



NEWSLETTER No. 10

March 2024

Dear Saint John's families,

What a wonderful end to the week. At 9am this morning, we brought all of the children into the hall to start our celebration of World Book Day. There were a huge variety of creations, some fantastic costumes and lots of children brought their book with them too! Thank you to all the families who helped put together the ideas.

Throughout the day, there will be opportunities to enjoy reading. Reading for pleasure is such an essential part of a child's life, as well as an adult's, and we want to instil a love of reading from an early age. It sometimes feels like we are in a battle with devices and their games, although I know that many enjoy reading on a device too!

Please join in our Battle for Books by providing space and time for your child to read and perhaps show them the ways in which you enjoy reading too. On our website, under English, there are lots of good ideas for reading and we have listed good books for primary children, so do have a look!

Later this afternoon, the children will be swapping teachers and reading a picture book together. It is a lovely opportunity for the teachers to meet with other children and to share ideas and stories.

Each child will come home with a voucher which can be swapped for a book in a bookstore. Waterstones is a wonderful place to visit and we would suggest spending time there; the children's section is brilliant. Of course, many people use the various second-hand bookshops around to get hold of books. Ultimately, though, the best place is THE LIBRARY as the books are free! Please do visit your nearest library and see the books and competitions on offer there.

Enjoy all the photos from today on Dojo.

Next week, we are going to St Luke's for our Easter Service:

Wednesday 13th March. We will leave school at 9.30 and aim for the service to start before 10am. You are welcome to join us on line and we will send the link early next week. However, the best experience is in person and we hope that many families will join us. We will also need families to help walk with us, so please, please let your child's class teacher know that you can support walking to and from the church. The weather is bright and lovely at the moment and we hope this will continue until the end of term!

St Luke's is also having a Mothering Sunday service on Sunday (10th March) when there will be a celebration and a remembering of mothers, so please do come to that service. It is at 10am.

There are a couple of other dates which we suggest you put in your diary:

Friday 22nd March: final day of term, finish at 2pm.

Monday 8th April: INSET for staff. NO SCHOOL.

Tuesday 9th April: First day of the Summer Term

Friday 19th July: Last day of term, finish at 2pm.

We have provisional dates for the following events, but will give you information nearer the time:

Bake Sale: Monday 15th April

Disco: Friday 17th May

Sports Day: Thursday 26th June

Enjoy the weekend.

Kind regards, Mrs Beevers



Written by Sharon Morrow TA



This term, **Reception** are having a great time working on their body control, balance and movement skills. Their confidence on the apparatus has grown enormously and now the children are confidently jumping off the agility tables. They are exploring how their body moves by twisting, sliding and slithering. The children are applying their balance and body control skills to their Balanceability sessions. It is so exciting to see so many children ride without stabilisers.



As part of their IDraw unit of work in Computing, **Year 1** children worked in pairs to create these pictures. They used different tools to edit their work. On March 1st, it was Happy Grandma Marta day, a Bulgarian day, which welcomes in Spring. Mrs Asenova told the children all about this tradition and showed them how to make traditional red and white bracelets!



Year 2 have been busy identifying stable and unstable shape structures. The children found out that the shape of a structure can affect its strength. They carried out an investigation by placing books on top of different shapes to test their stability. They found that the cylinder is the most stable because it does not have any corners and the whole structure bears the weight evenly.



Year 3 have been investigating the strengths of a variety of magnets in Science. They displayed great teamwork during the investigation and enjoyed testing out their predictions. In English, they have been exploring the features of a newspaper report. They worked in teams to create these fantastic posters to help them remember what needs to be included in their hot task.



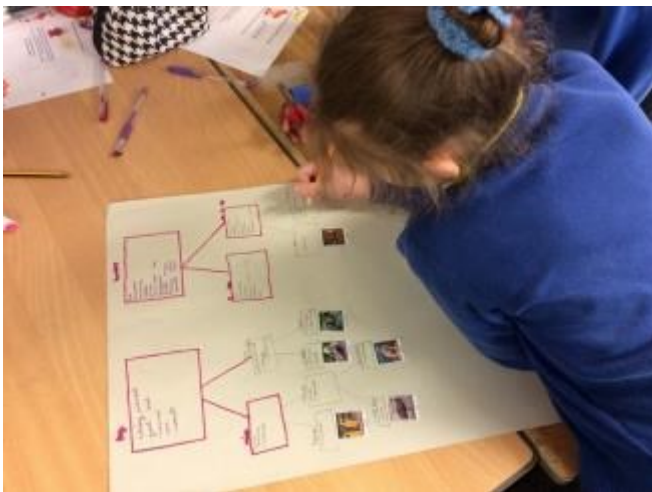
As part of **Year 4's** Science learning, the children had to plan and carry out an investigation that focussed on which sound could be heard from furthest away. They worked collaboratively in small groups to decide how to carry out the investigation and selected their own equipment. The children also took part in a live webinar with Micheal Rosen, as part of World Book Day celebrations earlier this week. They listened to a retelling of his new book, joining in with sound effects and followed an illustrator's instructions on how to draw a character from one of the stories.



Year 5 have been learning about world biomes in Geography. They specifically explored the biomes in Scandinavia and used this knowledge to compare the flora and fauna of England and Scandinavian countries. The children have also been practising and improving their dodgeball skills during PE, including jumping, ducking, dodging and blocking. They are looking forward to using these skills when playing the game in the final few sessions. In Science, they have enjoyed learning lots of facts about Earth and Space such as solar wind and the number of dwarf planets; they even had the chance to look at a real telescope!



Year 6 have been trying their hand at taxonomy during Science. The children first tried to create their own system to categorise a selection of creatures and it was interesting to see the different ways that they could be grouped. They then discovered the Linnaean system, a standardised way of classifying all living things, and investigated how some animals fitted into this system. In Art, the children were challenged to create a piece of art to convey a message about something that they are passionate about or have strong views on. The unit, titled "Make Your Voice Heard", showed how symbolism can make viewers stop and think about art, while techniques, such as chiaroscuro, can create dramatic effects.



The **football team** enjoyed a thrilling draw at Grangefield last week. The hosts took the lead against the run of play but Saint John's equalised before half-time with a superbly taken free-kick. Despite creating further chances, the team could not find a winner and hearts were in mouths when a long-range Grangefield effort struck the crossbar. The game finished 1-1 and the team will hope for better fortune in front of goal in the next match.

Thank you to everyone who wore wellies and donated money for Winston's Wish 'Wear Wellies Day'. We raised a total of £143.85.

