



We are growing our learning

St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

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We ♥ Maths

We are all writers ...



Newsletter

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A very warm welcome back to everyone following the festive break and wishing you the very best for the New Year.

A New Year a New Start

New Year resolutions play a big part in a lot of peoples' lives as they vow to do things differently—a fresh start.

The most common resolutions include: eating a healthier diet, losing weight and getting fitter. Of the people that make a resolution, 66% will have broken it within a month!

We looked at resolutions in our assemblies this week and these were the resolutions we set for the children.

- 1, Practise the things I find difficult to help me get better.
- 2, Put myself in the 'Learning Pit' as this is where I'll do my best learning.
- 3, Eat the fruit/vegetables that are in my lunch box/that Mrs Burke/Mrs Blackery serve me for school dinner
- 4, Remember my PE kit so I can take part in everything at school.
- 5, Put things away when I've used them both at home and at school.

Hopefully we won't be amongst the 66%!

PE Kit

Fairly obviously it is significantly easier for children to take part in PE when they have their PE kit in school. I do appreciate it's not everyone's favourite subject, but it is a curriculum subject and as such is compulsory for all.

It would be appreciated if all parents could make sure their children have their PE kit in school from Monday to Friday, as this then allows for some flexibility in the PE timetable.

P.E. EYFS

Plain white polo shirt.

Navy blue or black shorts. (A small motif is permissible)

Plimsolls/pumps (No trainers)

P.E. KS1 and KS2

Coloured Polo shirt, only available from the school uniform suppliers*, linked to the Team that children are allocated to.

Navy blue or black shorts. (A small motif is permissible)

Children must have trainers for P.E. and these must be a change of trainers should your child wear black trainers for school.

Dance/Gymnastics will be undertaken in bare feet.

A plain navy/black/grey track suit may be worn in the Autumn/Spring terms.

Swimming

Girls - One piece costume and swimming cap.

Boys - short shorts or trunks. Any boy with long hair will also be expected to wear a cap.

Some New Year Facts

January is named after Janus, the god with two faces, one looking forward and one looking backward. He is the god of beginnings, transitions, gates, doors, passages and endings.



Lobster and chicken are considered bad luck because lobsters can move backward and chickens can scratch in reverse, so it is thought these foods could bring a reversal of fortune.

The song traditionally sung on New Year's, "Auld Lang Syne," means "times gone by".

New Year celebrations are not new. The concept actually dates back to 2000 BC. The Mesopotamians used to celebrate New Year!

If you'd like to be among the first to welcome the New Year, then you'll want to visit the tiny Pacific island nation of Kiribati.



It's located in the world's earliest time zone, so it's always the first place on Earth to welcome a new year. As for the last place to ring in the coming year? That title belongs to American Samoa in the South Pacific Ocean.

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

Jane D. Hull

Learning Dispositions

On Tuesday, we spent the day considering and learning about Learning Dispositions. This is part of our work on Visible Learning and builds on elements we have already put in place such as being in the 'Learning Pit.'

These are the things that make us ready, willing and able to learn - to know how to learn in a range of ways and to have a sense of being in control of our own learning.

So, in effect, it is 'How' we learn and as we're all different, we all learn slightly differently or have slightly different learning dispositions.

There are lots of different Learning Dispositions. Year 5 Magnets have come up with a list of just some of them.



Diary Dates	
Wednesday 3rd January—First Day of Spring Term.	
Tuesday 9th January. Swimming lessons start for Year 4.	
Thursday 11th January. PTA Coffee Morning. 9.00a.m. at T.	
Friday 12th January. 9.00 a.m. and 2.45p.m. Year 1 Phonics Information Session for Parents. @ AF.	
Friday 9th February. Non Uniform Day (Purple) in support of Rotary Club—End Polio Now. £1.	
Monday 12th February—Friday 16th February. Half Term.	
Thursday 29th March. Last day of Spring Term	
Tuesday 17th April. First day of Summer Term	
PLEASE LOOK ON THE CALENDAR OF THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR OTHER DATES/EVENTS THIS TERM	

Reminders	
• Christmas Quiz entries need to be handed into school by Monday 8th January. A £10 voucher awaits the winner and the quiz is also on the school website.	
• <u>From Wednesday 3rd January, cash payments will no longer be taken for Breakfast Club. Parents must pay for this please by Sims Agora.</u>	



Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs... He's Behind You...

Yesterday afternoon our Year 4 children went to see the Pantomime at the Mercury Theatre. This was courtesy of our PTA who are developing their strategy for giving unique experiences to the children in our school. I'm told the children had an absolutely fantastic time...oh yes they did.

Clubs	
Clubs will start again next week. I will put specific details of clubs we are running in next week's newsletter. Any questions, in the meantime, please contact either of the school offices, who will be more than happy to help and guide you.	

The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. We can help write that story by setting goals.
Melody Beattie

Inter House Football.	
At the end of last term, our house teams competed against each other for the coveted prize of Inter House Football Champions. Having watched Colchester United on New Year's Day—our children do seem to understand the fundamental premise that to win games—you need to score goals! That aside competition was obviously intense between the teams but, I can nonetheless reveal that the results are as follows.	
1st, Temple 84. 2nd, Siege 74. 3rd, Colne 66. 4th, Abbey 65. 5th, Priority 48.	

And Finally,

I have mentioned before that I'm often beholden to my wife...Having been away for most of the break, the morning of Monday 1st January was my one opportunity to disarm the Christmas Tree, before being back at work on Tuesday—as an added complication Colchester were at home in the afternoon. Karen had gone shopping so I set to work, packing up ornaments, putting the ornaments back that we'd taken down, boxing things, labelling things etc...like a Trojan I worked. My wife's comments when I returned; Have you made the children their lunch yet? Have you hung up the washing? Have you packed their bags? Sadly the answer to each question was no, so alas my herculean efforts scored me negative points as I had failed so miserably with the other requirements. There's always next year!

Have a good Weekend

Simon Billings

Books are the bees which carry the pollen of thought from one mind to another.
James Russell Lowell (Poet.)