



# St. John's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 12 - 1st December 2023

**Our values:** In Christ we are: **Joyful** in our faith, **Aspirational** in our learning, **Confident** in being me, **Caring** in our hearts.

## Taken from Mark 1:1-8. The Second Sunday in Advent, Year B

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. And so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

## Stars of the week 12 & 01/12/23



Reception - Zeph for independently writing a list of items to pack in a bag for a trip to 'Wild Island' next week.



Year 1 - Thanmaya for her enthusiastic performances when practising for our Christmas play!



Year 2 - Connie for putting 100% effort into her learning this week, especially in Maths.



Year 3 - Olive for being a superstar with the multiplication facts up to 12!



Year 4 - Rosie for being kind, thoughtful and conscientious. You are definitely a superstar!



Year 5 - Owen for his excellent learning behaviours. He is a pleasure to teach! And Layton for his positive attitude towards his learning. A

pleasure to see!



Year 6 - Edon for his improved focus in class this week!



## Bronze Reading Awards - 50 Books

Reception - Zachary, Oliver

Y2 - Alex, Connie

Y4 - Aria, Mia, Ananya, Oliver, Grace, Alanna

## Attendance Award

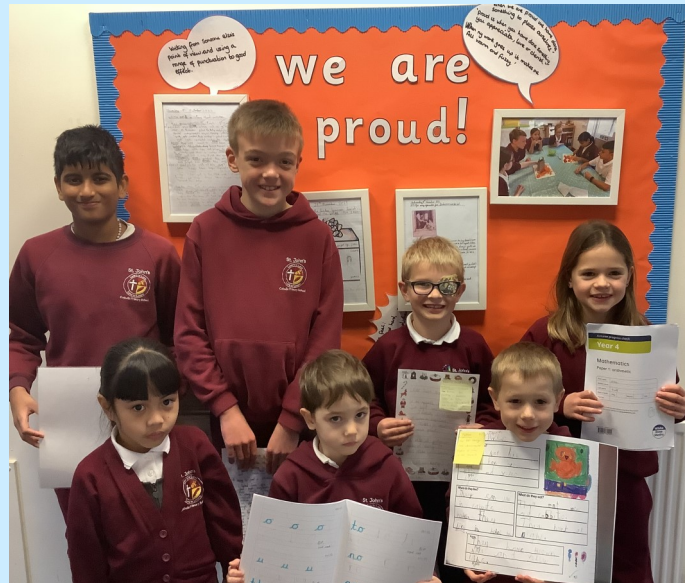
Year 5—100%

Well Done!

## Christmas Post-box

The Christmas post box will be available in the hall for children to post their Christmas cards into. Towards the end of term some Year 6 elves will help to distribute the cards around the school. Please ensure names and year groups are clearly written. Ho, ho, ho!

## Proud Work 01/12/23



**YR — Zachary for trying extra hard in phonics this week.**

**Y1— Tymon for his lovely non-chronological report of owls in our English.**

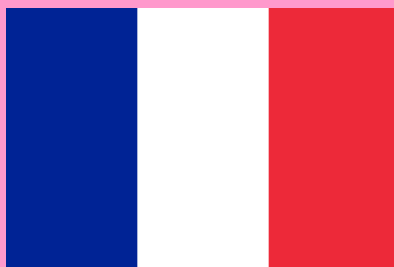
**Y2 — Quinn for working independently on our topic about Ernest Shackleton and the expedition to Antarctica.**

**Y3— Madame Curtis chose Antoni for writing a fantastic letter to Father Christmas (Pere Noel!) all in French with no mistakes! Tres bien!**

**Y4— Grace for getting an amazing score in your arithmetic paper—you smashed it! So proud of you.**

**Y5 — Teddie for his improving presentation and his inventive story about his “Lost Thing”. Keep aiming high!**

**Y6—Simon for writing thoughtful, comforting words for someone in grief, for our comfort tree.**



### French penpals!

Year 6 wrote fantastic letters in French to their penpals back in October and yesterday we received their replies! All year 6 children took home copies of their letters to show you. Our link school in France is in Fontainebleau near Paris. Yesterday Year 6 made Christmas cards for their penpals, and replied to their letters. Madame Curtis is sending these off today. **Très bien Classe 6!**

## Reception and KS1 Performance—Humph the Camel!



We are excited to inform you that KS1 Christmas Performance tickets can now be purchased via Gateway. We will be holding performances on the following dates:

1. Monday 11 December at 2:00pm
2. Tuesday 12 December at 2:00pm
3. Wednesday 13 December at 9:30am

Please note that only 2 tickets are available per family, across the three possible performance dates. If any surplus tickets remain, we will release more tickets the day before.

We kindly ask for a donation of £1 per ticket. Once received, your tickets can be collected from the School Office and used for entry on the day. If a donation is not possible please speak to Mrs Farr in confidence.

### Christmas Jumper Day!



Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

**£2 donation to St Benedict's Catholic Primary in Kenya please!**

If your child would like to wear a Christmas jumper on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, please can they bring in **£2 per child** for our link school in Kenya. This will help them buy basic school resources that they desperately need.

### Friends of St John's news

First of all we would like to thank everyone for attending the Christmas fair and making it really special. We are especially grateful to all the volunteers for taking time out to help - we couldn't of done it without you! Also, a massive thank you to everyone who donated which meant we had some really awesome prizes to give away and some tasty treats to enjoy. A big shout out to **Nisha and Kevin** for their generous donations of food from Tesco!

We are very excited to announce that the approximate total raised was a whopping... **£2,500!!** We are looking forward to use this to grow the new forest school area for the children to enjoy, learn and have adventures in.

We will be providing refreshments and raffle tickets for some more prizes at the nativity so please bring cash if you can.



## Thank you for your Fairtrade Donations!

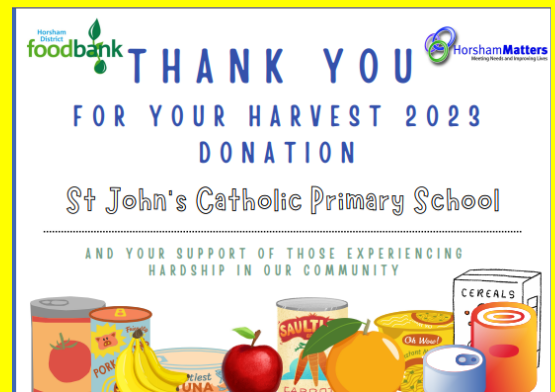
A huge thank you to everyone for your very generous donations for the Fairtrade stall at the Christmas Fair. We raised a whopping **£189.85!**

This will help to make a huge difference for farmers and their families around the world.



## Thank you for your Harvest Donation!

Our sincere thanks from Horsham Matters to all the children, parents and staff, who donated 151.5 kg of food to the Horsham District Foodbank during the Harvest season. Your kind donation will help put food on the table for local households experiencing hardship.



We are currently providing between 700-800 individual food parcels per month across the Horsham District, and we expect these numbers to increase as winter approaches. We could not offer the support we do without the generous support from our school community.

## St John's Soup Kitchen

On Wednesday a group of year six children went down to St John's church hall to support the SVP soup lunch.

The SVP provide lunch for parish members and visitors during the weeks leading up to Christmas.

The children set up the hall, laid the tables and served all the people with a smile!

All the children were so polite, kind and well mannered during the time we were there.

Mrs Clough was so proud of all of them as they were a credit to our school. Well done!





## Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme

We are very proud of Samuel in Year 4, he has been taking part in the Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme, and on Saturday will be performing in the West Sussex Music Winter Concert at Worthing Assembly Hall. He has completed a year of instrumental lessons and taken part in weekly orchestra rehearsals.

We are very proud of his achievements and his continuing passion for music!



Starting JANUARY 2024!

### Back for another year the incredible **TOMORROW'S ORCHESTRA PROGRAMME**

Free group lessons on orchestral instruments for  
children aged 7 - 11

✓ Free for term one

✓ Free Instrument hire

✓ Play in an orchestra



**BOGNOR REGIS**  
Thursdays

**CHICHESTER**  
Saturdays

**HORSHAM**  
Saturdays

**WORTHING**  
Fridays



**ONLINE BOOKING ESSENTIAL  
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#GetPlaying  
#EveryChildAMusician

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**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



The  
**Outdoors  
Project**

OFSTED  
REGISTERED

"NO SCREENS,  
JUST GOOD FUN  
IN NATURE"

# XMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS

"Childcare during the holidays they want to go to"  
Fresh air. Fresh activities. Fresh attitude.

**ST JOHNS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**MONDAY 18 DEC**

## NEW Minecraft Day with Weapons & Model Workshop

The kids will be building & maintaining their village using bushcraft equipment while earning reward pixels & protecting their village from the Creeper! They will have to collect their elements & using the crafting table build their weapons, before our Minecraft paper pixel character modeling workshop.

**TUESDAY 19 DEC**

## Drop Pancakes, S'mores, Pine Needle Tea & Fire Lighting

Gather around the campfire for Campfire Cookout: Christmas Edition! We will make our own drop pancakes, master the art of brewing pine needle tea, & hone your bushcraft fire lighting skills. Oh yeah - then head to the campfire once again for some tasty s'mores!

**WEDNESDAY 20 DEC**

## Xmas Crafts – Bird Feeders, Embroidery Art & Candy Cane Hunt

Today we'll be enjoying a wintery Christmas craft day appreciating the beautiful season of winter. We'll be helping our feathered friends out as we craft some bird feeders. We'll create our own floss embroidery art & there'll be a hunt for the candy canes Santa's elves have left out for us!

**THURSDAY 21 DEC**

## Mega Games, Snow Making, S'mores & Paint Mural

We love to play! A day of mega games, woodland adventure & a wild time as we toast s'mores around the campfire to recharge between mega games. There'll be a 'snow' ball-making session before we come together to design a massive Paint Gun Mural!

**FRIDAY 22 DEC**

## Bad Santa & Snowball Nerf - Christmas Special

Join us for an energetic day of Nerf dart dodging, with tactical & team-based Nerf games. There's an imposter dressed as Santa & he's out to steal Christmas - we need help to save our stockings! Come along for battling Bad Santa & a game of Snowball Assault. (Due to the more competitive nature of this day, age 6+ is recommended)

For more info on dates, locations and how the clubs run & to book: [www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk](http://www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk)

## Dates for your Diary

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch —  
7 December

Reception and KS1 Christmas Play dates

"Humph the Camel": December 11th at  
2.00pm, December 12th at 2.00pm and

Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am. We  
kindly ask for £1 donation per ticket, via Gate-  
way or School Office.

13th December 2.00pm - KS2 will be holding a  
depiction of the Christmas story at St John's  
Catholic Church – families welcome.





# Services Guide

Free advice and courses to help you improve your health and wellbeing

horsham district  
wellbeing

## Get Active

Our Get Active courses help you take your first steps back into exercise. Our classes vary but regularly include Pilates, Legs Bums & Turns, 65+ Back to Exercise and Learn to Run.



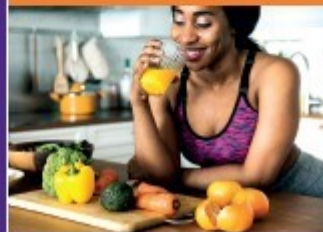
## Wellbalanced for Wellbeing

This strength and balance course is designed to help increase postural stability and reduce the risk of falls.



## Weight Off Workshops

This 12-week workshop focuses on weight loss, physical and emotional wellbeing along with advice for sustainable lifestyle improvements.



## Talks and Workshops

Our Advisors deliver a variety of group talks and workshops on different health topics such as Cholesterol, Prediabetes, the Menopause, Emotional Eating and Sleep.



## Workplace Health

We offer support to businesses in the Horsham District to improve the health and wellbeing of employees.



## Wellbeing Checks

### Wellbeing MOT

Step on our body composition scales to find out your fat, visceral fat, muscle mass, bone mass and more.



### NHS Health Checks

Offered to those aged 40-74, NHS Health Checks look at your risk of developing certain cardiovascular conditions.

## Alcohol Support

We offer up to eight one-to-one appointments with a trained Advisor to support you to reduce your drinking and achieve a healthier lifestyle.



## Stop Smoking

Quitting smoking is the best thing you can do to improve your health. Our one-to-one smoking cessation appointments will help empower you to quit.



[www.horshamdistrictwellbeing.org.uk](http://www.horshamdistrictwellbeing.org.uk)

Call: 01403 215111

Email: [info@horshamdistrictwellbeing.org.uk](mailto:info@horshamdistrictwellbeing.org.uk)



Horsham  
District  
Council