



We are growing our learning

St John's Green Primary School

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Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Newsletter

We ♥ Maths

We are all writers ...



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What a Fantastic Week!

So much has been going on this week, many of you will probably feel you've spent more time at the school than anywhere else! The week started with a Christmas Pantomime, 'Cinderella' performed to all the children by Tickled Pink productions. We've also had three Foundation Nativity's, two Year 1 Christmas Carol Concerts and served Christmas dinner twice.

Next week, our Year 2 children bring the term to a close with their production—'Lights, Camel, Action.' Not to be missed!

'The Secret in the Shed'

It's not easy standing up and performing in front of over one hundred people at the end of your first ever term of school when you're only 4 years old. Our 90 Foundation children did however do just that with their magical Christmas performance of 'The Secret in the Shed.'



Really well done to all the children and of course the staff who have worked so hard to bring it all together and serving up such a treat.



For those parents who have ordered a DVD of the production, courtesy of the schools PTA, then we have been promised and assured that these will be ready for next week, so you can see it all again and practise to your hearts content 'Hey! Chingedy ching, (Hee-haw, hee-haw) It's Dominick the donkey.

My thanks for the PTA who provided all the children in the school with a festive treat as they watched Cinderella. Even better—a lot of our children got to tread the boards and take part!



Awards

- Year 6 (Trinovantes) - Megan Burrell-Poole
- Year 5 (Oysters) — Stanley Hobbs
- Year 4 (Castle) - Austin Nugari
- Year 4 (Cavalier) - Ruby Williams
- Year 3 (Dutch) - Aran Mustafa & Finnley Carroll
- Year 3 (Iceni) - Franky Lane
- Year 2 (Mercury) - Olivia Dempsey
- Year 2 (Claudius) - Alexander Newton
- Year 2 (Romans) - Oliver Price
- Year 1 (Eagles) - Scarlett Webb
- Year 1 (Circus) - Jack Ledgerton
- Year 1 (Roses) - Tiffany Gabcova
- Foundation (Chariot) - Drew Caller
- Foundation (Star) - Lacey-Mai Smith
- Foundation (Jumbo) - Millie Eastwood
- Heads' Award— Star, Chariot, Jumbo

Christmas Fair

Many thanks to everyone who was able to come along and support our Christmas Fair last Friday. It was brilliant to have so many people in the school entering into the festive spirit. In total over £2,800 has been raised which is a fantastic amount. My thanks to the PTA, Mrs Taylor and Mrs Bourne for all their work in bringing this together.

Year 1 Carol Concert

Very well done to our Year 1 children who sang their hearts out this week in their Carol Concert. Jingle Bells, Away in a Manager and of course Dominick the Donkey!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz0O9VBIaWU>

Christmas Dinners

Mrs Burke, Mrs Blackery and our catering team did us proud this week as we enjoyed not one but two Christmas dinners—at least I did! Festive hats were also the order of the day as the children ate and pulled crackers to Christmas music.



At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.

Jane D. Hull

Assembly Theme for next Week: The Nativity Story.

Children/Parents/Cars at Abbey Field

There are a few concerns at the moment about cars and pedestrians in and around the Abbey Field site at the start and end of the school day.

To make it as safe as we can for all concerned could I please ask the following.

- Parents driving arrive in plenty of time for the start of the school day. There are a few parents who are not arriving at school until 08.45—which is the start of the day and late. These parents are rushing.
- Pedestrians, please walk round the loop and in via the entrance by Foundation. I do appreciate it's a bit longer but it's a lot safer and will mean that parents aren't trying to cross in front of cars.
- Car drivers, please do not park on the pavement.

Many thanks

Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that from after the Christmas Holidays the main entrance to breakfast club will be via the main entrance to the school and NOT via the playground.

I would ask parents please to park on the road having driven round the roundabout and use the main path.

Please note that this does not take effect until after Christmas.

Diary Dates

- Saturday 17th December @3.00p.m.—Colchester United (at home) v Notts County.
- Monday 19th @6.00p.m. Tuesday 20th @ 2.00p.m. & 6.00p.m.—Year 2 Production. 'Lights, Camel, Action'
- Wednesday 21st December. Last day of Autumn Term
- Friday 23rd December @3.00p.m. & 7.00p.m. and Thursday 29th December @3.00p.m. 'The Nutcracker' at Firstsite. (Live performance from the Bolshoi Ballet.)
- Saturday 31st December @11.00a.m. at Firstsite. 'The Jungle Book' (2016). Tickets £2.00
- For Firstsite events please go to <http://www.firstsite.uk/whats-on/>
- Monday 2nd January @3.00p.m. - Colchester United (at home) v Cheltenham.
- Thursday 5th January 2017. First Day of Spring Term
- Tuesday 17th January. Internet Café. 4.30p.m—5.30p.m. AF.

Christmas Jumper/Bobble Hat Day

And very festive everyone looked too as an array of Christmas Jumpers and Bobble Hats adorned the school as we supported both the NSPCC and Save the Children. In total £350 has been raised so far—which means there are still a few more £1's owing.



Crossword/Wordsearch Challenge

There'll be a weekly crossword challenge this term.

Merry Christmas Word Search

Search for the words going up, down, left and right.

c h r i s t m a s s
 t o s d t r e e u t
 w l a m a a s v l o
 i e c a l t t h i c
 n g k r e n n g g k
 k n h a s a e i h i
 l a i t n s s e t n
 e g u s i o e l s g
 g l i t t e r s z m
 f r u d o l p h l l

tinsel
 sack
 lights
 Rudolph
 glitter
 angel
 stocking

presents
 Santa
 tree
 sleigh
 Christmas
 twinkle
 star

As always, Answers on Miss Salmon's door if you are at Abbey site and on Mr Green's door if you are at Town site

The winning entry each week from each phase will get to choose a free book or writing prize.

And Finally,

I like to think of myself of trying to raise above most things—but today I have to confess I did have Christmas Jumper Bobble Envy. Proudly displaying the bobble as a nose on my reindeer jumper, Miss Witzendorf usurped me with a huge bobble for her reindeer and she had wiggly wobbly eyes as well! Next year I'm going to look for the biggest bobble in the world!

Have a good weekend

Simon Billings





Meet Our School Councillors of 2016/2017



Year 1: Callum McGuire, Emily Warren and Shriyan Kar. **Year 2:** Ivan Yu, Mae Grimwade and Stanley Hudson. **Year 3:** Reese Merrifield and Isabel Stubbings. **Year 4:** Naomi Hearn and Ruby Williams. **Year 5:** Lily Horgan and Calli Ganley-Pintado. **Year 6:** Ellie-Jo Shipton Cornell and Max Howie.

We Are All Rights Holders.

This term our school councillors have been busy working within their 'Triad School Council Consortium', alongside the children from Cherry Tree and Kendall Primary School. Within these meetings, they have been discussing outdoor learning environments, sharing ideas with each other and thinking about how to improve this area within our school settings. One idea the children were keen on, was to have a special 'Friendship Bench' fitted on each of the playgrounds. The children diplomatically put forward their suggestion to Mr Billings, who also liked the idea and agreed to purchase them. The children were very proud to have been part of the decision-making process and they are delighted with the new Friendship benches...



Abbey Site – Friendship Bench!



Town Site – Friendship Bench!



The School Councillors are currently deep in discussion with their class teachers and fellow peers, regarding playground zones and activities. They have had some wonderful ideas so far - watch this space...

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC).

This term we have been discussing these articles from the UN Convention...

Article 29: Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

Article 14: You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

Article 3: All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

Article 30: You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion - or any you choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.

www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools

During our discussions on Article 12: 'You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously'. The school councillors were asked to consider and reflect on their mathematical learning outcomes from the recent 'Mathemagician' sessions. They talked with great enthusiasm about their learning and thoroughly enjoyed participating in this activity. Mr Green will be using the children's feedback within his evaluation.



We ♥ Maths



Diary Dates:

Tuesday 21st Feb – International Language Day

Wednesday 22nd Feb – Consortium Meeting