

11th February 2022

**Our School Christian Vision - 'Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring.'**

*Rooted in Matthew 7 24 – 25 'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.'*

## Message from the Headteacher

This week we have been celebrating Children's Mental Health Awareness week at St John's. Pupils have been learning how to express and deal with their feelings as well as thinking of actions that we can all do to make ourselves and our friends happy.

We also spent time of Tuesday thinking about our online safety for Safer Internet Day. Thank you to our Digital Leaders who spoke in our assembly to give tips on how we can better protect ourselves whilst still having fun online.

Today I had the pleasure of taking some of our Key Stage 2 pupils to a multi skills festival at the University of Bath. Pupils took part in a variety of sports competing against other local primary schools. Well done to all who attended.

Next week is our last week before half term and we are really looking forward to the PTA end of term disco on Thursday 17th February. Tickets will be sold by the PTA after school from today. We will also be having a PTA mufti day on Friday to mark the end of term.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

## **Dates for your Diary**

17th Feb - School disco KS1 5-6pm / KS2 6.30-7.30pm

18th Feb - PTA Mufti Day

**21st - 25th Feb - Half term**

3rd March - World Book Day

8th March - Scholastics Book Fair

14th March - British Science Week

18th March - Red Nose Day

21st March - Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel

## **Term 3 Christian Value: Wisdom**



'Wisdom is worth much more than precious jewels' - Proverbs 8:11

## **Stars of the week**

Well done to all of our pupils who have been awarded a certificate this week!



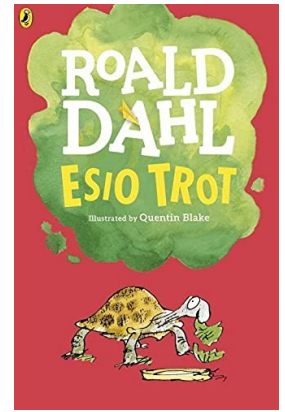
<b>Acorn class</b>	Arianna Loula
<b>Ash class</b>	Leah
<b>Birch class</b>	Josh
<b>Chestnut class</b>	Henry D
<b>Elm class</b>	Oliver
<b>Holly class</b>	Kara
<b>Hazel class</b>	Zachary
<b>Maple class</b>	Darrah
<b>Oak class</b>	William
<b>Pine class</b>	Lily
<b>Rowan class</b>	Freddie D
<b>Sycamore class</b>	Max
<b>Willow class</b>	Lauren

## Year 2 Reading

Year 2 have been enjoying practising their inference and recall skills during guided reading sessions whilst looking at 'The Enormous Crocodile' and 'Esio Trot' by Roald Dahl. The children loved making predictions and reviewing the books whilst also learning lots of new vocabulary!

'My favourite part of the story was when the Enormous Crocodile shot up into the sky' - **Lyra**.

'The Enormous Crocodile is a wicked brute' - **Owen**.



## Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday, it was Safer Internet Day - this year's theme was 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. The Digital Leaders worked incredibly hard to organise various activities for every class to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology. The Digital Leaders have been running a Diary Room everyday this week, which has been a great opportunity for students to be recorded discussing experiences that they have had on their favourite games. Some children even came back two or three times!



On Tuesday, there was also an assembly where children had to vote on whether a selection of messages were okay or not okay to send. I would like to say a massive thank you to the Digital Leaders for their tremendous work this term.

## Doodle Maths

### Top Doodlers this week!



**Acorn** - Leo

**Ash** - Charlie

**Birch** - Flynn

**Chestnut** - Olivia

**Elm** - Anna

**Holly** - Isla

**Hazel** - Lucy

**Maple** - Rowan

**Oak** - Josh C

**Pine** - Erin

**Rowan** - Josh

**Sycamore** - Melissa

**Willow** - Devon

Pupils should be encouraged to do doodle maths three times a week to stay in the green zone.

## Medical Appointments

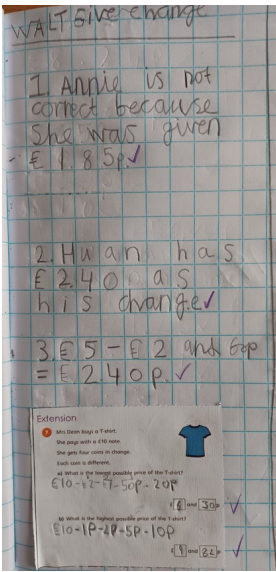
Please can we remind parents that doctors and opticians appointments should be arranged for outside of school hours where possible. Dental check-ups should be booked during school holidays.

Collecting pupils during the day is very disruptive for pupils and the school and where possible should be avoided. Please ensure you inform the teacher and the school office of early pick up arrangements in advance of appointments.



## STEM learning in Year 3!

In maths, we have been looking at money and calculations involving coins and notes. This has involved working out change and totalling amounts of real life items. We have been surprised at how much things cost!

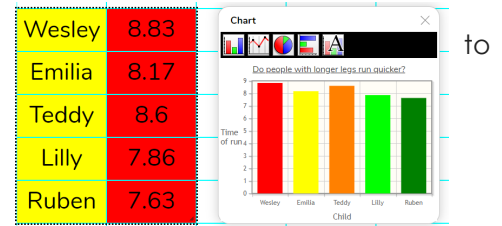
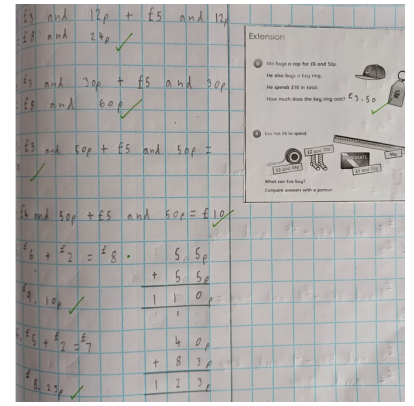


In science, our topic has been 'humans and other animals'. We have enjoyed learning about the different classes of animals, nutrition and skeletons - we even got to see Mrs Powell's x-ray from when she broke her arm! Yesterday, we designed a healthy meal as part of our POP task (proof of progress) and explained the benefits of a healthy diet.

So far in DT, we have looked at textiles and sewing different fabrics together. Next week during our DT week, we are looking forward to planning, making and most importantly tasting healthy sandwiches, linked our science topic.

In computing, we started the term with a focus on databases and how we can use a spreadsheet to present information in a bar graph. This linked with our science investigation

and we used it to analyse our results. We are currently practising our touch typing skills and using the right fingers for the keys which is trickier than we thought - for children and adults!



## Out of school Achievement

Congratulations to Josh from Year 2 Elm class. He achieved his stage two swimming certificate and badge yesterday.



Also well done to Wesley in Year 3 Holly class for having his leaf picture published in the latest edition of Go Wild WWF magazine. It also included a photo of him and his sister Cordelia in Ash class enjoying a walk in Cheddar.



## Scholastic Book Fair

The scholastic book fair will be coming to school from the 9th-14th March! There will be over 200 books to choose from and children will have the opportunity to browse these books beforehand in school.

The book fair will then be open after school from 3-4pm from **Wednesday 9th March to Monday 14th March** for you to come in and purchase any books.

We will be taking cash payments and debit/credit payments. The link for online payments will go live two weeks before if you if you would like to pre purchase books.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay/1171824>

There will also be a QR code available at the book fair for you purchase the books on the day. World Book Day tokens can also be used towards the purchase of any books at the book fair.





## Children's Mental Health Week

The theme of this week's Children's Mental Health Week is Growing Together. Growing Together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt and trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'. At these times we are reminded of how much we need others in our lives to help us to keep growing.



We need our parents and carers, our teachers, our friends and others to support us to grow, especially when things get tough. We often need others to help us to believe in ourselves, to keep going, and to try doing things a bit differently. Even when we have experienced really difficult challenges in our lives, with the right support, we can continue to grow and flourish.

One person from each class has been nominated to help empower pupils to promote and support 'Positive Mental Health' across the whole school. Today they introduced themselves in our assembly and showcased a few of their top tips.

## Citizenship and Character Award

Here are some suggestions for those of you who wish to work towards your Citizenship and Character Award this weekend:

- Interview someone (Local Me) - Why not find some time this week to learn a bit more about a member of your family or a family friend. Prepare yourself first by noting down a list of questions. Perhaps you could ask questions about: their childhood, their hobbies, their interests, their travels and their ambitions for the future.
- Look after an animal (Global Me) - Do you have a pet at home? Do you take on the responsibility of looking after this pet? Why not keep a diary over the weekend, recording all of the things that you do to ensure that your pet is well-fed and cared for.
- Grow something (Wellbeing Me) - Do you have space for a vegetable patch in your garden? February is a great time to plant broad beans and parsnips.

## School dinner booking

Please can we remind parents to book school dinners by no later than the Thursday of the week before. This needs to be done by Thursday 24th February for the first week back after half term.

Please could we also ask that you remind your child what you have booked for them. The kitchen have reported that on a number of occasions pupils have changed their mind and taken a different dinner option. As the kitchen only prepare food for the number of pupils that have booked it, this can mean that some pupils are unable to be served with the meal that has been booked for them.

## Dogs on school site

A reminder that dogs are not permitted on school ground. This week we have had reports of dog mess in the school carpark which a member of staff kindly cleared up.



## Writing Competition

The Bookbarn in Hallatrow are holding a February Writing Competition for anyone aged 5-16. The theme for February, in honour of Valentine's Day on 14th and Tell A Fairy Tale Day on 26th is **Happily Ever After**.

Entries must be submitted via email by 27th February to [bookbarn@bookbarninternational.com](mailto:bookbarn@bookbarninternational.com). The lucky winner will receive a £10 book voucher and have their work displayed in our store! Please include a title for the piece as well as full name, age and address.

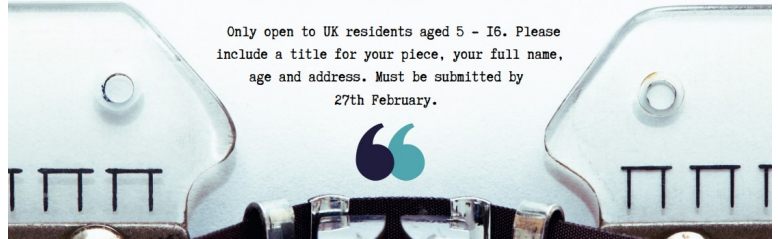
The poem or short story must fit this month's theme and be 500 words or less. Winners will first be contacted individually and then announced on social media. Only their name and age will be used when their work is displayed.

## February Writing Competition

### "Happily ever after."

Submit a short story or poem of 500 words or less to [bookbarn@bookbarninternational.com](mailto:bookbarn@bookbarninternational.com) for a chance to win a £10 Bookbarn voucher

Only open to UK residents aged 5 - 16. Please include a title for your piece, your full name, age and address. Must be submitted by 27th February.



## Picture news

As part of our collective worship time we are using a new resource called Picture News. The weekly resource has been designed to expose children to current affairs, discover their interests and bring the world closer to their everyday lives. As part of this resource they provide a 'take home' which allows you to discuss with your children the main story that has been focussed on in school that



### Should everyone using our roads learn the Highway Code?



## In the news this week

An update to the Highway Code has introduced a hierarchy of road users, which creates 'clearer and stronger priorities' for pedestrians. The Department for Transport claims that the changes, which are split into three main rules, have the foremost aim of improving safety for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. The changes came into force at the end of January and whilst they have been welcomed by cycling campaigners, the government has been accused, by some in the media, of not making the updates clearer and known to road users.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- What do you already know about the Highway Code? Can you ask any adults who you live with what they know?
- Do you think it's important for everyone using our roads to know about the Highway Code? Who do you think should be responsible for making sure we know and understand the rules?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

