



St. John's School Newsletter

Through Jesus Christ all our children Learn to Love and Love to Learn.

Our Achievers

Bronze Readers

St. Francis Class

Alex Capusa

St. Ava Class

Matilda Van de Borgh, Eric Farneti,

Zuzanna Borys

St. Genevieve Class

Johnny Clifton

House of the Week - Lions

Golden Peg - St. Nicholas

Attendance

This week we were 95.8% again - hopefully this will go up for the last week of term.

St. Therese 90.2% (94.75% year to date)

St. Francis 95.7% (96.22% year to date)

St. Ava 99.3% (98.06% year to date)

St. Nicholas 94.1% (95.44% year to date)

St. Joseph 95.4% (95.47% year to date)

St. Genevieve 98.7% (98.66% year to date)

St. Sebastian 97.2% (97.29% year to date)

Well done to St. Ava class who achieved a massive 99%

As a school we are year-to-date on 96.61%. That means we have kept above our target of 96% throughout the cold and flu season - well done to all.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL *Where are you?*

Children are required to attend school for 190 days each year. The LA target for attendance in primary school is at least 95%.

Attendance during one school year	Days Absent...	Weeks Absent...	Lessons Missed...
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	40 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	80 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	120 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	160 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	200 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	230 Lessons
60%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	270 Lessons

How does your child's attendance compare with this target? Please remember that children who miss a lot of school achieve less.

St. John's Choir

Yesterday, the St. John's school choir did their first public performance. They sang to shoppers in Horsham from the bandstand and were incredibly well received. Despite nerves, the children sang beautifully and astounded the audience with the number of songs they have learnt in the short time the choir has been going.

Great plans are afoot for the choir in the Spring term and we would love even more voices to join it.



Young Interpreters



Yesterday, the Young Interpreters had the experience of hearing a language that none of them could speak. This was to develop their understanding of what it is like for children arriving here with no English.

Mrs Crayford read them the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' in Romanian. The first time she did this she just read the text. Our Young Interpreters said that it was really hard to follow, they went blank and they felt confused. She then reread it, but this time she showed pictures and used props and facial expressions. The children found it so much easier to follow. Many thanks to Mrs Crayford for coming in today and helping our children to understand how important gestures, signs and pictures are in helping someone who is new to English.

The Young Interpreters finish their training next week and will be presented with their certificates, hats and badges in our end of term worship next Friday at 2pm. A reminder to parents of Young Interpreters that you are warmly invited to this.

R.S.P.C.A

Dave Allen from the R.S.P.C.A visited again today to receive a cheque for the money raised last half term. He was amazed at how much the children recalled from the last talk and was so grateful for the cheque. He showed the children pictures of animals that would be helped due to the school's fundraising. Thank you to Caye, Sophie and Leah for all their hard work in raising this money.



Advent Mass

Thank you to everyone who came to Advent Mass and for refreshments afterwards. This was a wonderful way to celebrate the coming of Christ and our school community.



Clubs

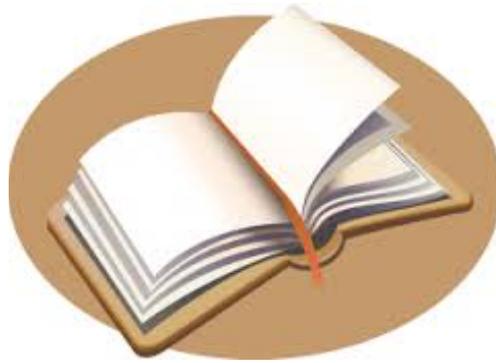
There will be clubs running next week and we hope to resume clubs in the New Year on the first week back - we will confirm this next week.

And Finally...

Thank you to everyone who has helped out this week: the helpers who supported us on our walk to Mass; the Friends who provided refreshments after Mass; all those who helped us bring the choir into Horsham; and last but by no means least the volunteers who have put in all the behind the scenes work for our school fair. Thank you.

We look forward to seeing you at the nativity plays next week.

Have a wonderful weekend. Mrs Bono.



Dates for the Diary

Monday 12th December	St. Therese Nativity for Reception class parents - 1.30pm
Wednesday 14th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity 1.30pm Key Stage 2 Nativity 6.30pm
Thursday 15th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity 10am Key Stage 2 Nativity 1.30pm Key Stage 2 Nativity 6.30pm
Friday 16th December	St. John's Day - Festive Clothing Day Young Interpreters receiving their certificates @ 2pm Finish school at normal time
Tuesday 3rd January	First Day of Term



[Gospel reading for 4th December](#)

Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

John the Baptist was the "Elijah," the fore-runner before the Messiah's arrival

As they were coming down the mountain, the disciples asked Jesus, "Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" He replied, "Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.

