



We are growing
our learning

St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 46, Issue 15

Newsletter Date:
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We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...



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Please remember that today is the last day of the Autumn Term. The first day of the Spring Term is Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Our Website...Christmas!

Many of you have already discovered some of the Christmas treats that we have popped on the website over the last few days. If you haven't, just a quick summary.



- 1, It's now snowing (at least on the website).
- 2, Dominik the Donkey (A very special rendition by the EYFS staff with a very special guest appearance).
- 3, The 12 Days of Christmas, an alternative version by Year 1.

(Both Dominik and the alternative 12 days are on the 'Welcome' page of the website).

- 4, An EYFS Nativity. Each of our EYFS classes retold the Christmas Story in their own special way. These are available by going to 'Curriculum Information' and then 'Early Years Foundation Stage'.



The
Polar
Express,
Arthur
Christmas
and
Elves!

Yesterday, the school was awash with children who had simply rolled out of bed and come in without bothering to get dressed - and the same could be applied to a lot of the staff too.

What a genuinely, great day those children had with a plethora of different 'themed' activities.

The EYFS had a whole hot chocolate thing going on for their journey up to the frozen North, whilst Year 1 and Year 2 were busy designing a new jumper for Arthur as well as some reindeer for his sleigh.



I'm not sure whether the elves in Year 3 were good or naughty - although with Mrs O'Shea in charge, I would probably side closer with 'naughty'!

Father Christmas

Making a surprise guest appearance this morning and creating havoc—especially amongst the younger children was Father Christmas—who took a break from his Christmas preparations to come and say hello to all the children and drop them off a small gift. If the children weren't high enough when they arrived in school this morning in their Christmas garb—they certainly were by the time Father Christmas left! He even popped in to see me—I can still hear the bells you know!

Huge thanks to the PTA, who via their special connections arranged this for the children.



Attendance

A huge well done and thank you to all parents for your commitment in ensuring your children have been in school this term, in which has I know, been very trying times. Absences for Coronavirus are not included as absences, as in these instances, children are deemed to have been in school. These figures also do not include attendance for this week. In descending order then:

Garrison 99%, Mercury 98.7%, Icen 98.7%

Oysters 97.5%, Trinovantes 97.3%, Paxman 97.2%, Romans 97.2%, Claudius 97.2%, Cymbeline 97%, Roses 96.3%, Lathes 96.3%, Dutch 96.2%, Circus 96.1%, Magnets 95.9%, Star 95.8%, Castle 95.6%, Chariot 94.6%, Cavalier 94.6%, Jumbo 94%, Eagles 93.7%, Raedwald 93.3%

So really well done classes Garrison, Mercury and Icen.

For those classes languishing at the wrong end of the table—A big effort next term, to up that % mark and be in school every day. I cannot stress how important it is that children attend school every day.

"Practice isn't the thing you do once you're good. It's the thing you do that makes you good." - Malcolm Gladwell

YOUR CHILD WILL FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE, NOT YOUR ADVICE.

Coronavirus

One of the e-mails that we were asked to forward this week, was less than helpful, so I thought it might be useful to clarify as it currently stands.

- Schools have been asked to keep their channels of communication open with parents over the Christmas Break. In short this means that if one of the children test positive for Coronavirus going forward it is important that you let us know by e-mail at admin@st-johnsgreen.essex.sch.uk (please include in this information, the child's name and their class, when their symptoms started as well as an image of the confirmation text from Track and Trace).

- The school will then contact PHE through Essex CC and if necessary, notify other parents that there has been a positive case and that families must Self Isolate.

- The requirement for Self Isolation is currently 10 days but the amount of time families are asked to Self Isolate for does vary depending on the time gap between the onset of symptoms and the positive test.

- If we do need to contact parents we will notify you by text and e-mail.

- If you have not heard from the school by Christmas Eve, you can breathe a sigh of relief. This is because any positive test confirmed after this date is deemed not to affect the class bubble but only the family (and any contacts they have had).

If any family has a positive test after Christmas, please notify us by e-mail including the date of when your Self Isolation comes to an end.

Hopefully, for the immediate future that clarifies everything, however, trying to keep up with the news at the moment is an impossible task and the Government seem to be making random decisions all over the place.

At the present time, our understanding is that Primary Schools will return as stated (for us on the 5th January) for all children. If that changes over the next few days, then we will notify you by text and e-mail.

However, please don't rely on the news for information. School's responses come after they have been advised by county, who are privy to more information than we are told on the news—this means that there could be a delay of a few days between a news item and schools contacting parents.

In short I'd say this, please try not to overthink or over worry about it. This will be a classic case of no news is good news as far as Self Isolation and school opening is concerned.

What I would also say is this. Have a very good Christmas and I wish you the very best for the New Year. See you in January.

Thank you to everyone for your donations today for the different local Charities we've been supporting as part of our 'Christmassy Day'. Totals so far are:

EYFS (Home Start Colchester £83), Yr 1 (Children's Liver Foundation £68), Year 2 (Colchester Zoo £81), Year 3 (Youth Enquiry Service £70), Year 4 (Refugee Action Colchester £76), Year 5 (Help for Edward £143), Year 6 (St Helena Hospice £94)

Christmas Quiz

On Page 2 of the newsletter is the annual Christmas Quiz. 50 questions designed to alleviate the monotony of television, if only for a few hours.

As always, I have sent it to my father, who despite numerous efforts, has still not managed yet to attain 100%

Maybe this will be his year!

May the best of your
todays,
Be the worst of your
tomorrows.

And Finally

Many thanks for all your well wishes to the staff over the last few weeks, as well as the cards, gifts and thank you notes you've sent. It is very much appreciated by everyone. I wish you all the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

Have a good Christmas Break

Simon Billings

Christmas Quiz 2020

(After all you can't watch the TV all of the time!)

- 1, Which book tells the story of a pig named Wilbur and his friendship with a spider?
- 2, There are three countries beginning with the letter 'F', can you name them?
- 3, Who does Princess Fiona fall in love with?
- 4, What is the main diet of the mole?
- 5, What is the collective noun for a group of Rhino?
- 6, Who wrote Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Puss in Boots and The Sleeping Beauty?
- 7, Anthony Daniels has portrayed which character in all nine Star Wars films?
- 8, Which toy was the first to be advertised on television and made appearances in the Toy Story films?
- 9, Name the capital city of Canada?
- 10, In the 2011 animated film 'Arthur Christmas', Santa's high-tech ship has failed to deliver one girl's present. What sort of present is this?
- 11, Which British monarch delivered the first ever Christmas message?
- 12, In Will Ferrell's Elf, what is the first rule in the Code of The Elves?
- 13, In 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone', what do the Dursley's give Harry for Christmas?
- 14, Who was crowned King of England on Christmas day in 1066?
- 15, Traditionally, which way should mincemeat be stirred to bring good luck?
- 16, Which British actor will play Batman in the upcoming reboot directed by Matt Reeves?
- 17, What number is found in reference to their varieties on Heinz products?
- 18, If you completed the 'Three Peaks' challenge, which three UK mountains would you have climbed?
- 19, How many notes are there in a musical scale?
- 20, Who is 'The Special' in The Lego Movie?
- 21, Name all five Bronte sisters?
- 22, How many hearts does an octopus have?
- 23, What is the home planet of the Slitheen, and how – exactly – do you spell it?
- 24, What does the licence plate on the DeLorean say in Back to the Future?
- 25, Pedro Pascal stars as the lead character in which original Disney+ series?
- 26, What is Homer's catchphrase?
- 27, Film anagram – 'think legion'?
- 28, What is the official name of Big Ben?
- 29, Which Disney Princess called Gus and Jaq friends?
- 30, How many bones are there in the average adult human body?
- 31, What did the Romans call Scotland?
- 32, In tennis, what piece of fruit is found at the top of the men's Wimbledon trophy?
- 33, Which nuts are used in Marzipan?
- 34, American singer Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta is best known by what stage name?
- 35, 2020, according to the Chinese zodiac, was the year of which animal?
- 36, Which fitness guru and known as 'The Body Coach' became very popular during the lockdown of 2020?
- 37, What is a baby elephant called?
- 38, What country won the very first FIFA World Cup in 1930?
- 39, What does HTTP stand for?
- 40, What is Hawkeye's real name??
- 41, On Saturday 18th June 1815, which famous battle took place?
- 42, What did the 'Three Little Kittens' lose?
- 43, What is the doll, Barbie's, full name?
- 44, Can you name the six suspects in the board game Cluedo?
- 45, Which Christmas themed ballet premiered in St Petersburg, Russia in 1892?
- 46, What group with a palindromic name had a hit single that was also a palindrome?
- 47, What colour are the seats in the House of Lords?
- 48, How many counties are there in the UK?
- 49, Kerberos, a gigantic three headed hound, is said to guard whose gates?
- 50, Which famous playwright was frightened of Christmas?