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 22nd January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

This week we have had something other than the pandemic to think about – the inauguration of the **46th president of the United States of America!** We have spent time in our classes, and in collective worship, thinking about the situation in America and the impact this has on the world. History was made when Kamala Harris was sworn in as the first female, Black African, Vice President of America.

"We will lead, not by example of our power, but by the power of example."
Joe Biden

Today we spoke about the words used in both President Biden's Speech and the poem shared by Amanda Gorman, the youngest poet laureate, and the youngest ever person to perform at an inauguration ceremony. We focused on the two quotes here, recognising the role we all have to play in **setting an example** to others through our actions, but also on the **importance of dreams and aspirations** and the fact that we all have the power to **achieve greatness** and nothing should ever hold us back!

"If we merge mercy with might, and might with right, then love becomes our legacy and change our children's birth right."
Amanda Gorman

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

Nursery

In the Nursery this week we have been reading the traditional tale, "**The Three Little Pigs.**" We worked really hard on retelling the story and the children really perfected their acting skills! We created artwork based on the story, creating collages with straw, mini bricks and sticks. We also used sponges to discover artistic techniques like printing to recreate the bricks. In Maths we have been compartmentalising numbers and discovering different ways to make numbers up to five. In RE we looked at how Noah was obedient to God's wishes in the Bible story Noah's Ark.

Reception

We have been looking very carefully at shape and the **different shapes** we can see around us this week. Reception have worked incredibly hard and have amazed me in their knowledge of the different shapes, giving their names and the different sides and points. They were able to find all sorts of objects around the house and tell me what shapes they were even if they were 2d or 3d. We have been very busy, both in school and at home, writing captions and postcards from around the world inspired by the story of **'Anna Hibiscus'**

Year One

This week Year One have been learning all about **the London Underground** in history. We looked at images of the tube from 100 years ago when it was first built, and talked about how the transport system has changed through the years. We have become **addition experts** in maths, using a range of methods to solve problems such as number lines, counting on in our heads and 100 squares. In RE we learnt about **Rosh Hashanah**, a special Jewish festival, and we thought about special festivals we like to celebrate ourselves. In English the children have written some hilarious stories about **pigeons**. These pigeons have been up to mischief and have broken into houses, stolen children's lunches, and even tried to drive a motorbike! Well done for working so hard this week. It has been lovely seeing all your smiley faces on Google meet every day.

Year Two

Year Two have been learning about addition this week in Maths and they worked so hard on solving word problems. In English the children have been learning about **instruction writing**. They have written some brilliant instructions on how to make a toy rocket out of a plastic bottle! They have also become historians this week by looking at different sources of information to find out about animal astronauts.

Year Three

This week in Year Three we have been reading **'Pepi and the secret names'**. The children have been looking at the changes of **emotions** Pepi undergoes in each part of the story by making inferences from the words in the text. In maths this week, we have been **subtracting numbers** using the expanded written method. The children have been solving number problems that have required them to use exchange, by partitioning bigger numbers into smaller tens and ones. In our connected curriculum sessions this week, we have been learning about **Tutankhamun** and the great Ancient Egyptian Pharaohs. The children have been fantastic journalists, writing newspaper articles on the discovery of Tutankhamun's

Year Four

Year Four have been busy consolidating the formal method of addition and subtraction in maths this week. We have then applied this knowledge to solving word problems, and we are getting much better at it! Most of us have now received The Indian in the Cupboard in the post and we join in when reading it together with the class. The book has inspired us to research Indian tribes, since one character in the book is a little Indian toy that suddenly comes to life! In Music we loved **drumming** with Mr. Postles! We used drums in the school and at home; we

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tomb. We have also been busy decorating our very own nemes (headdresses worn by Pharaohs).

just grabbed some pots and made music on them!

Year Five

This week in Year Five we have continued to explore our **environmental** topic through online learning. In our Connected Curriculum lessons we learnt about landforms and which natural processes are involved in the formation of different types of relief. In addition to this, we have continued to explore the world of biomes and this has informed our Grammar learning, as pupils have developed their use of punctuation to write about **humpback whales and Japanese macaques**. In Maths we have reviewed how to use negative numbers and how to read Roman numerals.

Next week we will be looking at climates in Geography. We will also start reading the novel, '**This morning I met a whale**' by Michael Morpurgo.

Year Six

This week we began reading '**Macbeth**' by William Shakespeare. We are enjoying the story even though it is quite dark - some of us even dressed up like one of the witches from the beginning of the play! We revised Roman Numerals in maths, even completing a challenge that involved making numbers out of spaghetti! We have also been solving some multiplication problems. Lots of us had a really good time joining in Miss Durrant's Live PE session on Wednesday too.

Miss Durrant's PE update

This week, we have been setting challenges for everyone at home on our PE twitter @SJTDPrimary_ PE. Have a look and give the activities a go. The activities will develop our fine motor skills and co-ordination skills, which are especially great for improving handwriting.

It has been wonderful seeing lots of pupils on Wednesday at our online Physical Activities Festival at 2pm. If you missed out this week, just join us next week. Keep sending in your photos of you taking part in the activities at home. Well done everyone!

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

Nursery	Kayley for contributing, with enthusiasm, in live lessons Vida for sharing her ideas and writing her name.
Reception	Rahma for writing some beautiful sentences. Joella for her wonderfully written and illustrated thought bubbles.
Year One	Kyra for being so creative and imaginative when making her ice cream van with wheels and axles. Aisha for coming up with some amazing examples of persuasive phrases and arguments during literacy.
Year Two	Rosetta for always being so engaged with our learning online and her thoughtful answers during our sessions. J'anae for always completing her online learning tasks so carefully and thoroughly- keep up the excellent learning at home J'anae!
Year Three	Marley for his exceptional effort in maths lessons. Marley was able to mentally add 10 to numbers. Anayah for her excellent research into the different stages of mummification.
Year Four	Josiah for taking a serious approach to learning, always listening and contributing to the online lessons. Somto for writing a great diary entry from the perspective of Omri, the boy from The Indian in the Cupboard. She included direct speech and some great sentence starters like 'Eventually' and 'This time'.
Year Five	Kai for completing a beautifully illustrated booklet about biomes of this world. Isabella for typing and presenting an informative report on biomes.
Year Six	Hosaenna for always participating so readily and being on time for every lesson Shanessa for increased independence in her learning
PE	Reception - Abdullah for trying really hard with the stretches and Hayley for following the steps closely. Year One - James for showing determination in PE to improve his ball control in tennis. Year Two - Charlie for his focus and enthusiasm with the PE Tasks on Google Classroom AND the live session with Miss Durrant! Year Three - Chris and Abdulai for their excellent performance during the physical activity festival Year Four - Cerys for following the live lesson and trying hard doing the dance routine. Year Five - Isaac for perfecting his tennis skills during our last PE session. Year Six - Jordan for patiently helping his younger sibling to learn a dance during PE

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This week's House Point totals are as follows:

GARRISON	60	AUGUSTINE	87
FRANKLIN	96	DICKENS	75

On a final note, Today saw the launch of a borough wide ***Sumdog*** *Competition; the competition runs for one week and we will be competing against other schools in Lambeth. Your child has been issued with their Sumdog password so that they can take part. There are prizes for individual children and classes based upon daily participation, and there are prizes for children who place in the top ten across the borough. Do please encourage your child to take part.*

Kind regards

Mrs Warland
Head Teacher