



NEWSLETTER No. 5

Newsletter Date: 14th November 2018

Written by Sharon Morrow TA

Mrs Moxham Head Teacher

Diary Dates

- 16.11.2018 Children in Need, wear something spotty or stripy to school
- 01.12.2018 Christmas Fair 15.00 - 17.00
- 11 & 13.12.2018 YR & Y2 Christmas Performance 14.00
- 12.12.2018 Y1 Christmas Performance 14.00
- 17, 18 & 19.12.2018 Junior Concert 14.00
- 21.12.2018 Carol Service at St Luke's 14.00
- 21.12.2018 End of Term 2
- 07.01.2019 Inset Day
- 08.01.2019 Start of Term 3

Reception enjoyed a visit by Charlotte from the Dogs Trust. She showed them how to stay safe around dogs that they don't know and how to look after their own dogs. She was very happy with the donations that the children had brought in for her to take back with her for the dogs at the Dogs Trust.



Year 1 loved their afternoon participating in the maths workshop. They completed sums on numbered leaves, counted hens eggs in 5s and caught shapes with fishing rods! Many thanks to all the parents for funding the event.



Year 2 were transported back to 1862 and 1962 to explore Christmas past. They played games, danced to Elvis and looked at Victorian Christmas traditions.



Year 3 children enjoyed a rainforest drama session led by Ms Bolwell. They created a rainforest sound-scape using body parts and instruments. They then spent time exploring the rainforest through mime before thinking about the emotions linked with cutting down a giant rainforest tree. Finally, the children created a conscience alley to share their views.



Year 5 embarked on an Arctic Adventure for the day with Wicked Weather Watch at Tom Roberts Adventure Centre. Children had a fabulous time learning about the effects of Climate Change in the Arctic through a variety of hands-on activities including drama, geography and D&T. They also had the opportunity to meet real-life Arctic Explorer Mr Digby and ask questions about his first-hand experience of the Arctic. The day ended with handing out of the certificates to children for completing their training as explorers.



The whole school enjoyed a very exciting start to the week using their maths skills to save the world. Each class took turns to go into the workshop and solve a variety of challenges to crack the code. Some were a real challenge! Luckily they cracked the code and saved the world!



Years 3, 4 and 6 enjoyed an illustration workshop by the famous illustrator Tony De Saulles who is the illustrator for the Horrible Science series of books. He kindly visited the school on his way to a Literacy Festival in Stroud as his children attended Saint John's over 20 years ago. He gave a work shop on illustrations and writing stories and the children (and staff) loved letting their creativity flow!



A group of Saint John's pupils, parents and staff took part in the **Cheltenham Remembers Memorial March** - each member of our group was given a lanyard with the name of a former Saint John's pupil who fell in World War 1. Over 1200 people marched and each person represented a Cheltenham man who was killed. The children deserve great credit for enduring a very heavy downpour, which did at least give them a tiny insight into the misery of life in the trenches.



Members of our local community joined us for a tea party during which we held a short Act of Remembrance, thinking especially of those former Saint John's pupils who gave their lives and whose details were on display in the hall. Children across the school had painted pebbles to create a stone poppy for the event and to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the war.



We would like to say a huge thank you to the committee of Prestbury Village Fair, for their incredibly generous donation of £150 to the PTFA, as a thank you for the fair games we lent them in the summer. This money is being used to help fund the transformation of the library.



Football Team - reporting by Theo

Saint John's 1 - 3 Glenfall

At the end of the game, Glenfall came out on top. Saint John's were in the game until 15 minutes after half-time, when the tall Glenfall striker finished a lovely passing move to put them 3 - 1 up. The first half was a cagey affair that ended with Glenfall twice taking the lead, to end 2 - 1 up. Saint John's were briefly level due to Grace's follow up after James' long range effort. The only massive chance that was not a goal fell to Alex, who was denied by a super save. After the match, the team captain, Simon, quoted 'absolutely gutted to have lost today.'



Congratulations to Chloe, Rosa, Javid and Aaron, all Year 6, for getting through to the second round of the National Young Mathematicians' Awards. If they are successful in Round 2, they could be off to Cambridge for the finals.

Partnership with Cheltenham College

We are very pleased to announce that on Friday, 9th November 2018, Saint John's Primary School and Cheltenham College signed a document outlining an educational partnership seeking the common good of both schools and the surrounding community.

Mrs Moxham and Tom O'Sullivan (Head, Cheltenham Prep) signed the document with Rev. Adam Dunning (Senior Chaplain, Cheltenham College) and Jonathan Griffiths (Chair of Governors, Saint John's Primary) present. The partnership has been underway informally for a number of months, and both schools have greatly benefited from working together. We are excited by the many new opportunities ahead as the partnership develops.

Saint John's 2 - 6 Gotherington

A clinical Gotherington found a decisive lead hard to come by in the first half but in the second their quality showed. In a tense first half, Saint John's fell 2 - 0 behind before a well-placed finish from Theo put them back in the game. However, Gotherington scored another before half time as they went into the break 3 - 1 up. The first action in the second half was a Saint John's penalty as the Gotherington skipper hand-balled in his own area. Saint John's captain, Simon, decisively despatched the penalty into the bottom corner, but after that, a flurry of goals from Gotherington secured a 6 - 2 win for the impressive side. Saint John's did put a shift in and a fantastic penalty save by Philip did help. Another stern test from Grangefield is coming next for the team!



Anti-Bullying Week

This week is Anti-Bullying week and the theme for this year is 'Choose Respect'. There was an Anti-Bullying assembly, run by the Anti-Bullying ambassadors - Chloe, Rosa, Simon and Phillip.



If you have any concerns about bullying in school then please speak to your child's class teacher. Our anti-bullying policy can be found here;

<http://www.st-johns-pri.gloucs.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=120&type=pdf>

Children in Need

We are supporting this fantastic charity again this year and on Friday 16th November, the children are invited to wear something spotty or stripy (or anything colourful) to school in return for a small donation.



Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to your generosity you have donated an amazing 83 shoeboxes to this cause. Thank you very much to everyone who donated



From the Office

The Trustees of Clifton Diocese and the Board of Education for Gloucester Diocese are in consultation to change the religious designation of All Saints' Academy to a Church of England school. A copy of the full consultation can be found at <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org.education/>. Any responses are due by 30th November.

Many thanks to everyone who supported our inaugural Nearly New Sale on Saturday 3rd November. You helped raise £100. We would like to make this sale a regular event, hoping to have a sale in the Spring, so a date will be available soon.



The first disco of the year last week, was well attended and fun was had by all. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help make the evening run smoothly and raise £322.

The Christmas Fair is on Saturday 1st December from 15.00 - 17.00, and plans are well underway to make this a fantastic event. There will be stalls, café, games, raffle, school choir, tombola and of course Santa's Grotto. You can support the Fair by buying and selling raffle tickets and donating tombola prizes and bric-a-brac. The flyer requesting tombola items went in to the book bags last week, and we ask you to donate in return for a non-uniform day on Friday 23rd November.



On Friday 30th November, we want to see your amazing handmade Christmas tree decorations. It's free to enter, and as well as the winning entries receiving a prize, all entries will be used to decorate the school's Christmas tree. Details went in to the book bags this week.

Raffle tickets have already gone out, so please buy and bring in your raffle ticket stubs and money as soon as possible. Please sell these to family and friends, as there are some great prizes to be won. The draw will take place at the Fair. If you need more, then please contact the committee.

We are always looking for volunteers to help this event run smoothly, so even if you can only spare ½ hour or an hour to help run a stall, or help set up the night before, then please let a member of the committee know.

We hope to see you all at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 1st and start your countdown to Christmas with Saint John's.

The next PTFA meeting will be on Monday 10th December.

Find us on Facebook

Saint John's C of E Primary School PTFA



Last term, we took a group of 16 girls and 25 boys on our biennial residential trip to PGL Osmington Bay. They took part in a variety of activities including abseiling, climbing, fencing, quad-biking, orienteering and dragon boat racing, to name but a few. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and their behaviour was exemplary - they were a credit to themselves and the school. Here are a few photos and quotes from the children to give you a flavour of what the week was like;



'All the PGL staff were really cool' - Simon



'One of the best experiences of my life' - David



'A great place to get off your computer and face your fears' - Milo





'The food was excellent and gave me all the energy I needed' - Zoe



'The beds were soft and the rooms were cool' - Jamie



'I recommend the lemon cake' - Rayan

