



Headlines

St John Fisher R.C. Primary School Spring Term 2023/24
school@st-johnfisher.merton.sch.uk

Week Beginning – 11th March

Monday 11th

Yr5 Performance at Royal Albert Hall

Tuesday 12th

Yr5—start school at 10am

School tour—9:45am for prospective families (to book a place please call the school office)

Friday 15th

St James class Collective Worship—9am
(*parents and carers of pupils in 4STJ are welcome to attend*)

Yr5/6 Basketball Championship

Water House—Movie afternoon

(*pupils in Water House can bring in a cushion or blanket and a NUT FREE snack to enjoy at the movie*)

Yr6 Workshare Weekend

YrN—Yr2 Spring Disco 5pm-6:30pm

Yr3—Yr6 Spring Disco 7pm-8:30pm

What a colourful end to the week! As you can see from pictures on page 3, SJF's book week culminated today in a plethora of well known characters arriving through the school gates in a celebration of the wonderful world of books!

From Grufflaos to Tin Men, it was fantastic to see children celebrating some of their favourite characters and, in doing so, continuing the enthusiasm and engagement that has been evident throughout this week.

Reading truly unlocks a world of imagination. From their very beginnings as young babies, the opportunities that reading and books offer is immeasurable. Whether it is a bedtime story (a BIG thank you to Mrs. Newman for leading some very enjoyable online bedtimes stories on Wednesday this week), or becoming engrossed in a 'classic', we want to ensure that all children experience the joy and excitement that reading can bring.

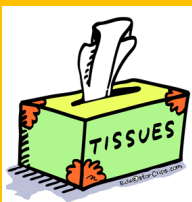
As the week draws to a close, we hope that those already avid readers have had the opportunity to widen their reading repertoire with recommendations from their peers and that those children who may be more reluctant to choose reading feel inspired by one of the many reading based activities that they have enjoyed this week.

Enjoy a wonderful weekend and don't forget to spend some of it getting lost in a good book!

URGENTLY NEEDED:

All classes are in urgent need of tissues and are asking for donations from our families.

Please can you bring your donations to the front office to be distributed. Thank you



Please see page 2 for some important reminders

Letters Home

Good Friday—Yr3/4/5

Easter Clubeady Camp—Whole school

Wimbledon Lawn Tennis trip—Yr2

Music Makers—Existing members

Easter SMSC Multisport Camp—Whole school

Big Walk and Wheel—Whole school

Final RAH Performance Information—Yr5

Happy Birthday

Isabelle C, Sasha T,
Noah L-K-T.

Designated Safeguarding Leaders

Ms J Kenna

DSL

Mrs C Ellerker

Deputy DSL

Miss C Higgins

Deputy DSL



*If you have any concerns about a child please contact **school@st-johnfisher.merton.sch.uk***

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

In-Term Holiday Requests

I would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of children not being removed from school for the purpose of holidays and that they attend school regularly. The number of requests for leave submitted to school has been increasing and in the last week alone we have received seven.

As stated in our attendance Policy <https://www.st-johnfisher.merton.sch.uk/assets/2021-2022-onwards/Policies/Updated-policies-with-new-mission-statement/Attendance-Policy-2023.pdf> school will only authorise absence in exceptional circumstances. Family holidays are not considered exceptional circumstance.

The negative impact which these periods of absence has on a child's education and their ability to make progress has been well documented and has also been a focus in the press recently.

Attendance is monitored on a regular basis by the Educational Welfare Officer for Merton who may write to families where attendance rates/patterns lead to concern.

Please note that a leave of absence that is not authorised or when a child's attendance falls below 85% in a given period may result in the issuing of a penalty notice fine by the London Borough of Merton.

Carpark

As you will be aware the car park gates have not been functioning for a number of weeks now and although plans are underway for them to be replaced they will remain open until the work is completed.

I would therefore like to remind all parents and carers that access to the car park is for staff only and no one should be using the car park to drop-off or pick-up children at any point during the day—including before or after school

Parents / Carers attending in-school events

When attending events such as Collective Worship, Mass or other in-school events parents and carers must not bring hot drinks in to the school building. This is for the safety of all pupils.

You will be asked to leave your drinks at the reception desk—please do not take offence.



This week Reception classes continued 'Travelling the Globe!'. We have been focusing on countries in Europe. The children have enjoyed learning about Poland, Portugal and Belgium. Many thanks to Mrs Modzelewska, Mrs Vosper and Alexandra's dad for sharing their experiences.



On Friday went to St Susanna class to read and show them our Jack and Jill pop up books which we have been making all term in DT. On the first page we had Jack and Jill going up the hill and we used a mechanism where they were attached to a stick and secured by a split pin so they could go up and down the hill, then the stick was covered by a paper hill. On the second page we had them fetching a pail of water by pulling a stick that was attached to it covered by another hill. Then on the final page (it was a double page) so in the middle there was a little stand where we stuck Jack crying because he broke his crown and if you folded him down then you would see Jill tumbling after.

By Mia FD



We're excited to be a part of the 15th celebration of @Sustrans #BigWalkAndWheel. In partnership with @SchwalbeUK it's the UK's largest inter-school walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling challenge. It aims to inspire hundreds of thousands of pupils to get active on the school run. Encourage your children to take part on as many days a possible between 11- 22 March 2024. See separate letter for more details of this event!

We were delighted to visit our local Co-Op store this week to take receipt of a cheque for £450 kindly donated to us in support of our continued development of our wonderful 'Woodland garden'. This funds are part of a community support programme and we are very grateful to the Co-Op for recognising and supporting our ongoing project.

We are hopeful that, with hopes and prayers for a continuous dry spell, the children will be able to return to the Woodland garden in the very near future.



PTFA AGM

Meeting will be held on 22nd
April at 7.30pm
in St Cecilia's Classroom. Everyone is welcome
to attend!

CASH ONLY!



SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SALE

Friday 22nd March
From 3pm

We will be collecting uniforms that no longer fit your children at **drop off on Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd March.**

Please ensure donations are clean and in good condition.

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH

Sunday 10th March 2024



Nicodemus, a teacher of the law, came to Jesus one night. Jesus said to him, "The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. Everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear their actions should be exposed; but whoever lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what they do is done in God."

Adapted from John 3:14-21
The 4th Sunday of Lent, Year 8

Everyone can learn more about this Gospel
in church: all are very warmly invited.

REMINDER:

Parent/carer prayer group will take place on Tuesday at 8:40am in St Cecilia's class-room.

Please see the [school website](#) for more details.

Everybody is welcome and we hope to see as many of you there to share in this time.



Year 2 enjoying the live BBC lesson this week all about fact and fiction texts.

Congratulations to our Yr5/6 Tag Rugby team who competed in the borough competition today.

They put on a great attacking display to score lots of tries and showed a defensive masterclass to take the 'tags' and thereby stopping their opponents from scoring.

These skills helped them to finish 4th in the borough which is a fantastic achievement! Thank you to Mr Walton and Ms Dominowska for taking the team to the competition.





SJF PTFA PRESENTS

SPRING DISCO

Friday 15th March 2023

Nursery to Year 2: 5pm – 6.30pm

Year 3 to Year 6: 7pm – 8.30pm



£5 per child

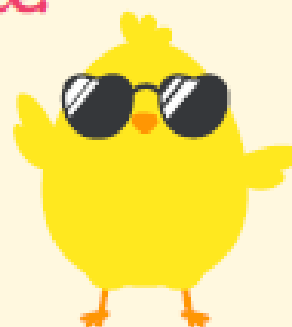
Pay on Parent Pay only

Drinks and snacks available

Cash only



Children to be supervised by parents
at all times. Names will be on the
door. No tickets will be issued.



Year 3 had a blast learning about mummification in ancient Egypt. We discovered how the ancient Egyptians removed and preserved different body parts. The highlight was when we got to mummify our classmates using toilet paper - it was trickier than we expected! Some of us ended up so well wrapped up that we couldn't be recognised! Despite the challenges, we thoroughly enjoyed the lesson and had loads of fun exploring this fascinating ancient practice. We can't wait for the next history lesson!



GREEN WALL GRANT

We are delighted to announce that the remainder of the Green Wall Grant that we were awarded has been spent. We have had an 'Ivy Green Wall' added to the railings at the front of school. This will help reduce the levels of pollution from the road. We have also had a number of 'Cherry Blossom Trees' planted on the field, along the wall of the Nursery. These trees will aid to helping reduce the exposure to pollution from Grand Drive. We aim to now take care of them and help them blossom over time.



These additions joined the bushes planted along the length of the fence to the entrance of the school.



On Monday we had our DT Day. We had lots of fun making our slingshot cars using wheels, lollysticks and straws. When designing our cars, we thought carefully about how to make our reduce the air resistance to make sure our cars were fast. Yr4



BUILDBETTER LEARNING



These pupils have enjoyed
and promoted
'reading for pleasure'
with other pupils.

St Scholastica – Ella F

St Aidan – Peter O

St Ninian – Sofia P

St Teresa – Oliver C

St James – Charlotte B

St Osmund – Seb A

St Hugh – Jacob L

St Nicholas – Mishka K-M

St Francis – Charlotte P

St Ignatius – Kayleigh

St Susanna – Harrison D

St Helena – Martha F

St Elizabeth – Ella H

St Rose – Joshua P

Nursery – Zaidie F

Attendance Percentage week beginning 26th February 2024

Class	Week commencing 26/02/24	Week commencing 19/02/24
St Rose	96.60	95.50
St Elizabeth	97.30	92.00
St Susanna	98.00	93.00
St Helena	93.70	98.70
St Francis	95.40	96.80
St Ignatius	94.00	95.00
St Nicholas	95.60	97.40
St Hugh	98.80	92.30
St James	98.50	95.90
St Osmund	90.70	90.40
St Teresa	98.00	94.70
St Ninian	92.80	94.10
St Aidan	94.80	98.10
St Scholastica	92.10	92.40
Overall	95.40	94.70

Best Class: St Hugh

This week's overall
winner of Ms Kenna's
BIG PENCIL.....

**** Isla N ****



WELL DONE
St Elizabeth

**for being on time, in
class and ready to learn
every morning.**