



We are growing  
our learning



# St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 55, Issue 6

Newsletter Date:  
Friday 13th October 2023

We we are all  
Maths writers ...



## Newsletter

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



### Full Governing Body Meeting 11/10/2023

The Governing body met for our second meeting of the term on the 11/10/23. Very unusually we have parent Governor vacancy and we will be looking for somebody to join us in the coming weeks so we ask parents to look for this information which has already been sent out.

We started the meeting by scrutinising the Safeguarding report and satisfied ourselves that all our staff continue to be appropriately trained with robust systems in place should an issue arise. As is per usual we also received a staffing and pupil update which includes forecasts for the future as well as the current situation. We received a very thorough finance update from our Business Manager and are happy that whilst the funding for schools is very tight we manage well with what we have allocated to us.

We have a very exciting update from Mrs Skinner about a new history club that will run from November 2nd to December 14th. The school has also appointed a group of History Ambassadors and some Working Group Historians who will be championing the One Square Mile Project and enthusiastically leading on all things history within the school. Our teachers also continue to be supported by local artist Nicola Burrell and we are looking forward to a school art/ history exhibition in the coming months.

We were pleased to hear that our School Council and Unicef Ambassadors are in place and that they are being active in putting their great ideas forward as to how we can improve things in the school from a pupil perspective.

The governors that have been in to visit the school since our last meeting gave us a report back on their visits and it was good to hear how impressed they were with what they observed in the school. You should be very proud of your children!

And lastly, thank you to the PTA who have approved £3000 from money fundraised to be spent on new play equipment for the newly cleared play area at our town site. This money comes from all the support that the school community gives to the great PTA events so big round of applause to everyone involved!

*Elisa Vasquez Walters*

### Scooters and Bikes

Please could I remind parents that scooters and bikes should be being locked—even when put in the storage. We have had both taken in the past.

If cycling/scootering from AF to T—please encourage your children not to see how fast they can speed into the T site at the front of the school. We have had a few near misses—especially when the playgroup children are wandering!

### Awards

STAR— Mia (MM), CHARIOT— Woody (MM), JUMBO— Arthur (RREX).

EAGLES— Charlie (RREX), ROSES— Scarlett (MM), CIRCUS— Sophie (MM).

MERCURY— Antonio (MM), CLAUDIUS— Archie (RREX), ROMANS— Ava (RREX).

DUTCH— Annabelle (RREX), ICENI— Felipe (MM), PAXMAN— Maya (CC).

CASTLE— Izzy & Alan (CC), GARRISON— Elsie (MM), CAVALIER— Annabel (CC).

OYSTERS— William (RROX), RAEDWALD— Kane (RROX), MAGNETS— Lola (MM).

TRINOVANTES— Oscar (MLM), CYMBELINE— Albert (MLM), LATHES— Lianna (MLM).

ATTENDANCE— Romans

### Curriculum Letters

All classes have sent out this week copies of their Curriculum Letters.

These detail the different subjects and areas that the children will be learning about this term—just in case, from leaving the classroom to arriving with you at the end of the day, your children have forgotten.

These can also be found on the school website, under Curriculum Information.

[https://st-johns-green.eschools.co.uk/website/our\\_curriculum/288651](https://st-johns-green.eschools.co.uk/website/our_curriculum/288651)

### Informal Parents Evening

The EYFS Informal parents Evening will be on Tuesday 17th October from 3.00p.m.—5.00p.m. at AF.

For Children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6—the Informal Parents Evening will be on Wednesday 18th October from 5.00p.m.—7.00p.m. @ AF & T

This is a chance for parents to come and talk informally with class teachers and staff and have a look at the work that children have completed in their books so far this term.

### Kingswood & Danbury

We have now held both our Information Meetings for Kingswood (Current Year 5 children) and Danbury (Current Year 4 children)

The deposits needed are as follows:

Danbury—£50 by 20/10/2023

Kingswood—£70 by 1/12/2023

Please pay little and often rather than thinking about it in big chunks of money and if possible pay online using—SchoolComms.

However, if you'd rather pay by cash—then that is fine too.



### Reading

As mentioned last week, please keep reading with your children each night and logging those reads on BoomReader—it will make such a difference.

With the electronic copy of the newsletter, we have sent out some reading guides for parents.

Also just to clarify, as a school, we will not be keeping children in who have not completed their 5 reads.

FGB Meeting	1
Informal Parents Evening	1
Kingswood/Danbury	1
Reading	1
Just One Tree	1
One Square Mile	2

### Term Dates

Monday 23rd October—Friday 27th October—Half Term  
Monday 30th October—Non Pupil Day—the School is Closed  
Wednesday 20th December—Last Day of Autumn Term  
Thursday 4th January—First Day of Spring Term

### Diary Dates

Tuesday 17th October—Individual Child Photographs @ T  
**Tuesday 17th October. Informal Parents Evening for EYFS parents. 3.00p.m.—5.00p.m. @ AF**  
Wednesday 18th October @ AF & T—Informal Parents Evening. 5.00p.m.—7.00p.m. for Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.  
Friday 20th October—Individual Child Photographs @ AF.  
Saturday 21st October 'Walk a Mile to End Polio' 12.00p.m.—2.00p.m. (Meet at Museum Street Gate).  
Thursday 2nd November—EYFS Parent Information Phonic Session—9.00a.m. @ AF.  
Saturday 2nd December. PTA Christmas Fair @ AF. 12.00-2.00p.m.

Please keep your eye on the school's website calendar for other dates/information.

The **Big** Question for the Autumn Term Assessment Period — Where are my Roots?

Our Jigsaw Theme for this Half Term—Being Me in My World.

### 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 of parents to guide their child as they grow up.

### Breakfast Club Parking

AF—Please could I remind parents not to use the school car park at AF when dropping off their children for Breakfast Club. Please park at the front of the school and walk down the path.

T—Ideally please park at the front of the school and walk round.

At both AF & T, staff are arriving and we do not want children walking across the car parks. Many thanks.

### Individual Child Photographs

Please remember that these are next week.

Tuesday 17th October for children @ T

Friday 20th October for children @ AF.

### CHILDREN MUST COME TO SCHOOL DRESSED IN THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM -

If children normally do an after school club on either of these days they should bring their sports clothes to change into.

On photograph days children **WILL NOT** need their PE kit.

Parents who would like photographs of all siblings together can do this after school on Tuesday @ the T site, or after school on Friday at the AF site.

### Just One Tree

Thank you so much for your £1 in support of Just One Tree. Trees are referred to as the lungs of the planet and for good reason. They filter our air, removing harmful pollutants such as carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. In return, they replenish the atmosphere with oxygen for us to breathe.

A mature tree can produce enough oxygen in a season for ten people to inhale in a year.

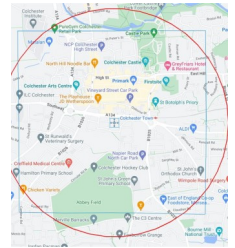
<https://www.justonetree.life/>



Assembly Theme for WB: 16/10/2023—Our Learning Powers and the Learning Pit



# HISTORY ON OUR DOOR-STEP... ONE SQUARE MILE.



## St John's Abbey Gate

### Did you Know?

- St John's Abbey, also called Colchester Abbey, was a Benedictine monastic institution in Colchester, Essex, founded in 1095 .
- The only substantial remnant is the elaborate gatehouse, while the foundations of the abbey church were only rediscovered in 2010.
- The abbey suffered a disaster in its early years, when a large fire in 1133, which burned much of Colchester, severely affected the monastery.
- Following the Tudor victory in the Wars of the Roses King Henry VII appears to have viewed the abbey with suspicion, although he stayed there during his visit to Colchester. Catherine of Aragon also stayed at the abbey during her visit to the town in 1515. Following Henry VIII's divorce of Catherine, he began the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536.
- St John's was one of a handful of abbeys that refused to surrender to Henry VIII's Commissioners during the Suppression, succumbing only after the execution of the abbot for treason.
- The property was eventually acquired by the Lucas family who converted some of the abbey buildings into a house. It remained their family seat until the mid-17th century, but it suffered considerable damage as a Royalist stronghold during the siege of Colchester in 1648. The gatehouse itself was stormed by Parliamentary troops and their artillery damaged the vaulted roof and destroyed part of the upper storey.
- The site was used to house Dutch prisoners in the 1660s, after which the remaining abbey buildings appear to have been demolished; there are no references to occupation after the mid-18th century.
- The Abbey Gate is about 100 meters from the school's Town site.

