

# ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRIMARY SCHOOL

WARHAM STREET • LONDON • SE5 0SX • Tel: 0207 735 4898

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Warland • Deputy Head Teacher: Mr. J. Camilleri

Chair of Governors: Peter Truesdale • Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Williams

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Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today marks the end of the first half term of the year. I had drafted an entirely different opening to this week's newsletter, celebrating the fact that we had managed, together, to keep our school safe and free from COVID-19. I 'wrote' too soon, for as you will know, yesterday we received notification of the first positive case in our school community. This is a stark reminder to us all of the importance of following the measures in place so that we can keep each other safe and our children in school.

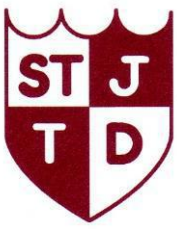
The focus this term has very much been on **settling children back into school** and providing **pastoral care** and support in these very different times. We are incredibly **proud** of the way our children have adjusted to the new routines and how eager they have been to get on with their learning. This week the children have undertaken a range of **assessments**, the information from these assessments will be used to form the basis of any additional learning that needs to take place next term.

This term has ended with a wonderful exhibition in the school hall, of the children's **Black History Month** work. This morning children were able to visit the exhibition and find out more about the inspirational figures the classes have been learning about. You are able to visit the exhibition, albeit virtually, through your child's Google Classroom, and we hope to be able to share the work with you through our website over the half term break. Alongside this letter your child will be bringing home more information about their **half term homework** and the National Education Union's Black History Month Competition. We look forward to seeing the children's contributions after the break.

**Below is a summary of all other learning that has taken place in your child's class this week:**

Nursery	Reception
<p>This week in Nursery we have continued learning about Winifred Atwell and we discovered that she originated from Trinidad, the same place as Floella Benjamin, the lead character in our Literacy text '<b>Coming to England</b>'</p> <p>We found out that people who came to England from the Caribbean in 1950's and 1960's are called the <b>Windrush Generation</b> and to celebrate people hold a carnival in London called the Notting Hill Carnival. We made our own costumes and held our own carnival with traditional Trinidadian music.</p>	<p>This week Reception have been busy learning all about <b>Mo Farah and Black History Month</b>. To celebrate Black History Month the children took part in a mini <b>Olympics</b> where they had to jump hurdles, balance on a rope, and crawl through tunnels. Some children even practised their running together and all of the children won medals for their outstanding efforts. The children have been very creative making their own medals and explaining how they might have won them. Reception have also been busy learning all about rhyme and what makes words rhyme.</p>
Year One	
<p>Wow, a term has flown by and the children have achieved so much already. Year One have had a wonderful last week of term. We have been busy finishing off creating our <b>spectacular models of London attractions in D.T</b>, which I am sure you were all very impressed with. The children have also produced some great quality <b>pastel portraits of Malorie Blackman</b>; who knew they were such good artists? We have been learning about shape in maths, identifying 2D and 3D shapes. The children have also written some beautiful <b>acrostic poems in English</b>, which will be entered into a <b>national poetry competition</b>. Last of all, we have had some interesting, thoughtful discussions about people we trust and do not trust, and who we can ask for help if we need it. I wish you all a great half term, and make sure to let your children know just how amazing they have been this first term back!</p>	
Year Two	
<p>Year Two have been busy learning all about <b>2D shapes</b>! We have been learning about their properties and comparing them. We have also published our own mini, Great Fire of London, fact books. In Science we have investigated materials by looking at which paper towels would be the most absorbent. We made sure that our test was fair and we counted how many drops of water each material could absorb. In RE we have thought about why we have rules and what our 'top 5 rules for living' would be. We have thought about how Marcus Rashford is a modern-day superhero and created some artwork for the Black History Month exhibition.</p>	
Year Three	Year Four
<p>This week in Year Three, we have been writing <b>non-chronological reports</b> on the Stone Age. We began our week by learning about the different features of a non-chronological report and the reasons why they are written. The children then used their learning from our History lesson to write up their own report. In maths this week, we have been learning <b>different methods of</b></p>	<p>This week was a very busy week in Year Four! As part of our celebrations of Black History Month children continued with their work on the Poetry of <b>Benjamin Zephaniah</b>. They looked at some of his most popular poems and wrote their own versions of poems on similar themes. They then published their poems to present at the exhibition in the school hall and they also produced a short video about Zephaniah and why Black History Month is important. In Science, the children also enjoyed carrying out an investigation on</p>





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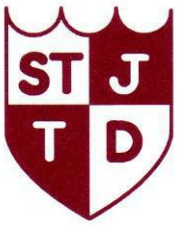
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<p><b>division</b> and understanding the relationship it has to multiplication. In our science lesson this week we have concluded our topic on 'light' with an experiment on making shadows.</p>		<p>muffling sound using different materials such as fabric, paper and bubble wrap. In Maths they learned new ways of solving division problems using their knowledge of multiplication facts.</p>																
Year Five		Year Six																
<p>The highlight of the week in Year Five has been our work on <b>Black History Month</b>. Pupils have tried to answer the question: what is black history? This has led to some interesting investigations around historical sources from different historical eras and History of the African continent. At the end of the week the children showcased their work in front of the whole school. In PE pupils have enjoyed developing their 'dribbling skills' and playing 'Kabari' in teams.</p>		<p>Year Six have been really combining our English work with Black History Month this week, planning and then creating a <b>comic strip based on Walter Tull's</b> life. We have also been getting to grips with algebra in maths which is new to many of us but we have been working out how to apply what we already know so that it is not too challenging. We have had a very busy half term learning about <b>World War One</b> and we are all looking forward to a break over the next week!</p>																
Miss Durrant's PE update																		
<p>What a fantastic half term - we have taken part in <b>three virtual inter-school competitions</b> and <b>one inter-house competition</b>. I have been told our Virtual London Marathon medals are on the way, and I should be able to hand them out after the half term.</p> <p>For our first inter-house competition:            Key Stage One children had the task of finding out how many volcano jumps in they could do in 30 seconds            Key Stage Two children, to see how many speed bounces they could do in 30 seconds</p> <p>These results were also entered against other schools in the <b>Moving Matters Competition</b>. All year group results were added up and here are the results.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Inter house Overall Results for Speed Bounce/Volcano Jumps</u></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>House</th> <th>Place</th> <th>Points so far</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Augustine</td> <td>1st</td> <td>23 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Garrison</td> <td>2nd</td> <td>17 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Franklin</td> <td>3rd</td> <td>16 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dickens</td> <td>3rd</td> <td>16 points</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				House	Place	Points so far	Augustine	1st	23 points	Garrison	2nd	17 points	Franklin	3rd	16 points	Dickens	3rd	16 points
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### Head teacher awards were presented to the following children in this week's virtual celebration assembly.

Nursery	Milicent for developing relationships with her peers and teachers and also for making and reflecting on good choices, Samuel for sharing with adults his amazing knowledge and understanding of the world.
	Melajah for being so caring towards her friends and always making sure everyone is included. Joella for her beautiful fairy wings and helping others when they were inspired to make their own.
Year One	Kyra for trying so hard in ALL of her work, but in particular for writing an incredible script as a London tour guide. Riyan for trying so hard to use his phonics to sound out some fantastic sentences about London, and for always being so sensible and respectful in class.
Year Two	Miranda for showing brilliant perseverance in her Maths work this week, using empty number lines to subtract independently. Nicola for using his phonics with more independence to sound out key words related to the Great Fire of London. Nicolas made some great notes to use in his writing.
Year Three	Calvin for showing the value of self-control. Calvin has shown full concentration in his learning and shown self-control from getting distracted. Abdulai for his improved attitude toward the presentation in his books.
Year Four	Aridunu for sharing her ideas in Literacy, planning and writing her own version of a myth with a clear moral. Treasure for his contributions during maths lessons by sharing his step by step reasoning process when solving word problems.
Year Five	Kai for creating a detailed diagram explaining Viking raids Micah for challenging himself in Maths and completing ten questions in each lesson





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Year Six	Georgia for being a resilient learner in maths and helping others understand division Joanna for putting in great effort in maths to tackle long division
PE	Year Three - Zara- for showing good resilience with completing her laps for the London Marathon challenge. Year Four- Fostina- for being very helpful in the PE and being very reliable. Scarlett – Year Five - for completing forty laps for the marathon Hosaenna – Year Six - for putting her all into the virtual marathon and encouraging others to do the same Special mention was made to: Abigail, Daniel and Jamal in Year Five for creating our first classroom break workout for the teachers to use in the Early Years and Key Stage One.

This week's House Point totals are as follows:

 <b>GARRISON</b>	43	 <b>AUGUSTINE</b>	60
 <b>FRANKLIN</b>	51	 <b>DICKENS</b>	65

On a final note, we ask that families continue to follow the guidelines, 'Hands. Face. Space' so that we can welcome you all back after the half term break. Should there be any changes in your circumstances or if a member of your household should become unwell during the holiday then I ask you to email the school to let us know, we will be checking the admin inbox on a regular basis.

All that remains is for me to wish you a happy and safe half term holiday – I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

Kind regards

Mrs Warland  
Head Teacher

