



We are growing  
our learning

# St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 37, Issue 12

Newsletter Date:  
Thursday 29th March 2018

We ♥  
Maths

We are all  
writers ...



## Newsletter

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Please remember that today is the last day of the Spring Term. The Summer Term starts on Tuesday 17th April.



### Olivia

Sometimes it's very difficult to put into words just how brilliantly our children have done. This week we saw our year 4 children put on their magnificent production of 'Olivia.' From their singing, to their acting, their solo performances, the scenery and the props. The whole production was quite fantastic and if you weren't able to come along, you missed a treat. Worthy of the West End.



We received the following e-mail about the performance this morning—which sums it all up very nicely.

*'Having just returned home from seeing the production this evening I felt I must write. It was simply superb! Such talent and enthusiasm and so professional! As granny to two children in the school, I have attended various productions which have all been good but this one was the best yet! What an amazing opportunity for all the children - I doubt any if them will forget taking part. Very well done to all involved. Keep up the good work!'*



So huge thanks again to everyone for your contributions and support and of course, a special well done to the Year 4 children and the staff. In total, £331.39 was donated at the productions and I will let you know after Easter, the direction the money is heading in.

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

Jane D. Hull

### Rama Navami

As well as being Easter, the end of March and beginning of April is also the time of the Hindu festival Rama Navami.

Rama Navami celebrates the birth of Lord Rama who came down to earth to stop evil in the world. Rama is the hero of the famous story the Ramayana. Rama's faithful servant was Hanuman, the monkey king, who helped rescue Rama's wife Sita. At Rama Navami, people act out parts of the Ramayana. At the mandir (temple), a murti (statue) of baby Rama is placed in a cradle.



### Diary Dates

Thursday 29th March. Last day of Spring Term

Tuesday 17th April. First day of Summer Term

Tuesday 24th April. EYFS to Castle Park

Tuesday 24th April. Year 2 to Barleylands. Beatrix Potter day.

Wednesday 25th April. Class Photographs.

Tuesday 1st—Friday 4th May. Year 4 Residential—Danbury.

Monday 14th May – Friday 18th May. Year 6 and Year 2 SATs week.

Monday 28th May—Friday 1st June. Half Term.

PLEASE LOOK ON THE CALENDAR OF THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR OTHER DATES/INFORMATION

### Colchester United

I haven't waxed lyrical about the mighty Colchester United for some time, mainly because there hasn't been much to wax lyrical about.

They did however, somehow, manage a win the other day—which will obviously be a springboard to finish the season with a flourish.

They are at home a few times over the Easter break, starting tomorrow when we host Luton Town.

It's important to be optimistic before every game, that way you can at least enter the ground on a high!

### Easter—What's in a Name?

At this time of year we can often lose sight, in amongst the plethora of chicks and chocolate as to why we celebrate Easter.

Easter is a Christian festival that celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Bible says that Christ died on the cross on a day called Good Friday, which this year falls on 30 March. Then he resurrected and came back to life on Easter Sunday. This is the most important day in the Christian calendar.

Easter is on different dates each year, between 21 March and 25 April, depending on when there's a full moon in Spring.

Many Christians will spend time at church in thought, prayer and celebration of Jesus Christ's life, and may get together with friends and family for a special meal.

There are also some more modern traditions to mark Easter which are very common - such as Easter eggs, the Easter bunny and chocolate.

### EYFS Expedition and Egg Hunt

Well maybe not an expedition in as many words but certainly an excursion. Our EYFS children were testing their legs and were being introduced to the Town site on mass this week. All good preparation for Forest Schools, which will start after Easter and their Easter Egg hunt, which they had in their Learning Garden this morning, courtesy of our PTA. So huge thanks to our PTA for organising it and well done to the children for your walking and searching.



### Easter Eggs V Easter Bunny

A lot of us may chomp on chocolate eggs at Easter, but originally eating eggs was not allowed by church leaders during the week leading up to Easter (known as Holy Week).

So any eggs laid that week were saved and decorated to make them Holy Week eggs, that were then given to children as gifts.

Victorians adapted the tradition with satin-covered cardboard eggs filled with Easter gifts.

This has now developed into the tradition that many people enjoy today.

The story of the Easter Bunny is thought to have become common in the 19th Century.

Rabbits usually give birth to a big litter of babies (called kittens), so they became a symbol of new life.



Legend has it that the Easter bunny lays, decorates and hides eggs as they are also a symbol of new life. This is why some children might enjoy Easter egg hunts as part of the festival.

It doesn't do all the work alone though! In Switzerland, Easter eggs are delivered by a cuckoo and in parts of Germany by a fox.

### Trending Hundred Show Competition

Farming is Magic! This year the 'Trending Hundred Show' would like children's designs to reflect how farming can be a 'magical' experience - for example how it puts seeds in the ground and turns them into crops and then into food for us all to eat. Or tractors using satellites to guide them, or tiny worms moving all that soil, or the farm animals giving us eggs, milk, cheese, honey, wool and the special wonder of new life on the farm! The winning design will be used as the front cover of their 2018 Show Programme.

On the welcome page of the school website in 'Links and Downloads' is the competition details and entry form. Entries can be returned directly or to the school offices by Monday 23rd April.

### Clubs

Please note there will be no clubs in the first week back after Easter apart from:

Year 2 Dance with Louise at Town on Friday 20th April

Year 5/6 Dance with Nicky at AF on Friday 20th April.

Year 2 Multi-skills with Col U at Town on Thursday 19th April.

We will send out details of new clubs after the Easter break.

### Bar Modelling Challenge

Can you answer this question using bar modelling?

Sasha, Amy and Hanna are three friends.



The sum of Amy and Hanna's age is 54 years.

The sum of all three ages is 83 years.

Amy is 21 years old.

Who is the eldest?

Answers into folder on Mrs O'Shea's door at Town and Miss Salmon's door at Abbey.

And Finally,

Many of you'll be aware that when we have visitors into school, they need to sign into the school. Unfortunately at the end of last week our signing in register for visitors at AF totally disappeared, it just wasn't there one morning! The usual suspects (including me) were collared and questioned, under caution by Mrs Taylor. Thanks to her detective skills, Mr Bromley was soon unearthed as the perpetrator. He had accidentally thrown it out with the cardboard recycling the night before. Guilty as charged according to Mrs T.

Have a good Easter Break

Simon Billings

# Free Easter Holiday Workshops

at Colchester Library, Trinity Square, Colchester, CO1 1JB



## Animation Workshop

Make your own mini movie with our art materials and animation software. Devise a story, cut out your characters and animate.

Tue 10 April, 10am to 12.30, 8 to 11yrs.

## Digital Workshops

Use scratch software to create mini games and animations, a great introduction to creative video game making.

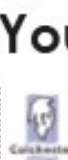
Wed 11 April, 10am to 12.30, 8 to 11yrs.  
Wed 11 April, 2pm to 4.30, 11 to 13yrs.



**signals**

To find out more or to book a place visit **[www.signals.org.uk](http://www.signals.org.uk)** or call **01206 560255** or email **[info@signals.org.uk](mailto:info@signals.org.uk)**

To take part in these free workshops you will need an Essex Library card. You can join at any library or online at [www.essex.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.essex.gov.uk/libraries). Please bring your Essex Library card with you to the workshop.



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