



St. John's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 13 - 8th 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 John 1:6-8. 19-28. The Third Sunday in Advent, Year B

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then, 'they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: "A voice that cries in the wilderness: make a straight way for the Lord."' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the Prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

Stars of the week 13 & 01/12/23



Reception - Everyone! For writing lists of items to pack for Wild Island and remembering the items to take.



Year 1 - Jacob for always trying his best and doing so well in his maths assessments this week. Well done!



Year 2 - Vinny for always settling down to work quickly and enthusiastically.



Year 3 - Amber for always being polite, respectful and hard-working every day.



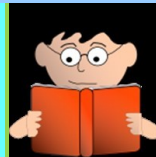
Year 4 - Mia for always being a kind and enthusiastic member of our class. You are a pleasure to teach.



Year 5 - Sofia for taking care of our classroom and people's possessions.



Year 6 - Toby, Louisa, Sophia, Ava, Edon and Oliver for working so well together as a team, making cous cous in DT, sharing out tasks, using



Bronze Reading Awards - 50 Books

Reception - Artin

Y2 - Joseph, Teo

Y3—Antoni

Y5—Sofia and Aidan

Attendance Award

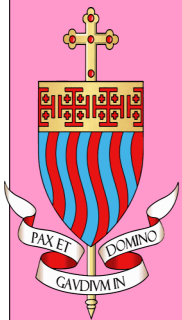
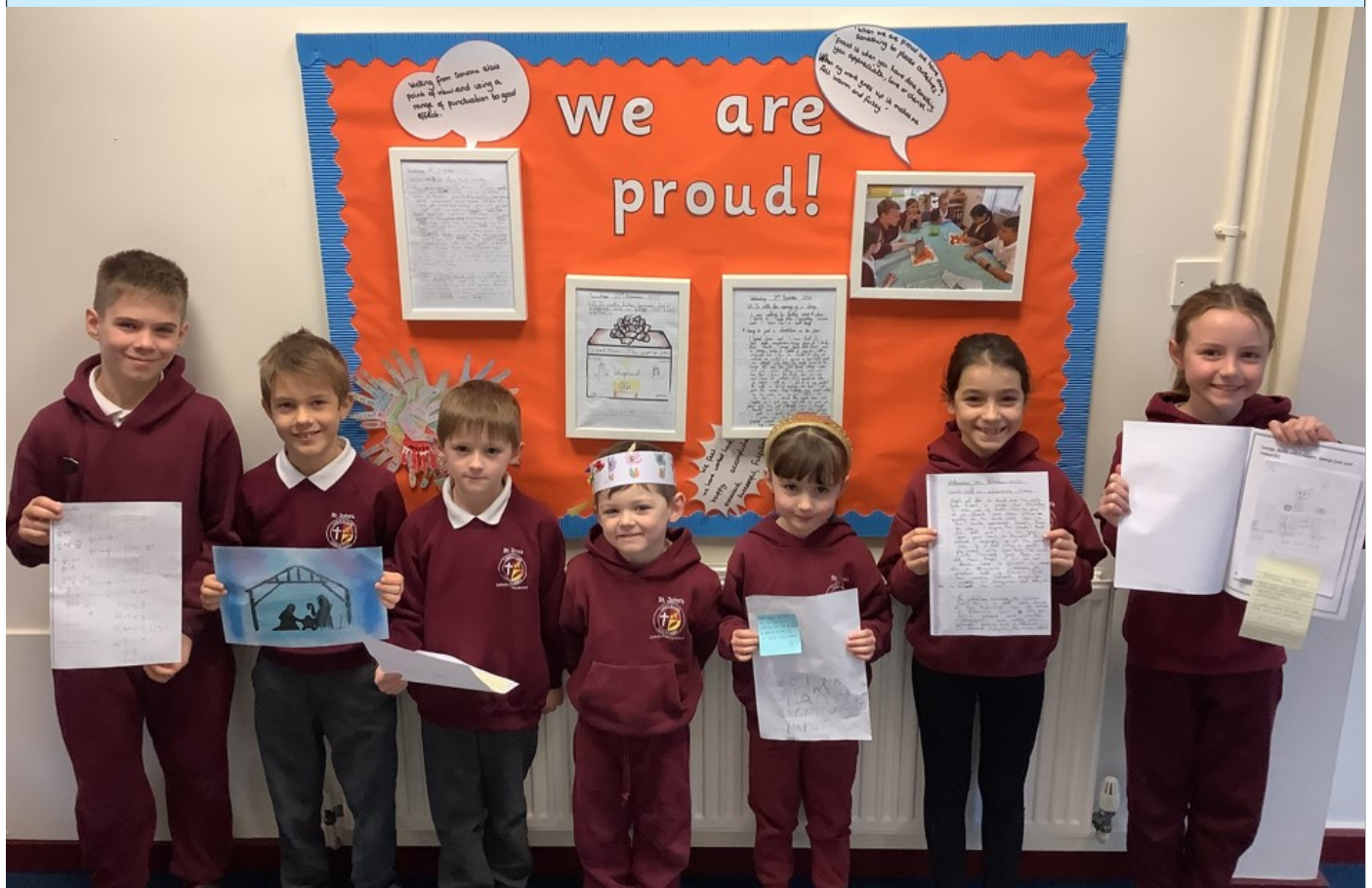
Year 5—96%!

Well Done!

Christmas Post-box

The Christmas post box will be available in the hall for children to post their Christmas cards in-to. 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 08/12/23



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

2024 FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

The Catholic Parish of Horsham is announcing the First Holy Communion Programme for 2024. Application Forms for are now available from the back of the Church, the Parish Office and via their website. The Programme is open to children in Year 3 and above. Please return your completed Application Form, together with the required payment and a passport-sized photo of your child, by the closing date of Tuesday 2nd January 2024. Details of the Programme timetable will be finalised and made available to parents/carers after the closing date. **They are unable to accept late applications, so please get your paperwork into the Parish Office as soon as possible.**

Reception and KS1 Performance—Humph the Camel!



A reminder that 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

Christmas Music in Year 3!

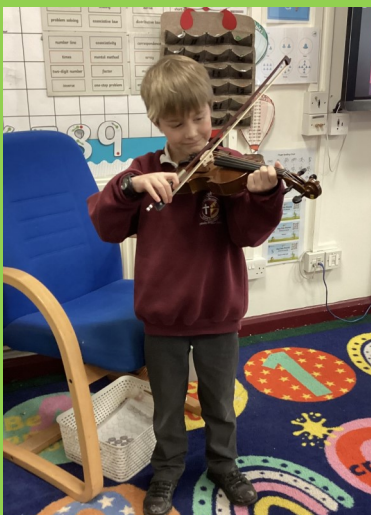
In our Year 3 Music lesson this week, we were treated to brilliant performances of Jingle Bells on the piano, guitar and violin by Olive, Mati, Thomas, Ross, Adam and Daniel. Thank you to all those children, we are so impressed with your talents. Some children had even memorised the music!

If any children in Years 4, 5 or 6 would like to perform Christmas music on their instrument in next week's Music lessons, please bring your instruments in (Tuesday for Years 4 and 5, and Thursday for Year 6).

If the hall is free at those times, we can also use the piano.



Mrs Curtis



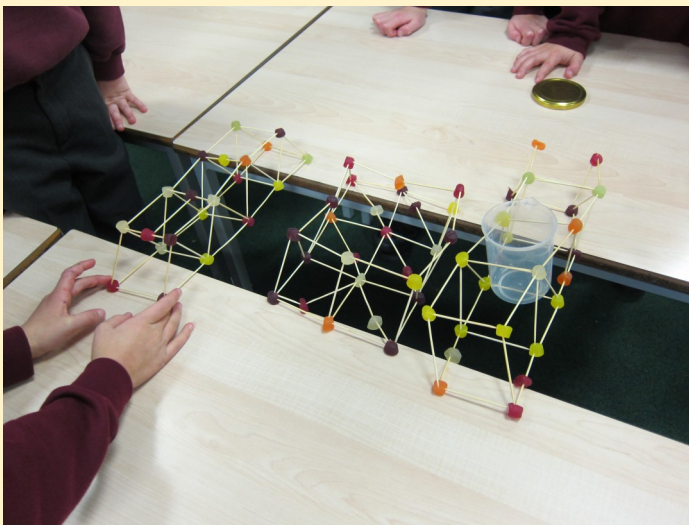
Thank you for your donations for St Benedict's!



Thank you SO much for all your generous donations for St Benedict's on our Christmas Jumper Day. We raised an amazing £390!

This will make a huge difference for St Benedict's, our link school in Kenya. They will now be able to buy basic school resources that they desperately need.

Many thanks for all your support! Mrs Curtis



Science Club

For this week's science club session, the children worked in pairs to make bridges to see which one would hold the most weight. We found out triangles were the strongest but all bridges collapsed in the end. The children were amazing and managed to resist eating the mini gems that held their bridges together!

Reception's visit to "Wild Island"!

Reception enjoyed an airport experience on their visit to Wild Island this week!



Keeping Active over the Christmas Break!

Looking for fun activities to keep the kids active this Christmas?!

Check out the 10 Minute Shake Up games with information about active hobbies and sports, here's everything you need to get your family moving!

[Activities for kids - Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Dates for your Diary

11th December at 2.00pm, 12th at 2.00pm and 13th December at 9.30am—Reception and KS1 Christmas Play dates

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

15th December—last day of term

2nd January return to school

Reminder!

There will be no staff-run clubs next week as these have now broken up for the holidays.

Friends of St John's

Many thanks to the Friends for donating Christmas Crackers for the Christmas Dinner—the children loved them!

The Friends of St Johns are now registered with the Horsham District Lottery.

By taking part, 50% of the ticket price will go to our cause and 10% to help other causes in the Horsham District. So not only can you have fun and a chance of winning some cash prizes you will also be supporting your child/s school! Please help spread the word. Anyone over 18 can take part and choose St Johns as their cause.

Many thanks and good luck!



**Enter our
Super Draw**

**WIN A £3,000
CHRISTMAS
CASH BONUS**

- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Win a huge festive cash bonus!

 **St. John's**
Catholic Primary School

 **HORSHAM DISTRICT
COMMUNITY
LOTTERY**
make good choices

6 “Elf and Safety” Tips to Keep Children Safe

1. **When you’re Christmas shopping...**And hunting online for the best offers on toys and gifts, dangers to watch out for are:

- Easy-access button batteries—a swallowed battery can kill a child
- Super strength batteries—they damage the belly if swallowed
- Long cords – that can cause strangulation
- Bits that come off – that could be a choking hazard

2. **When your decorations are going up...**Keep in mind fire risks. Look out for:

- Frayed or loose cords on the fairy lights
- Overloaded sockets or extensions
- Candles near the tree – real or fake they can burn
- And don’t forget to test your smoke alarms

3. **When you’re visiting friends and family...** Remember they may not have things set up as safely as at home for your little ones. When you’re bringing in the bags take a couple of minutes to

- Move medicines or cleaning products out of reach (check the bedside table or by the loo)
- Make sure any blind cords are out of reach.
- Before you set off, take a peek at safe sleeping advice for babies from the Lullaby Trust.

4. **When you’re cooking at Christmas...**Watch out for burns

- Try to keep the kids out of the kitchen if you can and away from the cooker
- Use the back rings of the cooker and turn pan handles in.

5. **When you’re opening presents...**Spot any toys or light-up novelties that have easy-to-access button batteries and remove them without the kids noticing! Look out for spare batteries in the box too.

6. **When you’re eating and drinking at Christmas...**Put coasters in places out of reach of little hands so everyone knows to put their hot drinks down there.

- Think long not chunky and narrow not wide for food like pigs in blankets, vegetables and cheese. Anything round needs cutting up.