

Friday 15th November 2024

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# St John's Church of England Primary School

## Weekly News

### Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

Today has been a fundraising opportunity for the school to raise money for the school charity 2Wish. We appreciate all the donations and it has been a positive start to our support of the charity. Year 6 have worked hard this week on the cycling machine putting many miles in on their 2250 mile epic journey around Britain! The class have already raised close to £400 and they are only in week one!

This week the newsletter has been taken over by the pupils! I have given the opportunity to students from the different year groups to feedback some of the news from the week so I hope you enjoy! It has been a busy five days with workshops, remembrance, pupil chaplain visits and fundraising.

The weather is turning much colder over the next few weeks and we will keep you informed if there is any weather challenges in terms of the school. It is really important for the children to come to school with appropriate clothing such as hats, scarves and coats at this time.

Wishing you all a very happy weekend.

Kind Regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

#### Certificate Winners:

Windsor - Ashley  
Attenborough - Noah  
Mandela - Lyra  
McCartney - Mercedes  
Hawking - Jackie  
Simmonds - Natalie/Levi  
Pankhurst - Leo  
Rashford - Vasisht  
Medal - Harley (4)

#### Attendance:

A reminder that any holidays in school time now will automatically receive a fine due to the changes in attendance rules that have been put into place.

Families must report to the school when they are intending to take a child out of school during term time as it is a requirement to know that the children are safe and not absent without a good reason.

#### Safeguarding/Well being:

With evenings becoming darker much more quickly, please ensure that children have the appropriate clothing on when riding on bikes - they need to have some reflective items to make them clearer to motorists.

It is advisable that the children have access to lights for their bikes if they are using them when it gets darker. I have had reports that some children are cycling without lights in the dark and they are at risk of a serious accident. Please discuss cycle safety over the weekend to support them.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

## Weekly House Point Winner: **ST ANDREW**

### **Pupil Chaplains - Year 5**

On Tuesday 12th October all the Pupil Chaplains went to St Mary Magdalene's in Taunton to meet up with Pupil Chaplains from different schools in the area. At the venue we did activities and explored the church. Our favourite activities were when we were given different parts of the church to find and we had to talk to other Chaplains to get their help. Also we made hearts with crosses on out of pipe cleaners and beads to remember our families. Between us we wrote prayers and it was nice to share them in Assembly on Thursday. We are thankful to the teachers who went with us and also drove us to the event. All eleven of us really enjoyed the experience and it gave us ideas from other schools as to how we can be better Pupil Chaplains.

By Henry and Nataniel - Year 5

### **History Workshop - Year 2**

In our history workshop on Friday we were learning about Guy Fawkes. Sam from the museum came into school to help us with our learning. We used vinegar and baking powder to make mini fire-works. We put paint in the mixture so that it went all over the paper. To make sure it didn't go everywhere we put a box over it! Also we wrote with proper ink so that the letters looked like they were from 1605, over 400 years ago. In the session we learnt that Guy Fawkes plotted against the king but he wasn't the leader of the group. We liked the session because we were learning about history and because it was fun.

By Charlie, Gracie and Toby - Year 2

### **Cricket Coaching - Year 3, 4, 5 and 6**

On Thursday 14th November 2024 Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 got cricket coaching again with Carla from Somerset Cricket. At the moment we have cricket sessions every week. In the first session we started off with our fielding skills such as throwing at the stumps and catching the ball from height. Then we were doing some batting where we put a ball on a tee and then we hit it to get past our partner who had to try and catch it. At the end we played a game in groups of people where we had to score points by getting the ball beyond the fielders. Next week we are going to practice batting when a ball is thrown at us. We are finding cricket lots of fun.

By Jackie and Jason - Year 4

### **Sponsored Cycle - Year 6**

Year 6 have an exercise bike in our room and we are cycling from school to London, then to Edinburgh, Belfast, Cardiff and back home in time for Christmas! This a sponsored event to raise money and awareness for 2Wish our school charity. So far the class have arrived at London and now heading north towards Edinburgh which is roughly 400km cycled so far. Right now we have raised approximately £382 for the charity and hoping to reach our target of £500 in the next few weeks. There are links to the sponsorship page on the school Facebook page or posters with QR codes. It gives information about what we are doing and regarding the good work that 2Wish are completing. Speak to the school if you would like more information.

By Oliver and Vasisht - Year 6

### **Upcoming events:**

19th November	School Photos
17th December	Christmas Lunch-free to all pupils
19th December	1.30 Carol Service and Nativity in Church
20th December	Last day of Autumn Term
6th January	School Closed for Staff Training
7th January	First day of Spring Term
17th-21st February	Half Term
4th April	Last day of Spring Term
22nd April	First day of Summer Term
5th May	Bank Holiday
26th-30th May	Half Term
27th June	School Closed for Staff Training
30th June	School Closed for Staff Training
23rd July	Last day of Summer Term

### **History Workshop**

On Monday 11th November, which was Remembrance Day, Year 6 had a an Ancient Egyptian workshop run by representatives from Taunton Museum. In the workshop we cooked some Ancient Egyptian bread which was made from flour, water and salt. It wasn't like normal bread, a bit harder on the outside and then sprinkled with dates. Then we had some plaster scarab beetles that we painted with water colours. Also we went outside and completed an excavation trying to be careful like archaeologists. Things were hidden like scarab beetles, ankhs and a picture of Cleopatra and we had to recover them. Next we had to organise them into groups as archaeologists would so we could explain what they were when we found them. It was really good.

By Oliver and Vasisht - Year 6

### **School Photos**

The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday 19th November. Photos will be taken of individuals and sibling groups. If you wish to have a photo taken with siblings that do not attend St John's please contact the School Office to make an appointment between 8am and 9am. Once completed you will receive a code so you can order your photos directly. The digital download will be available to purchase within 3 working days after.

Full school uniform on Tuesday.