



NEWSLETTER No. 4

November 2025

Dear Saint John's families,

It has been a busy start to Term 2; I hope you enjoy reading about the activities your child has been doing, along with looking at the photographs!

In the first week back, we spent some time considering Remembrance Day and classes produced some beautiful and thought-provoking pictures and words for this occasion. I was particularly proud to experience our moment of reflection in the playground on the 11th November at 11am. The children stood silently for that time and showed how respectful they can be.

I was also very proud to receive our SIAMS inspection report. The inspection has slightly changed this year and so there is no "one-word" judgement. However, it seems perfectly clear that we continue to be outstanding. The inspector was very impressed with the children, noting their positive and mature attitudes as well as hearing about their love of learning.

I would like to share some phrases from this report:

The school **"fosters a harmonious and loving community."**

The children's **"talents are nurtured and celebrated."**

"Leaders craft an aspirational and inclusive curriculum that inspires pupils to grow." They **"maintain a culture that is enriched by collaborative partnerships and support where required."**

And finally, it was lovely to read:

"Strong bonds of friendship, love and wellbeing promote flourishing."

At Saint John's, we experience this every day but it was a huge encouragement to have our self-reflection validated by an external inspector. Do read the full report on the school website:

<https://www.st-johns-pri.gloucs.sch.uk/>

During last week, we focused on Anti-Bullying Week, starting with odd socks on Monday and finishing with Children in Need on Friday. The children discussed relationships, being reminded of the 3Rs! Thank you for your generous donations: **£348.45** was an amazing total!

Have a good week, Mrs Beevers

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Next week: Years 1-4 have cinema trips in school time

PLEASE NOTE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR

Friday 28th November:

Open Classrooms & Tea with Mrs B at 9.15am

Whole school trip to the Everyman for the pantomime with a **late finish (4.30pm) PICK UP FROM SCHOOL**

Saturday 6th December from 1-3pm: Christmas Fair

Tuesday 9th December: Infant Nativity at Highbury; parents/carers show starts **at 1pm**. After the show, infants can leave from the church or return to school..

Tuesday 16th December at 2.15pm: Christmas Service at St Luke's Church; then the Drama Adventures performance after school

Friday 19th December: School finishes at 2pm

Monday 5th January: Inset Day - no school for pupils

Friday 23rd January at 6.30pm: PTFA Disco

Wednesday 11th February at 9.30am : Celebration of Learning at Highbury

Thursday 19th March at 9am: Open Classrooms

Thursday 26th March at 2pm: Easter Service at St Luke's Church

Friday 27th March: School finishes at 2pm

Monday 13th April: Inset Day - no school for pupils

Week commencing 20th April: parent consultations

Monday 4th May: Bank Holiday – School closed

Friday 15th May at 6.30pm: PTFA Disco

Friday 22nd May at 9.30am: Celebration of Learning

Friday 22nd May: School finishes at 3:15pm

Mon 8th June at 2.15pm: Open Classrooms and a talk from the police - really important to join us if you can!

Thursday 18th June: Sports Morning

Wednesday 15th July: Y6 & KS2 Show at Highbury

Wednesday 15th July: Leavers' Disco (time tbc)

Thursday 16th July at 2pm: Leavers' Service:

Friday 17th July: School finishes at 2pm



What an amazing first few weeks back **Reception** have had! The weather has been so lovely and mild, up to the last few days, we have had plenty of time to play outside on the garden!

We have been learning about the story of 'The Gingerbread man'. The children have painted some super paintings of the Gingerbread man, sequenced the story and iced Gingerbread man biscuits! We have also taken part in World Nursery Rhyme Week, practicing some old classics but also learning new verses.

In Maths, we have been learning about 2d shapes and making shape pictures using shapes, plus recognising shapes in the environment.

The children have loved painting lots of pictures this week, including firework paintings, Spiderman characters and even Ronaldo playing football!

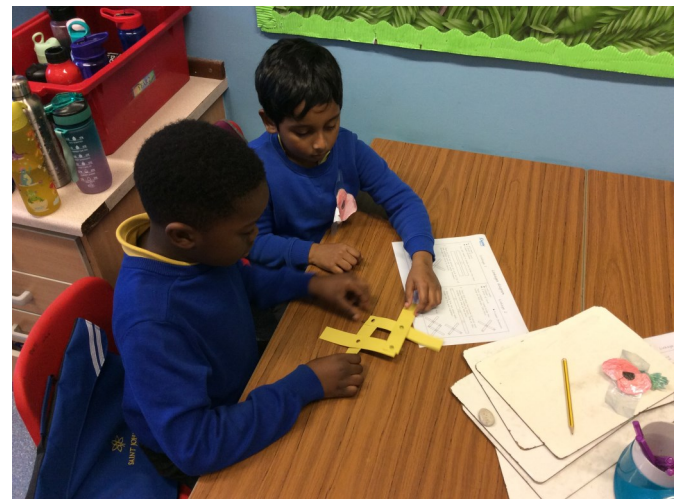
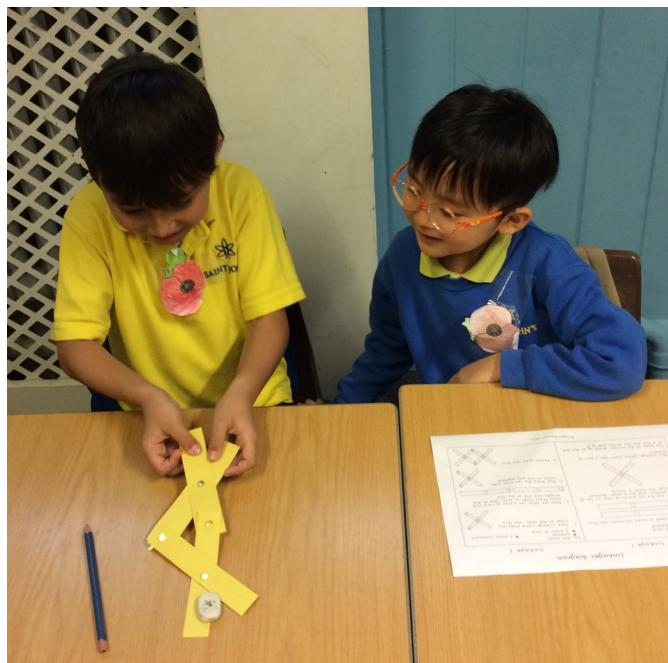
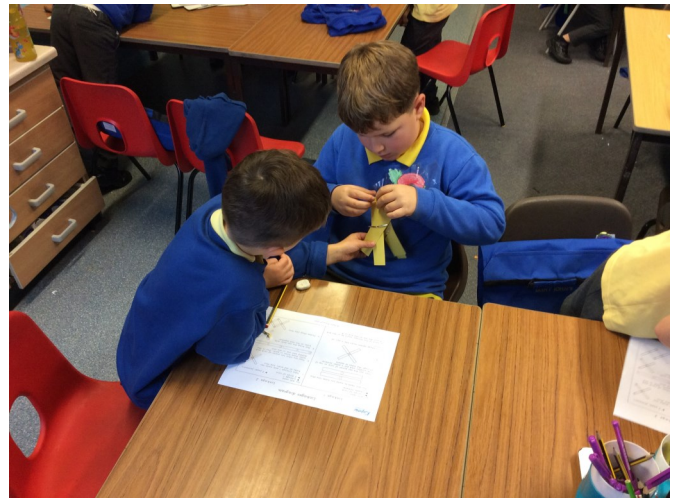


Year 1 have been busy making moving mechanisms as part of their work in D.T. this term. They stuck a picture on a slider, cut a slit in a piece of paper and then used the slider to move the picture across the page. They designed a background to fit with their picture. Lots of children have gone home to make more sliders!

The children also worked in pairs to carry out an investigation in science to identify the properties of different materials.

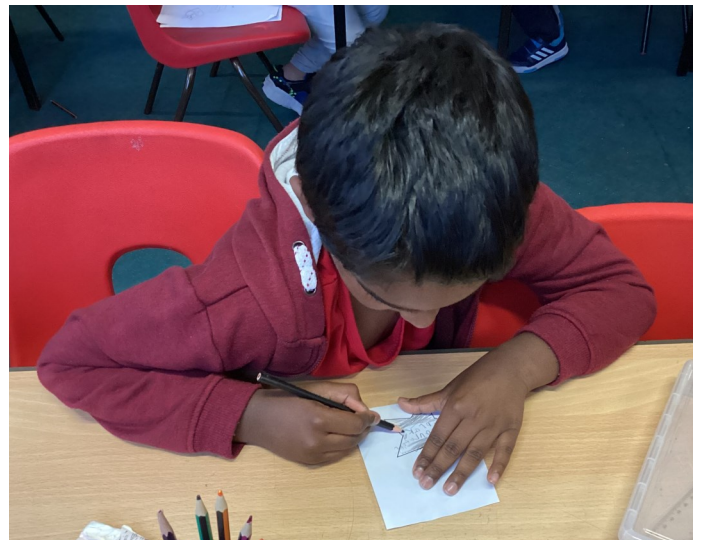
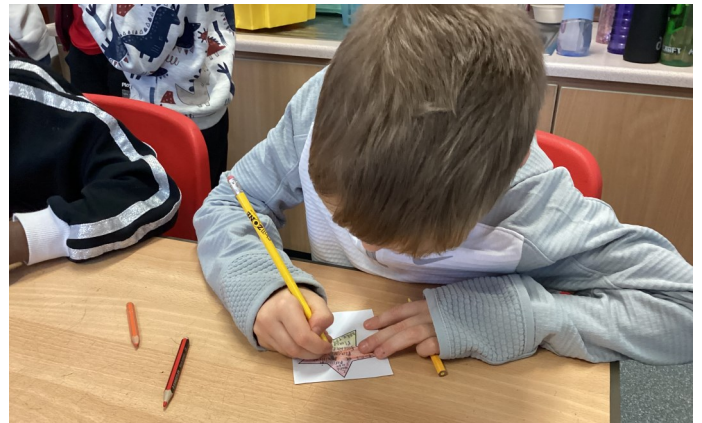


Year 2 have had a great start to the new term. The children enjoyed taking part in a webinar with the author Tom Palmer. The children listened to Tom talk about his new picture book 'War Dog' which was based on the true story of a serving WWII dog called Judy. They also made their own poppies to wear on Remembrance Day. In DT, the children have been observing objects to understand how they move. They then used their understanding of pivots to make a mechanism.

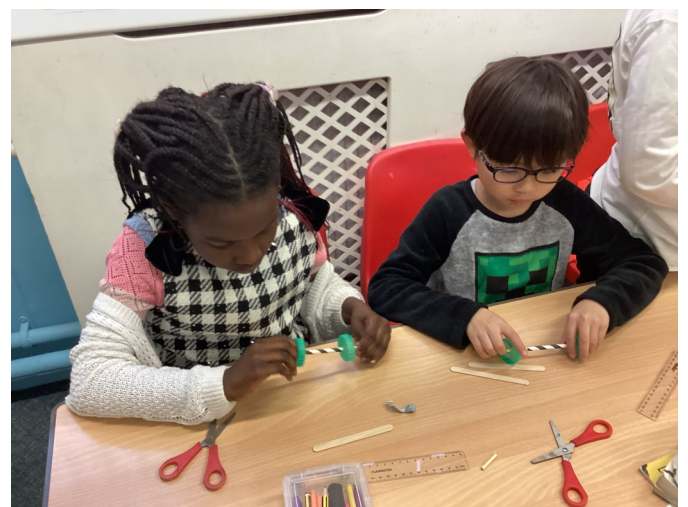


We have been very busy in **Year 3**. We have been looking at what makes us different and celebrating our differences.

We have also started dancing PE and choreographed our own dance when we were being machines. We've thought about how machines moved and how we can show that in our bodies and our movements.

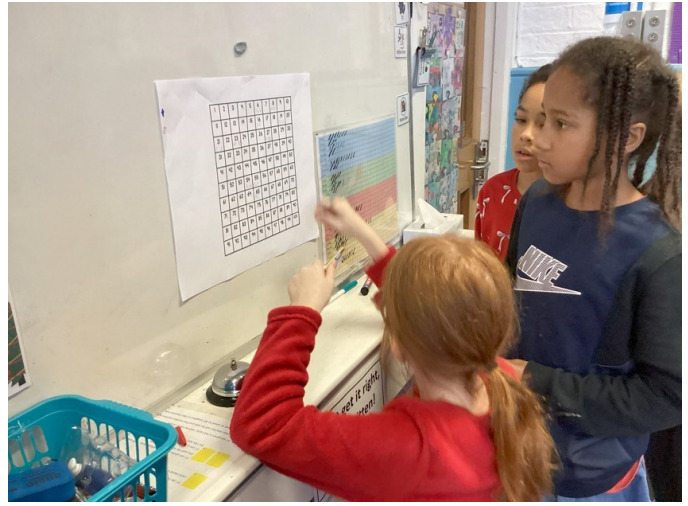


Year 4 took part in lots of activities to explore anti-bullying week. They started the week by wearing odd socks to represent that everyone is different and ended the week by expressing their individuality during our 'dare to be different' non-school uniform day. In DT, they have been learning about the history of cars and built their first prototype. They thought about what parts worked well and what needed improving for their next design.



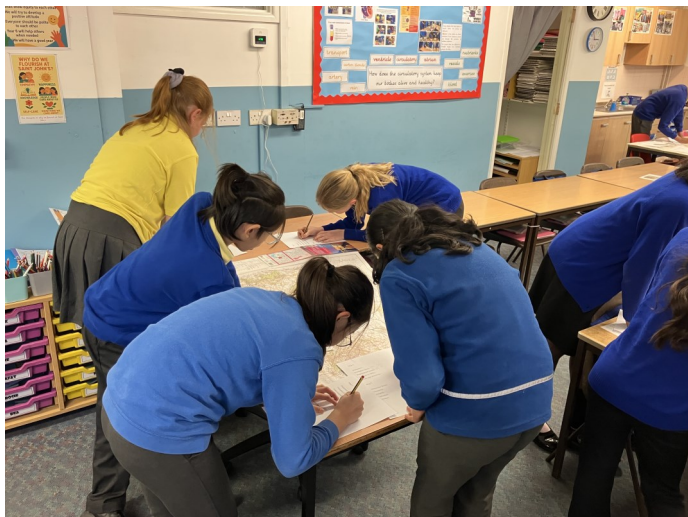
Year 5 have been learning about common factors in maths. We have been using Venn diagrams to help us identify these common factors.

During our guided reading sessions, the children have been listening to Tom Percival read his book *The Invisible*. We used this book to help us with our comprehension and it also initiated some interesting discussions about how we view other people within our society. To finish our science unit on properties of materials, we looked at reversible and irreversible changes. We observed how bicarbonate of soda and vinegar reacted together, as well as the process of curdling.



Year 6 have been using OS maps and six-figure grid references to explore Gloucester, focusing on the historic Docks, the River Severn and the Gloucester–Sharpness Canal.

As part of their current Dance unit, Year 6 have enjoyed learning the moves to the New Zealand Haka.



Did you know we also sell preloved uniform? If you have uniform you would like to donate please do get in touch. Here is the link if you'd like to purchase:

<https://uniformerly.co.uk/search-listings/?q=&c=1237>

Both preloved uniform and lost property will be available at the end of term.



The PTFA would love your old Christmas decorations if you have any you would like to donate!

Please bring them to the gates by November 24th or email: PTFA@st-johns-pri.gloucs.sch.uk

