



We are growing
our learning



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 50, Issue 12

Newsletter Date:
Friday 1st April 2022

We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...



Newsletter

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School Development Priorities

100% of pupils can identify a piece of writing that they are proud of and talk about their next steps.

Please remember that today is the last day of the Spring Term (despite the fact it's particularly winterish out there). The Summer Term starts on Tuesday 19th April.

How Do I Make Good Decisions

Making good decisions is an integral part of life as the decisions we make affect us and our families. For children this can be even harder and it's why one of our core jobs as parents is to support our children in making good decisions and also living with the potential consequences of the decisions they make.

One of the biggest challenges we constantly face in school is not so much things that happen in school, but things that happen outside of school, most specifically with children via xbox's/playstations and via their phones. My advice is very simple and is the same advice I apply to my own children (to put it into context my son is 14):

- 1, His phone stays downstairs, he only uses it downstairs and we check it every day, this includes suffering watching the youtube videos he watches..
- 2, His Xbox is downstairs, he only plays on it downstairs and he is only allowed on it for an hour.

This does mean, that we can't access the TV, but actually as the parent and having made that decision to have children, I make the sacrifices to keep my children safe.

We have agreed rules in the house and if they are broken he loses one, the other or both. Most importantly, if someone sends or posts something that is inappropriate, he is told to automatically block that number.

Please don't get me wrong, I love my son very much, but I do not trust him when it comes to electronics because actually the real risk to my son is not on his cycle to school, or playing rugby or someone in a white van. The real risk is unfettered access to the internet. Whether he likes it or not, I'm the parent and as such, he will follow the rules we set down or not have his electronics.

I fully appreciate the trauma of having your children at home over Easter and their devices do make it easier for you to have some peace and quiet. But I would urge all parents to put in place the two rules above—I guarantee that your children, long term, will be much happier for it!

Awards

STAR—Charlie (RREX), JUMBO—Myah (MLM), CHARIOT—Jessica (CC).

EAGLES—Aston (RREX), CIRCUS—Ripley, (MM) ROSES— Felipe ((RROX).

MERCURY—Lucianna (RREX), CLAUDIUS—Lexi (RREX), ROMANS—Isabelle (MM).

DUTCH—Ioana (MM), ICENI—Kiara (RREX), PAXMAN—Sienna (MM).

CASTLE—Pashton (MLM), CAVALIER—Myles (RROX), GARRISON—Nikola (RREX).

OYSTERS—Sam (MM), MAGNETS—Freya (RROX), RAEDWALD—Tommy (MLM)

CYMBELINE—Nathaniel (MLM), TRI-NOVANTES—Whole Class (MLM), LATHES—Stanley (MLM)

ATTENDANCE—Eagles

Colchester/Blackwater Sports Partnership

As you may or may not be aware the government has stated that every pupil should be doing 60 active minutes a day. Not only does this help with their physical health but also their mental health.

There is a 60 active minutes challenge that has been set by the Partnership, which is on the 'Welcome' page of the school website.

The **Big** Question for the next Assessment Period (Summer Term) — How do I make Good Decisions?

Our Assembly Theme for the first week back is: UNICEF 'Rights Respecting Schools Articles.'

Our Jigsaw Theme for the 1st Summer Half Term—Relationships.

Year 4 Children not Going to Danbury

Year 4 Children not going to Danbury will be with Mrs Simons whilst we are away. Please go to the Town site as normal on Tuesday 29th.

Danbury children—please remember you need to head to AF.

Squash

Last week, our Year 6 children finished their squash lessons courtesy of 'Off the Wall' squash. Their final session was a trip to the Garrison to put the skills they'd been learning in the school hall, to the test in a proper squash court.

Boasting, driving, volleying—the children had all the shots and a fair amount of execution—well done Year 6.



Sent on behalf of the NHS - Vaccinations for 5 to 11 year olds

From next week, parents and carers of all 5 to 11 year olds will be able to book a COVID-19 vaccination for their child. The national booking service will open for this age group on Saturday 2 April 2022, with the first appointments available from Monday 4 April 2022 onwards.

Appointments will be available in larger vaccination centres and some community pharmacies. Larger vaccination centres will also offer whole family appointments so that already eligible adults and older children who are not fully vaccinated can take advantage of the 'evergreen' offer and have a vaccination at the same time as their 5 to 11 year old.

Appointments for 5 to 11 year olds who are not 'at risk' will also be available at some GP-run sites. If your GP is offering the vaccine, they will contact you. Please do not contact them.

Vaccinations are already available for 'at risk' 5 to 11 year olds, and children in this age group who live with someone who has a weakened immune system. Until now vaccinations for this 'at risk' group of children have been available through GPs and special educational needs schools but parents and carers will be now able to book their vaccination through the national booking service when that opens for 5-11s.

<https://sneevaccine.org.uk/>

Term Dates

Last day of Spring Term—Friday 1st April

Monday 4th April—Monday 18th April, Easter Holiday

First day of Summer Term—Tuesday 19th April

Monday 18th July—Last day of Summer Term.

Monday 5th September—First day of Autumn Term

Diary Dates

Tuesday 19th April—Friday 22nd April Year 4 Danbury Residential.

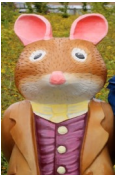
GET OUT THERE AND WALK!



This week's walk is 'Abberton Reservoir'.

Admittedly, it is a bit of a long haul to walk round the reservoir—but it is worth it!

As a teaser, Essex Wildlife Trust, who have a centre based at Abberton—have a 'Bramble Hedge Wooden Sculpture Trail' - Meet seven of the characters from the classic stories out on our nature reserve. Test your map reading skills by following our beautifully designed Bramble Hedge map, which is available for £1.00 from the Nature Discovery Centre, and find Wilfred and his fellow Bramble Hedge mice including Primrose, Lord Woodmouse and Lady Woodmouse. Take part in the wildlife quiz as you go around the trail and learn about mice, where they live and what they eat



<https://www.essexwt.org.uk/visit/nature-trail/bramble-hedge>

As always, it's on the school website—under Colchester Walks.

Report to parents from the full governing body meeting from March 2022. (Lee Brooker, Parent Governor)

Governors were tasked in recent weeks to work with the year group lead teachers to prepare a report based on the children's attainment data supplied from the school. This included asking challenging questions to the teachers about how the children are being supported and developed.

Governors have all recently completed a skills audit form which has been fantastic to highlight training areas which governors would like to utilise to always build skills to benefit the children and school.

We spoke in depth about how the Senior leaders and teachers are managing Covid related absences from staff and students. This is still very much creating challenges to make sure that all classes can maintain consistency for the children. Governors thank the school staff and teachers, who have done a fantastic job at being flexible to change at short notice, covering classes and managing the constant changes, which just cannot be avoided or foreseen.

As always, governors were reported to by Mrs Poole about the current school's finance plans, as well as the projections for the future. Thanks to Mrs Poole and her finance team for such a comprehensive report. As the costs everywhere continue to increase, it has been a very conscious decision to keep the school meal price at its current level to help support families as much as possible. Governors approved the school budget.

As a governing board, we must all offer a huge thanks and well done to both school staff and parents for showing such resilience in recent times. For all the negative impacts lockdowns and absences have caused, there has been a fantastic show of community spirit and people really coming together as a community.

Article 2 (non-discrimination) The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

Eggstraordinary

Thank you so much to our EggTA for organising the Egg Competition this year. So many entries, all of which were fantastic. Every child who entered did get a chocolate bar as a well done—but as always there can only be a few winners. In a strange lapse of judgement, my egg didn't seem to feature in the winners list—and on my birthday week as well!

Winners

Parents/Staff @ T—Shumina

Parents/Staff @ AF—Leia

EYFS—Arthur

Jumbo—Theo

Chariot—Alice

Star—Olivia

Year 1—Daisy

Eagles—Maya

Circus—Mya-Rose

Roses—Tessie

Year 2—Emilie

Claudius—Harrison

Romans—Isabelle

Mercury—Jordan

Year 3—Leyre

Paxman—Amelia

Dutch—Ellis

Iceni—Lydia

Year 4—Abi

Castle—Jack

Cavalier—Charlie

Year 5—Emily

Oysters—Jimmy

Magnets—Chloe

Raedwald—Jessica

Year 6—Aaliyah/Francesca

Trinovantes—Harvey

Cymbeline—James

