



Headteacher: R Soper BA (Hons) PGCE
Chair of Governors: J Walker

Deputy Headteacher: J Morrish BA (Hons) PGCE
Assistant Headteacher H Chapman BEd (Hons) MA NASENCo Award



Through our love of God and of each other, our children will thrive personally and academically in a happy, safe place of faith and high expectation for all

Friday 27th February 2026

Headteacher's message:

What a fantastic fortnight we have had – lots of exciting things taking place throughout the school.

We look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming Open Afternoon next month. We wish you all a fantastic weekend.

Mrs Soper

Headteacher

The St John's family are...

RESPECTFUL by

- being thoughtful
- being patient
- being silent when walking around the school
- SLANTing in lessons and Collective Worship

LOVING ONE ANOTHER by

- being kind
- caring for and helping one another across the school
- being polite

RESILIENT by

- being hard working
- verbalising our emotions safely
- being the best ME I can be
- believing in yourself
- always engaging in our challenging learning



THIS IS OUR PROMISE

Calendar reminders coming up this term

Details	Date and time
Year 5 & 6 Aylmerton residential	Monday 2 nd March – Wednesday 4 th March
World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March
Parent's Open Afternoon in classrooms	Thursday 5 th March 15:20 – 16:00pm
Wren Class Collective Worship	Friday 6 th March 9:10 – 9:30am
Duckling Class Collective Worship	Friday 13 th March 9:10 – 9:30am
Height & weight checks for children in Reception and Year 6	Tuesday 17 th March
Robin Class Collective Worship	Friday 20 th March 9:10 – 9:30am
Year 3 & 4 Easter Production	Friday 27 th March 9:30am and 14:00pm
Mother's Day lunches	Every Thursday in March

Just a reminder that we are a Nut Free School so please ensure that any products, including drinks, do not contain any element of nut based produce. Thank you.





A compilation of news from around the school...

Year 1 have come back after half term and spent the week focussing on fractions in maths, we have looked at half of shapes, objects and amounts. Next week we are looking at quarters.

EYFS children have spent this week looking at time. They have identified times of the day and when events happen. They have also put the numbers on clocks correctly.

In English, year 1s have had a week focussing on their handwriting. We have specifically looked at ascenders (tall letters) and descenders (letters with a tail). EYFS have been reading 'Where the wild things are.' The children have also been writing sentences about things they like.

In history we have started our Kings, Queens and Leaders topic. This week we have learnt who our King is and what a coronation is. The children loved looking at the regal garments and all the nice jewels on his crown.

In art we have been looking at the style of art, pointillism. The children have used cotton buds or straws to create artwork in the pointillism style.

In forest school we are on the way with a secret mission to create something which will take us all term to do. We can't wait to show you the finished products.





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Year 2, It has been lovely to come back to school this week and see so many children determined and resilient with their learning. This week the whole school has been taking part in assessments, in woodpeckers we have worked so hard on each of these tests and the children should be extremely proud of the stamina that they have built up over this week. It's been tricky, but all children should be proud of themselves.



In the afternoons this week we have been doing Art and DT. In DT, the children have been designing, making and evaluating a pencil case. The children started by thinking about the materials and colours they wanted to use. They then learnt how to do a running stitch, which proved tricky for some, but we all worked together to finish them off. I am sure you will agree that the results are fantastic.



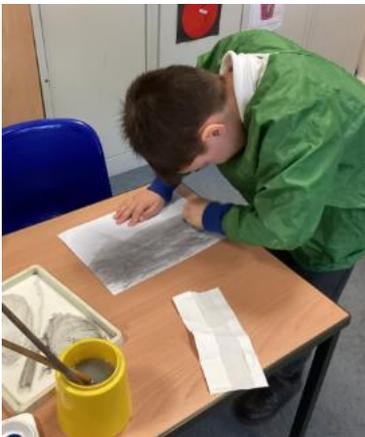


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In Art this half term we are looking at landscapes and symmetry, we are looking at some famous artwork by artists such as Turner, Constable and Da Vinci. In our first few lessons we are going to be creating a seascape of a stormy sea. We have used sponges to create the stormy sky and brushstrokes to give the impression of the rough seas. We have also started to sketch a boat that we will add to our picture to complete it.



Next week we will begin our other foundation topics and start learning all about plants, the Tudors and the Easter Story.

Have a lovely weekend.

Well done Woodpeckers!





Year 3, **English**

We have started reading our new class book, *The Boy Who Grew Dragons*, and the children are already thoroughly enjoying the story! As part of our writing work, we have been exploring the language feature of first person and practising writing dialogue between two characters. The children have begun looking at a model example of a letter written from the perspective of the boy who is looking after dragons, writing to a friend to explain his unusual situation. They have carefully planned their own letters and are excited to begin writing them next week. We are looking forward to seeing their creativity shine through in their final pieces.

Maths

In maths, we have been focusing on fractions. The children have been recognising and writing both unit and non-unit fractions, as well as exploring the important role of the denominator. We have discussed how the denominator tells us how many equal parts a whole has been divided into, and the children have been using practical examples and diagrams to deepen their understanding.

History

Our learning about the Anglo-Saxons has continued this week. The children learned about King Alfred the Great of Wessex and his defeat of the Vikings at the Battle of Edington. They were fascinated to discover how this led to the signing of a peace treaty, allowing the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings to keep their lands and live more peacefully, including trading with one another. The children enjoyed discussing how this agreement changed life at the time.

Geography

In geography, we have been learning about the South West of England. The children used atlases to locate this region of the UK and identify its counties. They then applied their knowledge by carefully labelling a map, developing their confidence in using geographical resources.

Science

In science, we have begun our topic on magnets and forces. The children learned what a force is and explored the concept of gravity. We discussed the work of Isaac Newton and Galileo Galilei and how their discoveries helped us understand how gravity works. The children carried out an exciting experiment, choosing two objects that were the same size but different weights, to see whether they would hit the floor at the same time. They discovered that gravity pulls objects towards the ground at the same rate, leading to some great scientific discussions!

RE

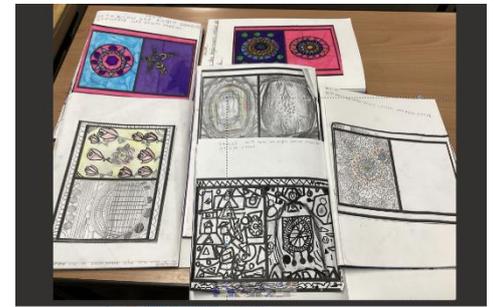
In RE, we began learning about Salvation and explored the Easter story. The children focused on the events of Palm Sunday and thought carefully about what this special day might have felt like for those involved. They then wrote a diary entry from the perspective of Mary, the mother of Jesus, describing the events as she experienced them. The children showed great empathy and reflection in their writing, considering emotions, thoughts, and the significance of the moment.





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In **Year 4**, Maths class we have been focusing on increasing our understanding of decimal number to two places. We have developed our understanding of hundredths and tenths; representing them as words, fractions and decimals. We have been using the greater than, less than and the equivalent notation to compare and order decimal numbers too, and we have looked to solve problems using this knowledge. In English, we have focused on using fronted adverbials effectively, and we have rehearsed how to punctuate direct speech accurately. We have recapped the different sentence types too.





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In Geography we have been learning all about the counties and features of Northern Ireland. In RE, Year 4 have studied the salvation story. The children have studied teachings from the Bible, and discussed how Christians demonstrate their beliefs in everyday life. In History, Year 4 have begun to explore the downfall of Rome. We have discovered all about the Punic Wars and the reign of Julius Caesar. In computing the children have enjoyed learning about coding and in P.E we have been learning the fundamentals of Gymnastics. Our science topic this term is discovering all about sound and the human ear. We have discovered how sound travels and how vibration length can change the pitch and volume of noise.



Year 5, A very busy first week back for year 5 as it was a Spring Term Assessment week and of course, we got to meet with some parents for parents' evenings. This week we used our Maths timetabled lesson time to complete our Arithmetic, Reasoning A and Reasoning B and Reading Comprehension Assessments.



In English we have been thinking about how to use persuasive language and linking it to our new class book "Skellig" by David Almond. The main character has moved to a new house with his family, and it needs a great deal of work doing to it. We have been thinking about the areas of improvement and using persuasive language to positively describe the house.



We have stepped into the shoes of Estate Agents and thought carefully at how to positively describe features of a house that perhaps on first inspection, need improvement!



Science has been very exciting! We have begun our new topic of Forces and completed experiments this week to explore our understanding of gravity.

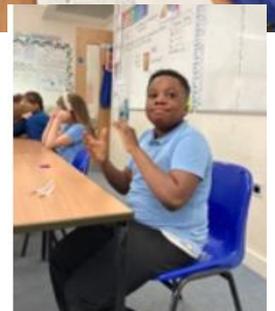


In RE, we began to think about Salvation and what

Jesus did to help humans. The children read and then ordered the story of Jesus' crucifixion before explaining which characters they felt they most identified with.



The children really excelled in their new Art topic this week of Chinese painting. They used authentic brushes and practiced the techniques used including how to hold the brush, apply colour to the brush and paper, the types of paper traditionally used, and the different applications used to create different impressions. In Geography, we are now learning about Australia and our focus this week was on the biomes and habitats found





there. We also looked the physical features that make up this unique country. In music we are continuing our learning of Spiritual Music and learning to sing Swing Low Sweet Chariot, suing repeated rhythms and layering our voices.



History has meant the start of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, for the children to learn. We have begun with looking at the passages across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas and how it begun. We have talked about key anti-slavery campaigners, and the children have shown great maturity and respect as we reflect upon the abolition and the equality laws we all enjoy today in Britain. Well



done Year 5, great to have you all back!

Year 6 have had a productive and engaging first week following the half-term break. The children have shown great enthusiasm across all subjects and have settled back into learning brilliantly.

English

Children have begun exploring the features of newspaper reports in preparation for writing their own. They have examined key elements such as headlines, captions, formal tone, and journalistic vocabulary. This work links closely with their history learning on Kristallnacht, which will form the basis of their final written report.

Maths

In maths, the focus has been on converting between different units of measure. The children have applied their arithmetic skills, particularly multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, and 1000, to support their understanding. They have also tackled a range of problem-solving activities to deepen their confidence and accuracy.

Art

This week in art, the children produced beautiful sketches of Ophelia, inspired by Shakespeare's Hamlet. Before sketching, they explored the work of the Pre-Raphaelites, studying their style and techniques. The resulting artwork shows great attention to detail and creativity.

PE

Year 6 enjoyed a fantastic PE session led by the HSP sports coach. They worked on creating short gymnastics sequences that included a jump, balance, and roll. Children also used a variety of equipment and thought carefully about how to adapt their movements when performing on different apparatus.

History

In history, the children have started their new topic on World War II. They recapped the end of World War I and explored how the aftermath in Germany contributed to rising tensions. They then learned about the invasion of Poland and the subsequent declaration of war by Britain and France. The class have shown great curiosity and are eager to continue learning about this significant period in history.

