

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

www.sjtdprimary.org.uk

Email: admin@sjtdprimary.org.uk Twitter & Facebook @ SJTDPrimary

Thursday 17th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've made it to the end of the term and to the end of the year – this we will **celebrate!** It has been a very different year, some might even say it's been tough at times but as a school, a community, we have made it thus far and I thank you all for your support, patience and well-wishes as we have navigated our way through. I know that you will join me in thanking all the staff here at St John's; the Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Caterers, Cleaners and the Admin Team who have worked tirelessly this term – they have truly embodied the **TEAM** spirit!

Today we wished a fond **farewell one of our TEAM - Mrs James** - she has been working with us whilst Mrs Honeybourne was on maternity leave. We thank Mrs James for all of her hard work and for her commitment to our school during her short time with us; we were blessed to have her with us during these very different times. Worry not, she is part of the St John's family and I've no doubt that she will visit often to see how we are all doing; Mrs James' father was a pupil here at St John's during the war and we were delighted that, pre-covid, we were able to arrange for him to visit his old school and see the wonderful work his daughter has been doing here! Also today, we have said goodbye to Miss Analoie, Our trainee who has been with us in Year One. She will be visiting again in the Spring Term, but her teaching time with us has come to an end, for now.

Continuing with the gratitude, thank you to all for your donations on **Christmas Jumper Day**. We raised a grand total of £126.41 which has been sent to **Save the Children** to support the great work they do in helping children the world over, whether this be through the providing of medicines, purchasing books for schools or responding to emergency situations such as the global pandemic we are in the midst of.

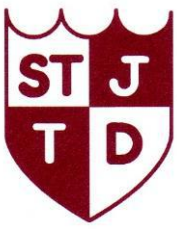
Our final Christmas performance took place this week – we have had the joy of watching the **Key Stage Two Carol Service**. For obvious reasons, this was a virtual service although none of the magic was lost as the children re-told the Christmas story. Mr Postles and Ben, the choir master, have been hard at work over the last few weeks recording groups of children singing for the service; it is available for parents to view through Google Classrooms. Enjoy!

This week we received the wonderful news that we have been awarded the **Association for Physical Education Quality Mark for Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity**. Miss Durrant worked hard throughout the term to prepare our application and earlier this month we were 'virtually' visited by an assessor who spoke with children and observed a PE lesson amongst other activities. He was so impressed with the commitment to, and the quality of learning in PE which has improved greatly thanks to Miss Durrant and her expertise. The award logo has been added to the footer below – it's becoming rather full!

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

| Nursery | Reception |
|--|--|
| <p>This week we have been reading 'Jesus' Christmas party' by Nicolas Allan and took part in the crib service, led by Father Nick. As if this wasn't enough Christmas fun, we watched The Snowman and it was lovely to hear the children communicate about what they could see on the screen and then discuss what happens to snow and ice when it becomes warm. We had ice in our 'messy play tray' to test our theories!</p> <p>We have also been playing dominoes and matching numbers. We're tired from so much learning and ready for the holiday!</p> | <p>This week everything in Reception has been about Christmas! The children have been getting creative making Christmas trees and salt dough baubles. We have been reading 'The Jolly Postman' talking all about what the post office does and why we need the Jolly Postman so much at Christmas. The children have written letters to Father Christmas and retold the story of the Nativity. We are looking forward to another great term after the holiday!</p> |
| Year One | |
| <p>We have had so much fun in Year One this week. We have been painting pictures based on the style of artist Paul Klee, thinking about the light of Christmas in RE, and learning all about the sun in science. Alongside this, we've been preparing for Christmas festivities. We've been making and writing cards, creating decorations and doing Santa phonics games! From all of the Year One team, we wish</p> | |





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you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Year Two

Year Two are very excited for Christmas! This week they have written a review for our Christmas play and we have looked at **performance poems** linked to snow. They used their learning from last week about adjectives and verbs to write 'I am...' poems with lots of description! They finished the week by writing some wonderful poems about stars. We have begun to look at **measuring lengths** using a ruler and understanding centimetres. In PE they took part in an inter-house competition where they worked as a team in relay races to collect points. In Science we looked at the importance of hygiene for humans. The children completed their own experiment using pepper as 'germs' and they saw the effect that good handwashing has.

Year Three

This week in Year Three we have been writing our own **stories** based on the Iron man. We have been looking closely at the different elements each story must have such as the opening, build up, main event, resolution and ending. In maths the children have been learning about multiplication and division facts as well as understanding how we can use both interchangeably to solve the other. The children have then applied their learning to solve missing number problems.

During our music lesson this week, we read a selection of different Christmas carols and then wrote our own songs. Do please ask your child to share these with you.

Year Four

It may have been a slightly shorter week, but we have done lots of work in Year Four - Christmas holidays here we come!

In Maths we have been practising mental methods for **multiplication and division**. We now know how to use the inverse functions to work out problems quickly. We are getting much better at missing number problems too! We also talked about factors, and were drawing and completing factor bugs. Did you know that some numbers only have two factors? They are called Prime Numbers.

In Literacy, we have been comparing poems to stories, and we had a go at planning and writing our own poems, which we performed in front of the class. We tried our best to use the correct **tone and intonation** so the audience could really imagine the feelings we wanted to portray.

Year Five

Year Five finished their first term brilliantly through the completion of their final pieces of work around the topic of Ancient Benin. In our Connected Curriculum sessions pupils studied the fall of the Benin empire under the reign of the Oba Owaremwen in the colonial era. This gave them more understanding of the purpose of History and Historical research. In order to share their knowledge, pupils wrote a final **non-chronological report** about the Edo people, their lives under the reign of the Oba, and their ways of trading with other European powers. In Maths, pupils completed their last topic of the term on measurements. In class, they had the opportunity to look at a weighing scale. Finally in Science, pupils completed their lessons around the topic of Space by looking at time zones.

Year Six

In Year Six this week, we have learned about **volume** and how to convert between different metric units. In English, we performed some winter poems before using them as inspiration to write our own seasonal poetry which we greatly enjoyed! We also completed our **"Shelter Drawings"** in the style of Henry Moore - we enjoyed drawing with a candle and painting over the top so that the wax peeked through. We're looking forward to a good rest after an extremely busy term

Miss Durrant's PE update

This week we celebrate as we have received the Association of Physical Education Quality Mark – we have been recognised for demonstrating commitment to Physical Education, School Sports and Physical Education and having it at the heart of our school. We have also seen some outstanding teamwork and sportsmanship across the whole school, as this week all classes have been competing in the **multi-skills inter house competition's** (Results to follow).

Today, we have also received our **Sport Hall Athletics** certificates and badges for the children in Key Stage Two who took part in the events – their individual points were added up in a wonderfully convoluted way, and, the children were recognised for achieving the following steps/categories: 8,9,10, Bronze, Silver and Gold.

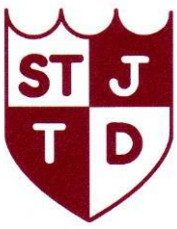
Well done everyone, what a fantastic year! Remember to follow us on our school PE twitter @SJTDPrimary_PE.

Head Teacher awards were presented to the following children in this week's virtual celebration assembly.

Nursery

Milicent for being a fabulous actress and performing so well in the Nativity





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| | Miley for her excellent singing and adding volume to her performance. |
| Reception | Chucks for helping his friends and teachers by holding doors and handing out resources. Grace for working extra hard to write her phonics sounds every morning. |
| Year One | Vinnie for being an amazing Donkey in the Nativity, remembering all his lines and trying his best when singing and doing actions. Nicole for writing some incredible instructions on how to make a ball and cup toy. She remembered to use time connectives and verbs! |
| Year Two | Charlie for working really hard to understand time this week, especially with minutes to/past the hour. Miranda for working independently to understand contractions this week, e.g. knowing that 'I will' can be written as 'I'll'. |
| Year Three | Anaya for writing detailed instructions – really considering the language that she needed to use Kamayah for her efforts and improvements in her English sessions |
| Year Four | Nevaeh for producing a story map in chronological order – she checked her work carefully to ensure there were no mistakes Divine for his improved behaviour during lessons. |
| Year Five | Divine for settling well into life here at St John's Jamal for proofreading his written work effectively – making improvements as a result |
| Year Six | Ciara for challenging herself in maths Veija for practising how to draw in the style of Henry Moore at home |
| PE | Year One - Joseph for doing some amazing demonstrations during dance in PE, and creating a life like dance as a bird. Year Two – Blessing for remembering all of the steps to our dance and helping others to remember as well! Blessing performed the dance brilliantly in our final performance to Mrs Durrant. Year Three - Calvin for demonstrating outstanding leadership skills. Year Four – Year Five - Beri: for perfecting your moves so well in our last Bollywood session Year Six - Aniya - for showing good focus and perseverance when learning a dance routine |

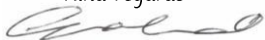
This week's House Point totals have been added together and below are the totals for this term – well done to Dickens who have collected the most house points thus far.

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|-----|
|  GARRISON | 821 |  AUGUSTINE | 846 |
|  FRANKLIN | 877 |  DICKENS | 897 |

All that is left for me to do is to wish you a joy filled Christmas break and to make a personal plea to you all to stay safe and well over the holidays. We all want nothing more than to come together with our families and friends after what has been one of the most difficult years many of us will have ever seen, however, I ask that you are mindful of the measures in place and that you follow them as best you can so that we can all come back together in the new year.

We look forward to receiving you back to school on Monday 4th January 2021.

Kind regards



Mrs Warland
Head Teacher

