



We are growing
our learning

St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

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Newsletter Date:
Friday 16th April 2021

We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...



Newsletter

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Ramadam

Ramadam is the Arabic name for the 9th month of the Islamic calendar, it is considered one of the holiest of months and is also one of the five pillars of Islam, which form the basis of how Muslims live their lives.

Many of our school community are partaking in Ramadam including some of the older children in the school.

During Ramadam, which started on the evening of Monday 12th April, Muslims fast—abstaining from food and drink between the hours of sunrise and sunset.

The act of fasting allows the individual to understand the pain and suffering of millions around the world who live their lives in poverty and famine. It is also a means of worship and feeling a deeper connection with Allah.

This is now the second year running when Ramadam has fallen during the pandemic and means that many of the traditions associated with Ramadam including the 'Iftar' meal which is taken after sunset normally with friends and family, can not take place as they normally would.

So to our Muslim Community—I wish you Ramadam Mubarak.

Non Uniform Day

A Non Uniform day has been agreed as a reward for those children who completed the Book Bingo challenge in AP1 & AP2. Please remember it is only for these children everyone else, including myself, must wear their school uniform as normal.

These children will all be receiving a separate letter from the class teacher. The confirmed day is Wednesday 21st April. If your child has not received a letter—then they must wear school uniform.

**Wel-
come
Back to
every-
one to
the
start of
the
Summer
Term.**

Ramadam	1
Non Uniform Day	1
Forest Schools	1
Water Bottles	1
Mini Bubbles/Playground	1
Term Dates	1



Term Dates

Summer Term: Monday 12th April—Friday 16th July 2021

Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May

Summer Half Term—Monday 31st May—Friday 4th June 2021

Autumn Term Starts—Thursday 2nd September 2021

Forest Schools

Children in Year 3 class Dutch and all EYFS children will be starting Forest Schools next week at our new FS area at our AF site.

A letter to those children is coming out today—please make sure you unearth it from where ever your children hide such things.

Water Bottles

Please could I remind all parents (especially now that shops are open), it is really important that all children are bringing their own water bottle into school every day.

It's so important that children drink regularly throughout the day and this is so much easier for them if they have their own water bottle on their desk.

Mini Bubbles and Playground Interaction

As the country comes out of lockdown, the school is keen to manage the changes for the children and you, yourselves as parents, in the most pro-active way that we're able, whilst at the same time maintaining the guidance from the government.

To that end, I have spoken with some Headteacher colleagues this week to garner some of their approaches and how they implemented them.

Mini Bubbles

From Monday 26th April, for children in Years 3/4/5/6, we will set the children up in the classrooms in small contact groups numbering no more than 6 children. These mini bubbles will be the children's immediate contacts and they will also sit with these mini bubbles when they have their lunch. With the changes in the weather and an increased warmth in the air, it means that we are able to keep classroom windows and doors open wider to aid the internal ventilation.

This will mean that if we have a confirmed case of Coronavirus in Years 3/4/5/6—then it will only be the 'mini bubble' that needs to self isolate as opposed to the whole class. This will only take place in school from Monday 26th April.

We cannot facilitate this approach for our Year 2 children as the classrooms are too small and it is in no way suitable for children in EYFS and Year 1—so for these three year groups, if we have a confirmed case—the class will still need to self isolate.

Playground Interaction

We are very aware that the changes in class set up has affected some of our children and their ability to play with children who they may have played with prior to lockdown. The easing of restrictions and social interaction outside and the Government's new maxim—which now includes 'fresh air' means that if we follow the guidance for 'contacts', we can ease some of our restrictions in school.

From Monday 26th April, children in Year 2/3/4/5/6 will be able to utilise all the outside play areas when they have their lunchtime. This means that rather than being assigned a specific area to play in, children in the above year groups will be able to play anywhere and with anyone from their year group they choose.

One Year group only will be outside at any time.

The guidance on close contact is very clear from the Government so we will be spending time next week working with the children on how they can play in order for us to be able to facilitate it. I will let you know in next week's newsletter exactly what we have been teaching the children—although if you can extract any information from them about their school day—hopefully as the week progresses they will be able to tell you.

Once we are happy with the way children are playing at lunchtime—we will extend this to break time as well.

At the moment, we do not feel we are able to extend this to children in EYFS and Year 1 as our youngest children are, by their very nature, very tactile in their play—and quite rightly.

The school's long term plan does include extending the above for Year 1 children and also the broadening of lunchtimes to include children being able to play as a phase. However, one thing at a time and whilst we think the above is a really positive step for the children, the school must still proceed with caution and be aware that despite the fact Coronavirus cases are falling significantly and the Government's vaccination plan has been successful, Coronavirus is still out there and has affected all of us in some way or another.

Awards

- Year 6 (Mrs Rayner) - Talia (CC)
- Year 6 (Mrs Wall) - Olivia (MLM)
- Year 6 (Mrs Smith) - Shajun (MLM)
- Year 5 (Mrs Rowe) - Fraser (MM)
- Year 5 (Miss Kerr) - Madison (CC)
- Year 5 (Miss Stockwell) - Callum (RREX)
- Year 4 (Miss Salmon) - Sofia (RREX)
- Year 4 (Mr Rudge/Mrs Hancock) - Talisa (MM)
- Year 4 (Miss Mitchell) - Nisaam (MLM)
- Year 3 (Mr Eves) - Sophia (RREX)
- Year 3 (Mrs O'Shea) - Ava (MLM)
- Year 3 (Miss Aston) - Macie (CC)
- Year 2 (Miss Wizenfeld) - Alexa (MM)
- Year 2 (Miss Pickard) - Samaa (MM)
- Year 2 (Mrs Kibbler) - Ioana (MLM)
- Year 1 (Miss Wiggins) - Alina (RROX)
- Year 1 (Mrs Scotting) - Amelia (MLM)
- Year 1 (Miss Roberts) - Noman (MM)
- EYFS (Mrs Correia) - Annabelle (RREX)
- EYFS (Miss Cook) - Avaiah (MLM)
- EYFS (Mrs Palmer) - Jackson (MM)
- HUB— Oliver (MM)
- Attendance—Castle and Lathes

And Finally,

The etymology behind the word "April" comes from the verb "aperire," which means "to open." It's commonly believed that the word refers to the season of trees and flowers beginning to "open" or bloom. April is a great month for meteor showers. One of which is the Lyrids meteor shower, which appears from April 16th to April 26th each year. There's another one called the Eta Aquariids meteor shower that can be seen onwards from April 21st. The average temperature for April is 9 degrees—last year we were just spoilt.

Have a good Weekend - Simon Billings

YOUR CHILD WILL
FOLLOW YOUR
EXAMPLE, NOT
YOUR ADVICE.