



**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 19.03.21

*Attentive*

*and*

*Discerning*



## St Patrick's Day

On Wednesday we celebrated the feast day of St Patrick, patron saint of Ireland. Children learnt about St Patrick and wore something green.

We have also been continuing our Lenten journey, Year 4 wrote a recipe for Lent, you can see one of our Year 4 children reading a Lent recipe on our Twitter page @SJBsolihull [#catholiclife](#) [#Lent](#)

## Healthy Meal Competition



We are extending the deadline for our Healthy Meal Competition! So if you would like to enter you now have until Thursday 25th March. You can send a photo of your healthy meal to [office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@sjb.solihull.sch.uk) or tag a photo using our @SJBsolihull Twitter page.

## Reading Books

Please can you ensure that you send your child's reading book into school every day. Many children are receiving additional reading support as part of our catch up curriculum plans and therefore they will need to have access to their reading book at all times. Thank you

Also, if you have any school reading books at home, please can you send them back into school as soon as possible. Our reading book stock is looking quite low at the moment so it is very important that you take the time to send all books back to us.



## 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...



*Do you know the rules of how to behave and stay safe on the games, apps or websites you use? Ask an adult to help you find out how to block or report other users and how to play games with people you know in the real world rather than strangers.*

*#playwithfriends*

*#staysafe*

*#knowtherules*



## Sports Star of the Week

This week's Sports Star of the Week is Tia S for good effort and score in the beep test.



## STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to Thomas O'K in

Reception ,

and

Billy D

in Year 5

We're all really proud of you.

This week's virtues awards were given to

Evangeline F	NN
Jacob N	Reception
Harley D	Year 1
Ryan M	Year 2
Halina B	Year 3
Dylan R	Year 4
Tianna C	Year 5
Dewa H	Year 6

For being attentive and discerning.

### Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 3 with 100%



*Well done!*

### Ready to learn Award



Congratulations, our most punctual class this week were Reception, Year 1 & Year 3.

### Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Charlie H.



## **[Urgent message from Solihull's Director of Public Health](#)**

There has been a sudden rise in cases concentrated in the Smith's Wood and Kingshurst areas of the borough and Ruth Tennant has issued the following message which you can read below.

Please share this with your family and friends and remind them of the current lockdown rules, which can be found here on [GOV.UK](#) or on our own website [here](#).

**After a period of seeing our COVID rates fall, over the last week we have seen a sudden rise in cases.**

Our rate today is 83.2 per 100,000, up from 54.1 on 4 March - a rise from 117 to 180 cases. We expect this to go up further. Our rates are now the third highest in the West Midlands, above Birmingham, Warwickshire and Coventry.

This is a real concern and a clear reminder that we are not out of the woods yet. As we saw before Christmas when there was a huge surge in cases, once the new variant gets out, it spreads very quickly, causing new outbreaks and transmitting around families and workplaces.

This recent increase is concentrated in the Smith's Wood and Kingshurst areas of the borough. But we could very quickly see this pattern change, as there are signs of increases in other areas as people seem to be out and about more.

Vaccination roll-out is happening at pace and 44% of people in Solihull have had their first dose. But this means that many people have not been vaccinated at all and most are not fully protected yet. We know that the average age of people in intensive care locally during the second wave was 57. This still leaves many people at risk of being very severely affected by COVID.

**We need to take this as a very serious warning sign. We do not want a third wave.**

At this point, people can only meet one other person outdoors. You should not meet in groups. Indoor mixing is not yet allowed and risks spreading the virus. You should continue to stay at home unless you need to go out for essential reasons, which includes education for children and young people.

We need to stick with this, get back to doing the right things to get our rates lower and allow vaccination to do its job.

Please remember that you can spread the virus with no symptoms. You can spread the virus if you do not self-isolate for 10 days. [Financial and practical support](#) is available to help anyone who needs this so you can keep yourself, your family and your community safe.

Contact the Council on 0121 704 8000 for further information, including how to get tested if you have symptoms or are asymptomatic, or look at the information on our COVID web pages [here](#).



It's certainly been another busy week here at St John's! Have a look at what and how children have been learning this week.

## Early Years

Nursery and Reception children made their own scarecrows and organised a scarecrows wedding.



## Egyptian Work - Year 3

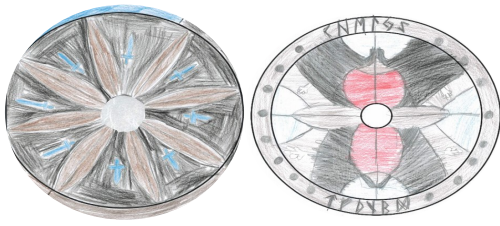


Here is a picture of Amari H-P with some extra Egyptian work from home. What a fantastic Tutankhamun mask and information fact sheet, well done Amari.



# Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed using the ukuleles for the first time this week and made a really good sound. Also, our tomato seeds have begun to grow already. We hope for a crop of tomatoes in the summer. In topic work we have designed our own Viking shields and learned about the Viking raids.

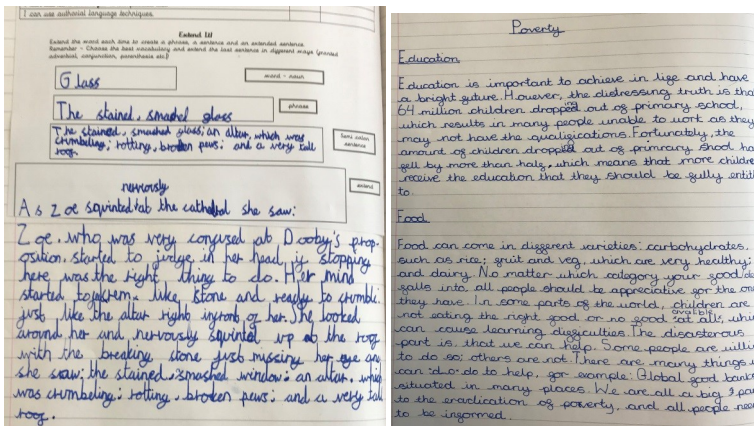


# Year 6

This week we have been looking at using semi colons for a complicated list in Year 6. The children have applied this in their writing, using our class text 'Foodland' as a prompt.

Kian's opening paragraph is an excellent example of this.

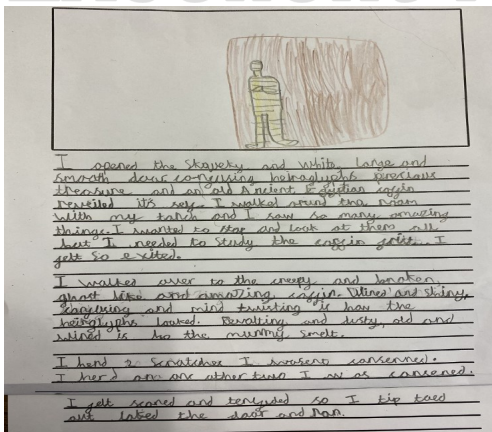
Also, in RE, we have been using our Lent Unit to find out about different types of poverty, and how to remedy them. Here is Ini's work, which is a fantastic example. She has used headings, subheadings, topic sentences and subordinate clauses to structure her work.



Year 6 also completed a 'Role on the Wall' activity, where they used their inference and detective skills to put themselves into the role of particular characters from our class text: Floodland. The children then used their oracy presentation skills to present their findings to the rest of the class!



# Excellent Work



A fantastic description of an old museum room and an ancient Egyptian coffin by Samuel O.

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

*God of life, we pray that all the seeds that we plant may bear much fruit, so that none of your people go hungry.*

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus uses the image of a grain of wheat to talk about what is in store for him – death and resurrection. He says that one single grain of wheat can produce a rich harvest...

**Gospel:** John 12:20-33

*Some Greeks were among those who had gone to Jerusalem to worship during the festival. They went to Philip (he was from Bethsaida in Galilee) and said, "Sir, we want to see Jesus."*

*Philip went and told Andrew, and the two of them went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has now come for the Son of Man to receive great glory. I am telling you the truth: a grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. If it does die, then it produces many grains. Those who love their own life will lose it; those who hate their own life in this world will keep it for life eternal. Whoever wants to serve me must follow me, so that my servant will be with me where I am. And my Father will honour anyone who serves me."*

*"Now my heart is troubled—and what shall I say? Shall I say, 'Father, do not let this hour come upon me'? But that is why I came—so that I might go through this hour of suffering. Father, bring glory to your name!"*

*Then a voice spoke from heaven, "I have brought glory to it, and I will do so again."*

*The crowd standing there heard the voice, and some of them said it was thunder, while others said, "An angel spoke to him!" But Jesus said to them, "It was not for my sake that this voice spoke, but for yours. Now is the time for this world to be judged; now the ruler of this world will be overthrown. When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me." (In saying this he indicated the kind of death he was going to suffer.)*

Jesus says that unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies then it will give a rich harvest.

Jesus is using this image to explain that he must die on the cross so that he can rise again and so people will believe he is the Son of God.



Our actions, even if we do just one little thing, can also grow into something big. What will you do this week to make a difference to someone who needs help?

*Christ Jesus, fill us with your love and mercy and show us how to make a difference to the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world. Amen.*

*Have a wonderful weekend.*

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