

Message from the Headteacher

It has been another busy week at St John's starting with Down Syndrome Awareness Day on Monday. It was lovely to see so many pupils supporting the event by wearing mismatching socks and stripy and colourful tights.



Pupils have also been involved in a number of Easter activities this week. The whole school has created a stained glass cross using tissue paper which we have combined together in the school hall to create one large cross. They have also been visiting our Stations of the Cross in the sensory garden. These are 14 images depicting the Easter Story which the children have been taking in turns to read aloud.

Next week we will be saying Goodbye to Sarah Toulson who has worked at St John's for 25 years. Mrs Toulson will be retiring and is looking forward to spending more time with her family. We will miss her very much but wish her the best of luck and hope that she will keep in touch.

This is the last Purple Pages of this term so I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your support this term and wish you a very Happy Easter. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 19th April.

Best wishes,

Mrs West-Gaul

Star of the week

Well done to all our pupils who have worked hard to achieve star of the week this week.

Acorn class	Ezra
Ash class	Sydney
Birch class	Jude
Chestnut class	Rex
Elm class	Ashley
Holly class	Josh
Hazel class	Alicia
Maple class	Leo
Oak class	Amelie
Pine class	Rory
Rowan class	Holly
Sycamore class	Johnny
Willow class	Harrison


Read-a-thon success


Congratulations to Jacob in Acorn class and Isaac in Elm class and their family for completing their read-a-thon challenge during February half term.

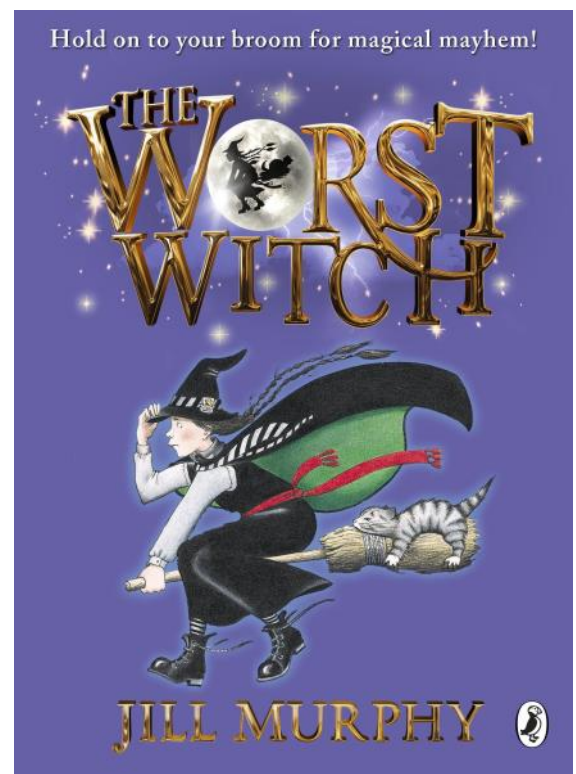
They set themselves the challenge of reading 46 Julia Donaldson books in 48 hours. They raised a staggering £400, which they have kindly split between The Brain Tumour Charity and St John's Primary School. We are incredibly grateful for this donation and will let you know what the money has funded for the school in due course.

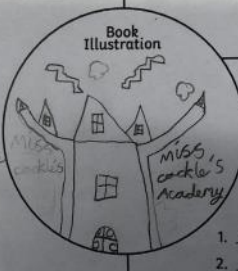
Year 3 Book recommendations

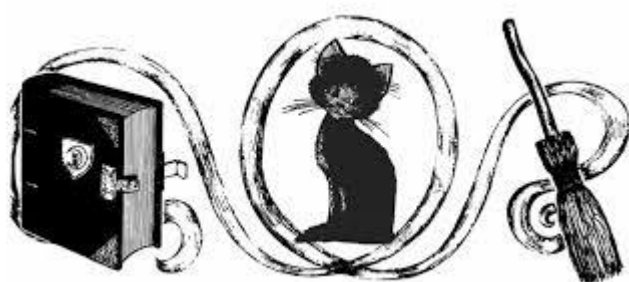
In Year Three this week we have looked at 'The Worst Witch'. We have thoroughly enjoyed this book and have told our teachers that our parents also loved it when they were our age, so it has been lovely to have those conversations at home. Here are some of the book reviews that we have written today, after we finished the book and we also completed a tricky quiz to see how much we could remember about the story!


Book Title: <u>The worst witch</u>	Who would you recommend the book to? Why? My cousin. She is called Freddie May. She will laugh a lot. She will love it so much she is only 4. Her mum will read it to her or her dad.
Author: <u>Jill Murphy</u>	
Fiction or Non-fiction: <u>Fiction</u>	
What is the book about? The most clumsy witch that has a mean headmistress and she is called Miss Hardbroom. She is the witch who is called Mildred. She is the school and Miss Hardbroom is not so her but then there is the meanest rich and she is called Ethel.	
	Rating: ★★★★★ Can you write three facts you have learnt or three things you have learnt about one of the characters? 1. That Ethel is really mean. 2. That Mildred is clumsy. 3. Miss Hardbroom is mean.

Book Title: <u>The worst witch</u>	Who would you recommend the book to? Why? My sis because she likes witch's.
Author: <u>Jill Murphy</u>	
Fiction or Non-fiction: <u>Fiction</u>	
What is the book about? The book is about a witch called Mildred who saves her school because Miss Cackle's evil sis was going to be over one in Miss Cackle's academy to grogs.	
	Rating: ★★★★★ Can you write three facts you have learnt or three things you have learnt about one of the characters? 1. Mildred is clumsy. 2. He is kind to Mildred. 3. Ethel is very mean.



Book Title: <u>The worst witch</u>	Who would you recommend the book to? Why? I would recommend this book up to 10 year old because the book is really funny.
Author: <u>Jill Murphy</u>	
Fiction or Non-fiction: <u>Fiction</u>	
What is the book about? The book is about a girl called Mildred and she gets in trouble she's clumsy over sunny she gets in trouble not even she doesn't do it.	
	Rating: ★★★★★ Can you write three facts you have learnt or three things you have learnt about one of the characters? 1. Mildred is clumsy. 2. Mildred is sunny. 3. Mildred is kind.



Book Title: <u>The worst witch</u>	Who would you recommend the book to? Why? My dad because he'd laugh when they all fall off their broom.
Author: <u>Jill Murphy</u>	
Fiction or Non-fiction: <u>Fiction</u>	
What is the book about? The book is about a witch called Mildred who always gets her spells wrong. Ethel is nasty and makes Mildred's spells go wrong. She acts like Miss Hardbroom's daughter.	
	Rating: ★★★★★ Can you write three facts you have learnt or three things you have learnt about one of the characters? 1. Mildred is clumsy. 2. Miss Cackle is the oldest. 3. Miss Hardbroom is ugly but not all the time.

Year 2 Learning

Year 2 have been designing and making puppets for our DT lessons this term. We started off by looking at different types of puppets such as marionette, sock puppet, hand puppets and finger puppets. We then designed our own hand puppets including what tools and materials we would need.



Last week we practised our sewing skills for a running stitch and over stitch.

This week we used our designs to make our final product. We chose our preferred stitch and then decorated the puppets using sequins. We had so much fun!



Breakfast and After school clubs

Our Breakfast club is available to all pupils from **Nursery to Year 6** and runs daily in the school hall from **7.30-8.30am**. Sessions can be booked in advance on ParentPay at a cost of £2.50. Pupils are offered a breakfast on arrival and afterwards play board games, colouring or reading in the school library.



After school sports clubs will start after Easter on the following days. These can also be booked in advance via ParentPay at a cost of £2.50 and run from 3.00-4.00pm.

Monday - Multi Skill (All years)

Tuesday - Football (KS2 only, shin pads must be worn)

Thursday - Invasion games (All years)



Down Syndrome Awareness Day

On Monday 23rd March we celebrated Down Syndrome Awareness Day by wearing lots of odd, bright and stripy socks and tights to school.



www.worlddownsyndromeday.org

People with Down syndrome have an extra chromosome; they have 3 copies of chromosome 21. This is why Down Syndrome Awareness Day is celebrated on the 21st Day of the 3rd month. The #LotsofSocks fundraising campaign is a worldwide campaign run by Down Syndrome International.

We raised **£65.36** for the local charity Ups and Downs - South West which they are very grateful for.



Red Nose Day

We are thrilled to announce that as a school we raised **£290.26** for Red Nose Day.

Your contributions will help support millions of families in the UK and around the world.

There is still time to donate using our [Justgiving page](#)



School Sunflowers

Our Christian Value this term has been Hope. As part of our worship activities pupils have all been given a compostable flower pot and had the opportunity to plant a sunflower seed. Esmee in Maple class has already seen signs of her seed sprouting. We look forward to seeing photos of how tall your sunflowers grow!



A note from the wellbeing team



Earth Day 2021

On the 22nd April we will be celebrating Earth Day here at St. Johns! Each class will be creating some sustainable artwork and we would be really grateful if you could provide any of the following materials for us to use for our art projects. Please drop these off at the office.

Egg Boxes

Old crayons

Bottle tops

Cereal boxes

Magazines

Newspapers

PTA Easter raffle tickets

Easter raffle tickets have been sent home with pupils this week. Please can these be returned to the school office via your child's teacher by **Monday 29th March**. Due to lockdown restrictions our usual PTA events have been unable to take place so your support in purchasing raffle tickets is much appreciated. Mrs West-Gaul will draw the winners on **31st March 2021**.

Nursery - Holiday club and September 2021 admissions

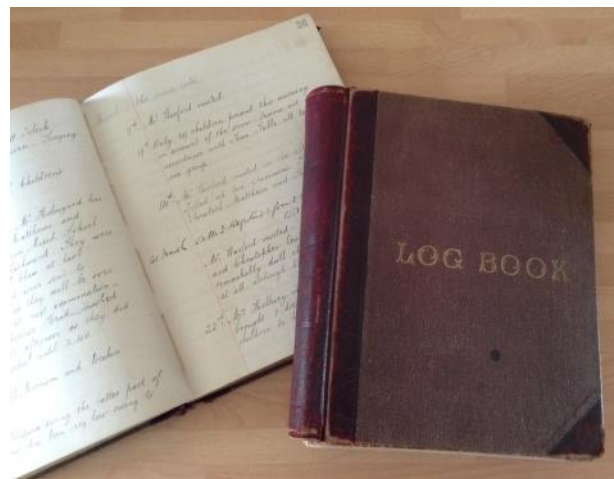
During the Easter and Summer school holidays we are able to offer a limited number of places for pupils in Reception and Year 1 to attend a holiday club at our onsite Nursery. The cost is £5.50 per hour and spaces are available from 8.30am - 5.30pm. (3.30pm Friday) If you would be interested in your child attending at Easter please contact the school office.

We also have pre-school spaces available at nursery for pupils wishing to start in September 2021. Please contact Suzanne or Tash at nursery on nextsteps@stjohnsmn.co.uk if you would like more information or to arrange a tour.



300 Year Anniversary

This year marks the 300th anniversary of St John's Primary School which has been based in Midsomer Norton since 1721. We are hugely proud of the long history in our community and are looking forward to celebrating this momentous year with our current pupils and the local community. We would love for our past pupils and staff to share their memories with us and also send us any photographs that they may have so that we document the changes which have occurred during the last 300 years.



We are also excited to share that we have commissioned local artist Edgar Phillips to produce a stained glass window for our school hall which can be enjoyed by our current school community as well as by members of the public who travel past the school. Many of you will have seen his work at Bishops Palace, he has designed and made the wings which are displayed throughout the grounds. The commission will cost £6,000 so we are hoping that donations from our current and past parents and pupils and members of our local community however large or small will help us to reach our target.

We are looking to seek input from our pupils and staff, as well as members of the local community, to help us design the window so that it reflects the ethos of the school community as well as its history.

We have set up a fundraising page to allow contributions to be made, <https://gofund.me/09844bd6>. If you know of any local businesses who might like to contribute to our pot please do send this information on!

We are also asking members of the community for any photos or memories that they may have of St John's Primary School so that we can use these as part of our celebration.



Christmas at
St John's
1957

