



St John's Weekly Newsletter

Growing Together in Love and Respect

Dear St John's families,

It has been a joy to see all the children in school and I have had a wonderful first week. Thank you for all your smiles and welcomes.

We are so proud of the way the children have settled back in. This week in collective worship we thought about how each one of us has a role to play in 'growing together'. Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12 helped us to understand what the bible teaches us about needing and supporting each other.

The children were very impressed by the cakes the school staff designed during our INSET days to represent St John's.



Start of the Day

Next week with our Reception children will start attending full days and this will increase the queue towards the town centre. Therefore, can Year 1 and 2 please queue in the opposite direction towards Watford Junction station.

Events

The calendar is beginning to fill up. During the year we aim for all families to have 3 opportunities to come into school. We need to do this in a COVID safe way. Please watch out for more information.

In Love and Respect
Headteacher
Mrs Samantha Da Costa

Attendance this week = 96.28%

Online Safety

For e-safety support and advice please click on this [link](#)
Please click on the links below for more information on e-safety.

[Think you know](#)

[Disney Wild](#)

[About Safety](#)

[Smartie The Penguin](#)

[Childnet Safety Internet](#)

[A useful guide to apps to help keep your child safe online](#)

School Milk

If your child is over the age of 5 and you want to register them for school milk. Please use this [link](#).

Cool Milk

Every week your child will be

LEARNING

No update on learning for this week

This week has been all about settling into our new classes!

This month's value is:

Growing Together

Friday, 10th September 2021

Key Dates

Monday 13th September

Reception Children begin full time

Wednesday, 15th September

Year 5 Swimming lessons start
2.00pm - 3.00pm

Monday 20th September

Reception Meet the Teacher virtual session 7pm

Tuesday 21st September

Year 2 and 3 Meet the Teacher virtual session 6pm

Wednesday 22nd September

Year 4 Meet the Teacher virtual session 6pm
Year 1 Meet the Teacher virtual session 7pm

Friday 24th September

Year 5 Meet the Teacher virtual session 6pm

Wednesday 6th October

Harvest lead by Year 5 in church - Year 5 parents only invited.

Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 21st October

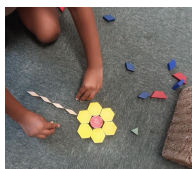
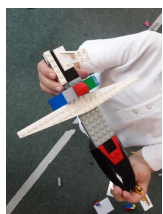
Update on Learning - Virtual - Times to be confirmed. An opportunity to meet with the class teacher.

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR
PDFS OF THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS

SCHOOL LIFE

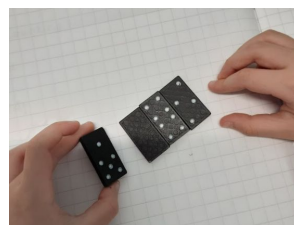
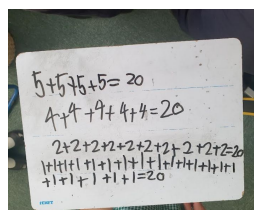
Year 1 Vesper & Aurora

This week we have been growing together by revisiting key skills that we learned in Reception. Building the learning 'roots' before we start growing a stalk, leaves and flowers as a class (metaphorically, obviously). We are challenging ourselves to follow instructions to build construction pieces out of lego, drawing pictures of plants using 2D shapes and revisiting key number skills.



Year 2 Terra & Aqueous

In Year 2 we have had a fantastic first week back at school. We enjoyed playing some parachute games on the rooftop early in the week. We also had some playing to learn time where children made some Kapla models and some flowers using geometric shapes. In Maths we used dominoes to explore doubles/not doubles. We also have been practicing making numbers, today we practised making 20.



Year 3 Botanical & Arboretum

We have been using their sketching skills to sketch the skyline of Watford in the style of the illustrator Laura Carlin.



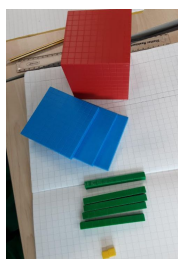
Reception Class

Our new Reception children have been exploring their new environment and especially enjoying the trim trail.



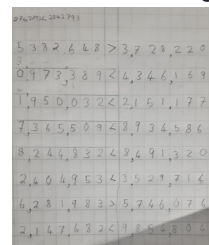
Year 4 Solar

The children have been busy on their maths this week. Lots of understanding has been developed around the concept number properties.



Year 5 Aviary

Aviary have been using place value to help them compare large numbers. Miss Haylett is so pleased to see the children showing care and respect to the presentation to their learning.



PARENT INFORMATION

Face Coverings

We still expect adults to wear face coverings at drop off and pick up times. This is to keep protections in place due to the number of cases in our community.

P.E. days for each year group are shown below. Please note that for Y5, on the weeks they are swimming, there will be no PE on Fridays.

Year Group	PE Day	PE Day
Reception Genesis	Tuesday	Friday
Reception Alpha	Tuesday	Friday
Year 1 Aurora	Monday	Friday
Year 1 Vesper	Tuesday	Friday
Year 2 Aqueous	Monday	Thursday
Year 2 Terra	Tuesday	Friday
Year 3 Arboretum	Monday	Thursday
Year 3 Botanical	Monday	Friday
Year 4 Solar	Monday	Wednesday
Year 5 Aviary	Tuesday	Friday

Emailing the School Office

Please can we remind families that when emailing the school or leaving a message on the answerphone that you give your child's full name and their class and/or their teacher.
If you do not provide these details, it will lead to delays in answering or forwarding your queries.


Please remember that email is for non-urgent questions and we will aim to answer them within 2 school days. If something is urgent, please telephone the school office on 01923 255017.
Thank you for your continued support.

St John's school Uniform

We have been made aware that Mapac, the company who supplies our St John's branded uniform, are struggling to meet all their orders across the UK and are now prioritising the younger sizes first.

The supplies will hopefully arrive soon. Please let the school office know if you have not been able to get hold of all items of uniform.

This is an issue affecting many suppliers.



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Covid

We ask that our families continue to be cautious when their children display COVID symptoms. We would rather your child was off for a day with a cough while you check to see how it develops before sending them in.

By being cautious, we have the best chance of keeping the majority of children well and in school.

We will continue to let the whole school community know when we are informed of a positive Covid case, without identifying the person who has tested positive.

Menu Update

Due to supply issues, very much like the rest of the UK, our kitchen is sometimes struggling to get the correct orders.

We ask that you bear with us, if there is a major change to the meals we will let you know.

However, we may make some small swaps to provide a balanced meal based on what food supplies are available.

A Reminder from Herts Police

Electric Scooters



Electric scooters can – and will – be seized by the Police as they cannot be legally used in public places.

Scooter

- » Push scooter/ non-powered
- » Fun for kids
- » Legal to use anywhere



Scooters are a popular gadget, and are widely used by children. But parents may consider buying electric ones for their kids. Think twice!



E-Scooter

- » Electric powered
- » NOT Street Legal
- » Can't be used on public pavements, roads or cycle paths
- » Can be permanently seized by Police



Online Safety Update

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that – whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun – you can do it safely.

Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private – so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you – but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online – by anyone, not just someone from school – talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met – and who might not be who they say – is definitely best avoided.

React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too – if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).

