



We are growing  
our learning

# St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

We ♥  
Maths

We are all  
writers ...



## Newsletter

School Number: 01206 762884 e-mail: [admin@st-johnsgreen.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-johnsgreen.essex.sch.uk)

School Mobile Number: 07806940013 Website: [st-johns-green.eschools.co.uk](http://st-johns-green.eschools.co.uk)

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Newsletter Date:  
Friday 9th November 2018

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### RE Week

The focus of our RE week was the Hindu celebration of Diwali. The celebration focusses on the story of Rama and Sita and how Diya lamps were lit to show them the way home. In school, children have been doing a variety of things depending on their year group and these have included: designing mehndi patterns, dressing up, dance workshops, Diwali cards etc.

'A prince called Rama, fell in love with a beautiful princess called Sita, Rama and Sita got married. They had been banished to live in the forest with his brother, Lakshman, by his stepmother, as she wanted her son to be King.

Ravana, the Demon king with ten heads, heard of Sita's beauty and goodness and planned to kidnap her.

Rama and Lakshman searched many months for Sita. Finally, they asked Hanuman, king of the monkey army, for help. Hanuman could fly.

He found Sita imprisoned on the island of Lanka. Hanuman, Rama and Lakshman prepared themselves for battle. Rama shot Ravana and the battle was won.

Rama rescued Sita and they decided to go home. As it got dark, the people of the kingdom put out little oil lamps (diyas) in their windows to show the way home.

It seemed as though there were more lamps than stars in the sky.



We also of course, held our Shared Supper yesterday and it was fantastic to see so many people there, just sharing and talking and enjoying other people's company and culinary brilliance and the talents of the CO-OP. All very welcome and judging by the amount of food left—all very nice. Thank you to everyone who was able to come.

### Visible Learning —The Language of Learning (Learning Powers)

From next week, our weekly awards will be changing slightly and the certificates that your child brings home from our Friday assembly will be based on the Learning Power that they have demonstrated so brilliantly that week. Look out then for...Collaborating Carlos, Making Links Mollie, Motivating Melinda, Resilience Rex and Reflecting Roxy.



**Collaborating Carlos**  
Work well together; support each other



**Making Links Mollie**  
Make connections across all areas of your learning.



**Resilience Rex**  
Keep going even when it's hard; never give up.



**Reflecting Roxy**  
Learn from experience; build on your learning.

### Achieving Early Learning Goals—Rainbow Challenge.

Many thanks to all the EYFS parents who were able to pop along this morning to learn a bit more about the Early Learning Goals and rainbow Challenges.

This information is now on the school website—Curriculum Information—Foundation Stage.

### Assembly Theme for Next Week:

Know how to help if someone is being bullied.

### The 'Right' we will be focusing on after Half Term is Article 28:

You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.

### The Big Issue Christmas Cover Competition.

The Big Issue's annual competition to design one of their festive magazine covers is now open.

This year, as issues around homelessness and child migration - particularly into Britain - grip, they are asking for entries around the theme of WELCOME. We know the young artists will come up with ideas that will knock their socks off. Their deadline is November 28. Don't delay. Create Christmas cheer - AND history.

<https://www.bigissue.com/competitions/the-big-issue-kids-christmas-cover-competition-is-back/>

### Children's University

As a school, we are actively involved with the Children's University programme. The Children's University is a registered charity, whereby every child from the ages of 7 -14 years old (and 5 and 6 year olds with their families) can study. Children receive a 'Passport to Learning' and they are celebrated and rewarded for their learning achievements outside of the normal school day. The children gain stamps in their personal passports from the learning destinations (clubs, visits to educational places, etc.) and they then attend a graduation after they have achieved certain numbers of learning hours. This programme is available to all of our children and it really is a way to raise aspirations and ambition in our children. If you have any questions, please come and see Mrs Skinner.



### Poppies

As next week is our History week and we will be focusing on remembering 100 years since the end of the First World War, we will continue selling poppies at both our sites, with children carrying out the morning and afternoon collection duties. Please could I suggest a minimum donation of 50p for a poppy.

We will also still have the tray of additional poppy related goodies on sale from both our school offices. If you are interested in any of these items, they can be purchased directly from the School Office.



### Awards

Year 6 (Trinovantes) - Katherine Thompson  
Year 6 (Cymbeline) - Harry Clarke  
Year 5 (Oysters) - Zahrah Hasanally  
Year 5 (Magnets) - Sevede Sevil  
Year 4 (Castle) - Jude Thurston  
Year 4 (Cavalier) - Aman Fatima  
Year 4 (Garrison) - Aden Read  
Year 3 (Dutch) - Stanley Piper  
Year 3 (Iceni) - Violet Rose  
Year 3 (Paxman) - Alex Zhou  
Year 2 (Mercury) - George Phillips  
Year 2 (Claudius) - Esme-Rose Beer  
Year 2 (Romans) - Lucas Beswick  
Year 1 (Eagles) - Alicia Hughes Flores  
Year 1 (Circus) - Phoebe Randall  
Year 1 (Roses) - Igor Gazda  
Foundation (Chariot) - Salma Aziz  
Foundation (Star) - Freya Calloo  
Foundation (Jumbo) - Chineye Onyekwere  
Heads' Award — Mrs Shah, Mrs Mishra, Mrs Singh and Mrs Kedarnath—for all your help and support for RE week.  
Attendance — Star

### Sponsored Walk

The total raised is now up to £3500 from our sponsored walk. If there's still some sponsor money lurking around anywhere please could it be dropped in at school as soon as possible. Many thanks.

One of the stunning entries from our competition last week.



### Newsletter Challenge—Learning Pit, Learning Powers

A slightly different challenge for this Half Term and a challenge for both parents and children to do together.

Each week, we will set a challenge that is a little tricky to solve, putting people firmly in the Learning Pit. You'll need to use, some if not all of our Learning Dispositions to solve the challenge—with the solution obviously being sent into school.

Good Luck

**Motivation** - be keen to succeed; try your best

**Reflection** - learn from experience; build on your learning

**Collaboration** - work well together; support each other

**Make Links** - make connections across all areas of your learning

**Resilience** - keep going even when it's hard; never give up

**This weeks Challenge has been set by Jack Savage in Year 4.**

**You need to draw your favourite character from the Diwali story and explain why it's your favourite character.**

Drawings can be sent in by e-mail via [admin@st-johnsgreen.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-johnsgreen.essex.sch.uk) or pop your efforts in the folder outside Miss Gamman's door at AF and Mrs O'Shea's door at T.

And Finally,

As we think about Remembrance next week as part of our History week, some of staff have been trawling through the school's old log books. This entry was found by Mrs Cottham and is a poignant reminder of the history of our school and of how 99 years ago, children were remembering the same things.

Nov 11th 1919. 'At 11 o'clock this morning the whole school assembled to commemorate Armistice Day. All remained perfectly still when the siren sounded and after a moment of silence a special prayer was offered. The children then sang the national anthem and returned to their classrooms.'

Have a good weekend

Simon Billings

Children are  
NOT  
a distraction from more  
important work.  
They are  
THE MOST  
important work.

C.S. Lewis

# We're making our own Christmas Cards



This year our school children will be creating their own personalised Christmas Card designs. If your child had designed their own card before half term, ordering instructions and sample cards have now been distributed. Orders and payments must be received at the latest Friday 16th November.

