



St. John the Baptist
Catholic Primary School

We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord



"I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said"
Luke 1:38

Newsletter

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 12.03.21

Attentive

and

Discerning

Welcome Back!

It's been wonderful to welcome back the entire St John's community this week, and what a first week back it's been! This week the children have enjoyed not only returning to join all their friends and teachers, but have also had fun celebrating Science Week. So let's all now focus on once again being together as a community and enjoying school life.

We also approach the fourth week of Lent, below are some of the words from the Holy Father's Lenten message. Please visit the below link to read the Holy Father's message in its entirety.



In our Lenten journey towards Easter, let us remember the One who "humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8).

During this season of conversion, let us renew our faith, draw from the "living water" of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ. At the Easter vigil, we will renew our baptismal promises and experience rebirth as new men and women by the working of the Holy Spirit.

This Lenten journey, like the entire pilgrimage of the Christian life, is even now illumined by the light of the resurrection, which inspires the thoughts, attitudes and decisions of the followers of Christ.

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Dates for your Diary

Thursday 1st April

15.15pm - Break up for Easter Holiday

Monday 19th April

8.55am - Children return to school

Monday 3rd May

All day - School closed (May Day Bank Holiday)

Friday 28th May

2.00pm - Break up for May Half-Term

Monday 7th June

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 8th June

8.55am - Children return to school

Online safety hero says...



There are lots of choices to make online, is the game suitable for my age? Should I download this? Should I talk to strangers? Remember to make choices that are respectful and safe and if you are unsure, ask a trusted adult.

#makeagoodchoice

#staysafe



Sports Star of the Week

This week's Sports Star of the Week is Willow T for outstanding effort.



STARS OF THE WEEK!



Congratulations to Taylor S in

Year 1,

and

Brodie D

in Year 6.

We're all really proud of you.

This week's virtues awards were given to

Arlo B	NN
Ava-Rose L	Reception
Millie-Mai P	Year 1
Noah G	Year 2
Baylie K	Year 3
Billy M	Year 4
Olivia A	Year 5
Jordan C	Year 6

For being attentive and discerning.

Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Nursery with 97.4%



Well done!

Ready to learn Award



Congratulations, our most punctual class this week were Year 5.

Birthdays



Happy birthday this week to: Harley D & Mikayla F.



The theme for this year's British Science Week was "Innovating for the Future". The natural woodland located near the school is seriously under threat and the aim this week was to educate the children about their role in protecting not only their local area, but also planet Earth. We focused on sustainability and protecting our planet. Another focus for the week was 'Healthy Eating' as this is a key issue within the local area and something we felt the children would benefit from more learning more about.

We were lucky enough to receive some funding from The British Science Association and we used this funding to fund Farming STEMterprise projects. These projects took children through each stage of setting up a farm shop business: considering seasonality when deciding which crop to grow, growing their own ingredients, considering nutrition when designing their recipes, using market research to test their ideas out with potential consumers, working within a budget when buying additional ingredients, learning knife skills when making their products, calculating expected profit, designing responsible packaging and much more. The Practical Science and Design & Technology lessons, closely tailored to each year group's programme of study, were incorporated throughout the projects and opportunities for applying Maths skills to engaging, real life problems were embedded at each stage. The projects were designed to deliver important messages about financial literacy and food provenance.

Farming STEMterprise is an accredited project of CREST Awards and the Children's University.

Projects covered:

EYFS: Farming and growing vegetables, making vegetable soup.

Year 1 and 2 covered: Creating a yoghurt product.

Year 3 and 4 covered: Creating a new healthy product.

Year 5 and 6 covered: Creating new healthy dishes.

As well as lots of fun science experiments linked to our themes! We saw explosions, reactions and conducted lots of investigations! The transformation of the SJB farm was a truly enlightening experience for all involved and the children at St. John's are better educated about their health and preserving our beautiful planet and we are committed to continuing our learning journey beyond Science Week!

Take a look at the following pages to see just how much fun everyone had!

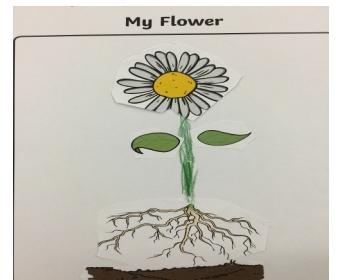
Science Week



Early Years



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



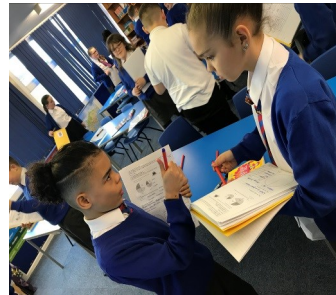
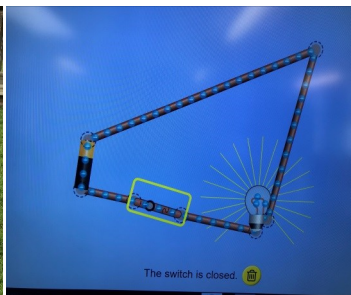
Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



Healthy Meal Competition



Children will have the opportunity to take part in a Healthy Meal Competition as part of their Healthy Eating topic. We are asking those wishing to take part to create a healthy meal at home and tag a photo of it on the SJB Twitter page! or email photos of your healthy meal to office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk by Thursday 18th March. The winners will be announced in next week's newsletter. Good luck!



Our Lady and All Saints
Catholic Multi Academy Company
Strong in Faith

School Meals Parent Survey



Our award winning school meals in Solihull have never tasted better and we are proud to offer pupils across the borough a great range of delicious, healthy meals, using locally sourced, high quality ingredients. To ensure we are meeting your child's catering needs a Parent Survey can be accessed from the link below or the QR code at the bottom of this article from 26th April 2021. Please take a few moments to give us your feedback. Thank you.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ROY4KI/>



School Uniform

Thank you if you have managed to send your child back to school in full uniform however we have noticed that some children have returned to school missing certain items. We fully appreciate that many children have grown significantly during lockdown; that there has been a rush to buy school uniform items and therefore some shops are low on stock and that also some of you may have additional financial concerns to contend with. To support our families, we ask that you ensure your child returns to school in full uniform by the first day of the summer term at the latest. This means that they must be wearing black school shoes (no trainers), a school tie, a white shirt and a grey skirt/ trousers/ shorts. We also ask that correct school PE kits are in place too. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Return to School Questionnaires

'School has done a marvellous job during the past year and we feel very confident that our children's needs are going to be fully met'

Thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaire. If you told us that your child is experiencing any worries or anxiety about returning to school, then this information has been passed to their class teacher. We will also discuss each individual case during our weekly inclusion meetings. We plan a range of activities to support a successful return to school, including:

- lessons about Covid-19, to increase understanding and reduce worries;
- exercise activities to increase fitness;
- team building activities to improve social relationships
- more online activities to build on the positives gained from home learning.

We are really pleased to see that the majority of children are feeling happy and excited to return to school and we're even more delighted to see that 134 out of 136 responses have told us that you're extremely happy with our school's response to the pandemic and our home learning offer!

Thank you

Online Behaviour

Clearly our children have spent more time online than ever before over the last few months. For many this has been the only way to connect with their friends. However I have received a number of reports of name calling; the use of inappropriate language and unfair behaviours demonstrated online, both during lockdown and since we have returned to school. Please can I ask all parents and carers to closely monitor your child's online activity and deal strictly with any negative behaviours. From school's point of view, I have spoken directly to some classes and have contacted our local police officer who is more than willing to come into school to discuss the impact and consequences of online bullying with any individual children.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Generous God, we give you thanks because you loved the world so much you sent your only Son to show us how to live. May we share your love with others.

In this Sunday's gospel, we hear about how much God loves the world and all the people in it. Let's think some more about that love, especially as Sunday is Mother's Day.

Gospel: John 3:14-21

As Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the desert, in the same way the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour.

Those who believe in the Son are not judged; but those who do not believe have already been judged, because they have not believed in God's only Son. This is how the judgment works: the light has come into the world, but people love the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds are evil. Those who do evil things hate the light and will not come to the light, because they do not want their evil deeds to be shown up. But those who do what is true come to the light in order that the light may show that what they did was in obedience to God.

In this gospel reading we hear that God loved the world so much that he gave us Jesus to show us how to live and to help bring us closer to God.

God does not just love you, God loves everybody. He loves all people whether they are rich or poor, no matter where they live or where they come from. We are all part of God's family.

God asks us to share this love and to also care for others no matter who they are or where in the world they live. A great example of love and care is that which we receive from our mums. Remember to take some time on Sunday to show them just how much we appreciate all they do for us.



Loving God, show us how to reach out to others; those close to us and those around the world, to support them to build a better future, full of love and care.

Amen.

Have a wonderful weekend.

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