, please get in touch: headteacher@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk

Have a lovely Easter. We look forward to seeing you on Monday 8th April.

SHINE like the star you are.

Very best wishes. Mrs Stone and the St. John's team

