



We are growing  
our learning



# St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

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Newsletter Date:  
Friday 10th February 2023

We we are all  
Maths writers ...



## Newsletter

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### Our School

Many of you will no doubt have seen the article in the Gazette about our school and the lack of funding and increased costs that has placed the school in the financial situation it is in. Behind the scenes our school governors have been waxing lyrical as well, fighting the school's corner and advocating vehemently to anyone and everyone about the lack of funding in schools. Yesterday, the school was interviewed by Talk TV. This morning ITV News were in school where they visited our Year 6 children in the midst of some rather exciting science experiments courtesy of St Helena School. They also popped into both Mrs. Correia's and Miss Mitchell's classes. So, if you take a peek at ITV news tonight, you might just see someone you know. Huge thanks as well to Mr. Scaife, one of our parent governors, who worked at school in the morning whilst he waited to be interviewed.

### Stargazing with Mr Bates

Huge thanks to everyone who was able to pop along on Wednesday night to listen to Mr. Bates regale us with tales of stars and planets (and as importantly—point out where they are in the night sky)!

There were so many people there, and whilst some were driven inside by the cold—others braved it to the very end extracting every stary fact they could out of our resident Astronomist.



**One Square Mile**—Please remember to follow on: <https://m.facebook.com/people/One-Square-Mile-Heritage-on-our-Doorstep/100086912204893/>



### One Square Mile—Heritage Photo Challenge.

A brilliant challenge for all of you and a perfect excuse to get out and about.

All you need to do is to take a photo and upload to our Facebook site a visit your family made to a local landmark as part of our One Square Mile: Heritage on Our Doorstep.

How easy is that!

### Children's Mental Health Week

The theme for this years 'Children's Mental Health Week' was 'Let's Connect.' Really this is about making meaningful connections with each other—people thrive in communities and this connection is vital for well-being.



When we have healthy connections - to family, friends and others - this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. And when our need for rewarding social connections is not met, we can sometimes feel isolated and lonely - which can have a negative impact on our mental health.

This week, our focus was very much about making connections with our children making those connections through walking—some year groups went by themselves, others combined—but what everyone did was connect and utilise exercise for their sense of well-being.



Our Assembly Theme: what is a curriculum and what is OUR curriculum?

### Term Dates

Monday 13th—Friday 17th February—Half Term  
Monday 3rd April—Friday 14th April—Easter Break  
Monday 17th April—First day of Summer Term.  
Monday 1st May—May Day Bank Holiday—The School is Closed.  
Monday 8th May—King Charles Coronation—Public Holiday—The School is Closed.  
Monday 29th May—Friday 2nd June—Half Term  
Wednesday 19th July—Monday 4th September—Summer Holiday  
Tuesday 5th September—First day of Autumn Term.

### Diary Dates

**Wednesday 22nd February—World Thinking Day/Founders Day. Children who attend (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts) can wear relevant uniform to school today.**



Friday 24th February—School Discos (See Separate Poster) - EYFS Disco will be in the afternoon during school time.

The **Big** Question for the Spring Term Assessment Period — Who is Responsible for the World?

Our Jigsaw Theme for this Half Term—Healthy Me

### Rights Respecting Schools

*Article 14 (freedom of thought, belief and religion) Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities*

### Book Amnesty

A plea from Mr. Payne or school librarian—please could you have a hunt at home for any and all school library books - we know they're out there—they're just not here, which is the problem!

Please, please could they be returned so other children enjoy them. Many thanks.

### Love your Library Day

Love your Library Day will be making its 2023 debut on Saturday 18 February 2023, with a focus on Mental Health and Wellbeing. All of the libraries across Essex will have lots to offer, from colour and creating, to crafts and story times. We'd love for as many of you to join us as possible as we celebrate together as a community.

### Awards

STAR— Tilly (CC), CHARIOT— Eric (MM), JUMBO- Eli (MM).

EAGLES— Darcie-Grace (MM), ROSES— Theo (RROX), CIRCUS- Lexie (RREX).

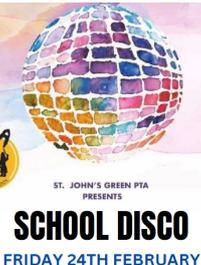
MERCURY— Samuel (MM), CLAUDIUS- Connor (MM), ROMANS- Sofia (RREX), DUTCH— Alishba (RROX), ICENI— Amelia-Rose (MM), PAXMAN— Henley (CC).

CASTLE—Connor (MM), CAVALLIER— Alexa (RROX), GARRISON— Lilly Rai (MM).

OYSTERS- Georgina (RROX), MAGNETS- Lianna (RREX), RAEDWALD- Francesca (MM).

TRINOVANTES— Samuel (CC), CYMBELINE— Freddie (MM), LATHES— Riley-Jae (RROX).

ATTENDANCE— Romans  
LIBRARY— All Classes (MM).



ST. JOHN'S GREEN PFA PRESENTS  
**SCHOOL DISCO**  
FRIDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

Years 1 & 2 - 4:30 to 5:15pm  
Years 3 & 4 - 5:30 to 6:15pm  
Years 5 & 6 - 6:30 to 7:15pm

Location Abbey Field site

£2.50 entry includes a drink and popcorn.  
Discos are strictly for the children of that year group - no siblings allowed.  
No parents to stay unless they are volunteering - please contact the PFA in advance if you are able to help us.  
No spending money required.

### Safer Internet Day

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day and every year group spent some time thinking and discussing ways that both can and should stay safe on-line.

*Parents and carers, you play a crucial role in empowering and supporting children and young people to use digital technologies responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. Indeed, parental influence, guidance and education have a significant and long-lasting impact on children's safety and wellbeing in the online world. Therefore, there are plenty of ways for you to participate in Safer Internet Day, whether it is by ensuring an open dialogue with your children, educating them to use digital technologies safely and positively, or acting as digital role models.*

<https://www.saferinternetday.org/home>

It's not always easy to be a parent, even more so once you've capitulated and given them a phone. We deal as a school with more issues over Whatsapp and social media than anything else and these are often the most upsetting for children and parents—(children often write without thinking or understanding) (parents often don't check what their children have been writing).

My advice stays the same—don't let your children take their phones upstairs or into their bedrooms and check them daily. Better still wait until they get to secondary school to get them a phone. Surprisingly, primary school children can cope without one!

Research has uncovered the top five platforms that young people feel unsafe using (1, Roblox, 2, Snapchat, 3, Instagram, 4, TikTok, 5, Fortnite). See the link for information on these sites and advice for you to support them being used.

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/> I'll put the direct link in the body of the e-mail with the electronic newsletter—but well worth a quick read.