

# St John's Green Primary School.

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 24, Issue 2

Newsletter Date:  
Friday 17th January 2014

## Newsletter

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Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read.'

Marilyn Jager Adams

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### Diary Dates

Wednesday 22nd January—2.15p.m.—PTA meeting

Friday 31st January—Non Pupil Day—the School is Closed.

Thursday 13th February (p.m.) - Class Dutch Assembly to Parents

Wednesday 5th February—Open School 3.15p.m.—4.00p.m.

Monday 17th February—Friday 21st February—Half Term

Monday 7th April—Tuesday 22nd April—Easter Break



### Toy Story

Our Lower Phase children had a treat on Tuesday afternoon when Mr. Salmon came in to talk to the children and share with them a whole host of toys that he used to play with when he was a boy. This is all linked to the Lower Phases theme of Toys.

Amongst the things that Mr Salmon showed the children were a wooden fort, toy metal cars, a catapult, marbles and a spinning top. The children had prepared a raft of questions to challenge Mr. Salmon with and then used what they had learnt as a stimulus for their writing in literacy.



### St Helena—Dance

We were very fortunate on Tuesday morning when Gemma Stevens, a PE teacher from St Helena came in to lead two dance workshops for our Year 3 and 4 children. It was more contemporary than ballet and definitely very enjoyable for the children as they learnt from Gemma and put together some of their own dance sequences.



### 'Spec' tacular

Our Year 5 class headed off to 'Specsavers' on Wednesday to receive 60 High visibility Jackets that Specsavers have very kindly donated to the school as part of their national campaign. Having received the jackets, some of the children then staked their claim for fame with a photo opportunity.



### Home School Agreement

Our School Council have been working very hard with Mrs. Bullivant on re-writing our Home School Agreement. This is a statutory document that we have to have and parents normally sign and complete it, along with their children when their children first start school. A copy of our revised Home School Agreement is coming out today with the newsletter. **Please take some time at the weekend going through the agreement with your children and then sign it and return to the class teacher next week.** For our children to do the best they can we must work together and we need your support to help embed the learning that the children do at school.

St John's Green Primary School



Home School Agreement

### School Menu

All children should have brought home, by the end of today, a copy of the new school menu for the next four weeks. The back of the menu also includes Sarah and Eileen's recipe—which is a rather nice looking—Lemon Iced Sponge. If anyone is planning on making one—Mrs. Bourne and I are quite happy to quality control.

### Year 6 Residential 2014—Kingswood

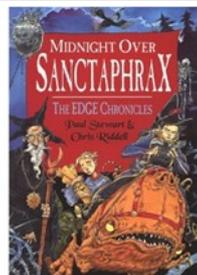
Please remember that the next installment of £65 is due to be paid by Friday 31st January.

### PTA meeting

There is a PTA meeting this coming Wednesday, 22nd January at 2.15p.m. at the school. Any parents who are interested in supporting the school in some fund-raising activities are more than welcome to pop along.

### Awards

- Tigger Award (Trinovantes) - Mac Colman
- Eyore Award (Oysters) — Shanii McLean
- Winnie the Pooh Award (Castle) - Isobel Gilson
- Lion Award (Dutch) - Nathan Read
- Sully Award (Mercury) - Aimee Philpin
- Diddle Award (Claudius) - Sophie Olivera-Smith
- Scrappy Award (Eagles) - Laia Hicks
- Bumble Award (Circus) - Maisie Hainsworth
- Stitch Award (Daffodils) - Filip Roszak
- Mickey Award (Roses) - Isabella Castagnoli
- Simba Award — Claudius
- Spot Award — Abdul Quayyum
- Attendance Award - Claudius



### Book Review by Mr. Eves

#### Midnight Over Sanctaphrax

Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell

Today it is common, in the media, to have debates about the perceived problem with boys' reading. This moral panic normally divides itself into two schools. Those who have never read a children's book since attending school and promote reading lists of stodgy classics that came out decades ago; and those that go

the other way and promote dumbed down graphic novels. There nothing wrong with a lot of the classics and some graphic novels are great but there is no need to go down either of these routes, if you have a boy. There are plenty of good books out there to capture his imagination. One such series is Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell's *Edge Chronicles*. Two fathers, whose sons went to the same primary school and they decided to write books for boys. They are beautifully written by Stewart and excellently illustrated by Riddell. My favourite is the third Twig book, *Midnight Over Sanctaphrax*, where Twig saves the Edgelanders from the Mother Storm. Please give the *Edge Chronicles* a try, most boys can't put these books down.

### Year 4 Residential—Danbury

Thank you to all those parents who were able to attend the information meeting we held on Tuesday. Please remember that if you would like your child to go on the residential then please pay the £15 deposit by Friday 31st January. Many thanks. Cheques should be made payable to, 'St John's Green Primary School.'



### Newsletter Competition

Each week in the newsletter we will give you a single word. The challenge is to use that word correctly in a sentence.

Children should write down their sentence with the word correctly used. The prize each week will be a book. This weeks word '**pandemonium**', which means 'uproar/utter confusion'

And Finally...

I received an e-mail the other day, mentioning the fact that three of our members of staff were going to be 50 within the next month or so. Obviously 50 is the new 40 and at the time of reading the e-mail I was totally clueless as to which members of staff the e-mail referred to. Obviously we have a very young looking staff—which is due to our healthy living... Answers on a postcard then

Have a good weekend

Simon Billings