

THE RED SWEATER LETTER

A newsletter from St. John's Middle School



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Message from Head of School

By Mrs A. Elwell

The Summer Term at St John's Middle has started at quite a pace. The enrichment programme is in full swing with a trip to the Black Country museum supporting the Year 8 History curriculum, entry into the Maths challenge for Key Stage 3 Mathematicians and the launch of our Summer Term extracurricular club timetable. This includes a varied and extensive menu of activities including STEM, Photography, Book Club, Drama, French and a vast array of sporting activities. Two new clubs have made their debut this term, Quidditch and Archaeology, so much for the children to choose from! If this wasn't enough our residential trips are back up and running, with a trip to Oakerwood and Arete departing within the next few weeks. Of course none of this could happen without the hard work and commitment of the staff, who give up their time to organise and supervise these activities.

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cont ...

This week the Year 6 SATS have taken place and every morning St John's has been a hive of activity to help prepare the pupils for the day ahead. It was lovely to see so many children attend before school for toast, yoga and sporting warm-ups. We are very proud of how the Year 6 Children coped with their busy week, they showed resilience and a real determination to 'Give of their Best'.

There is still much to look forward to in this short half term with our planned Jubilee celebrations bringing the Half Term to a close. We look forward to seeing the school decked out in red, white and blue and the children participating in a day of celebrations. Fingers crossed for some dry and sunny weather.

Collective Worship

By Miss C. Russell

'Good people are guided by their honesty, but crooks who lie and cheat will ruin themselves.' Proverbs 11:3

This term we are continuing the celebration of the Easter season as we explore our value of integrity. We have considered the importance of truthfulness, honesty, courage, responsibility and humility ("True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less." — C.S. Lewis), and what it means to be people of integrity, even when no one is around to see what we are doing, or what we choose. This week we have been considering the story of the infant Moses, hidden in the bullrushes to preserve his life, after Pharaoh had ordered all the male Hebrew babies born to be killed; and found and raised by Pharaoh's daughter. We will go onto look at how Moses grew into his role as Prophet and Leader of the people of Israel, despite being afraid and feeling that he was not good enough to do what God was asking of him; nevertheless, he persevered and ended up leading his people to freedom through the Red Sea.

As we move from Easter towards ascension and then Pentecost, we will be joining in with the Church of England's 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer initiative, which this year takes place between 26th May and 2nd June. If you too would like to add a star to light up the world, more information can be found [here](#).

Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.

This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.

The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release

Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.
Whose mother tongue is Love in every nation.

- Malcolm Guite



Attendance & Epraise points

Class	epraise Points	Attendance
5KLH	19339	97.2%
5SW	18753	97.8%
5CGO	19053	98%
5MJ	19974	97.9%
5CW	19743	95.3%
5AKE	19760	97.3%
6LF	20302	97.7%
6GM	17821	98.8%
6KD	18029	96.8%
6BC	18176	97.7%
6RSE	17940	97.9%
7WW	15588	95.1%
7PM	18043	95.2%
7MMO	16518	95.8%
7ALK	17237	95.7%
7MH	16063	96.5%
7JD	15737	98.1%
8JCD	17225	94.8%
8NGE	17689	93.8%
8MF	15646	95.4%
8KLN	15725	94.2%
8MC	16554	97.8%
8CSS	15254	93.7%

House Points

STUART - 104,735

TUDOR - 99,500

WINDSOR - 101,069

HANOVER - 99,332-

White chocolate cookies



Method

STEP 1

Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4 and line two large baking sheets with baking parchment. Beat the butter and sugars together in a large bowl using an electric whisk, or in a stand mixer until just combined. Crack in the egg and beat again. Stir through the vanilla, flour, bicarb, chocolate chunks and ¼ tsp fine sea salt.

STEP 2

Roll the mixture into 10 even-sized balls between the palms of your hands. Arrange over the prepared baking sheets and bake for 10-12 mins until golden brown at the edges. Leave to cool slightly on the sheets, then transfer to a wire rack and leave to cool completely, or eat warm with ice cream.

Ingredients

- 120g unsalted butter, softened
- 85g light brown soft sugar
- 65g golden caster sugar
- 1 medium egg
- 1 tsp vanilla bean paste
- 180g plain flour
- ½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 180g white chocolate, broken into chunks

Heads of Year Message

By Mrs C. Hirons - Head of Year 6

Unbelievably we are two thirds of the way through the academic year and with the National Curriculum tests this week, our Year 6 pupils have really had to 'Give of their Best!' It is such a pleasure to see our pupils so focussed and determined to succeed. This year we have been able to offer many of our pupil's extra support not only through our day to day lessons but also through interventions, booster clubs and peer to peer mentoring. We have also provided free toast and exercise sessions to all of our Year 6 pupils each morning and I would like to thank the staff and pupils involved for their help in providing these opportunities but also to the rest of the school for showing Love and Perseverance when faced with a vey different week in school.

Since the beginning of this academic year our pupils have achieved over 400,00 points to date with 6LF leading the way for Year 6 as top of the school. Currently Stuart take the lead in our houses but with Windsor chasing close behind it's difficult to know who the champions will be. The challenge now is for pupils to acquire enough points to take part in 'Fun Fest 2022' which will be bigger and better than ever! We also have many rewards available through our epraise shop for those pupils who have excess points to spend.

As the weather continues to surprise us, please can I ask you to ensure that pupils are prepared for the unexpected. Some days may require a sun hat and sun cream but the next day no doubt a waterproof will be required, however, pupils will always need to come to school with a filled water bottle, healthy snacks and the essential equipment needed for school. Please can you check that your child's belongings are clearly named as we have an ever-increasing amount of lost property that we would like to be able to return to pupils as we know the cost of replacing these can be significant. Although the weather is warmer, pupils do need to continue to wear full school uniform including their tie and PE kit on their P.E day or if they attend a sport related after school club. Please can you also remind your child that we have a strict policy regarding the use of mobile phones in school and this must be adhered to.

So, all that remains is to thank you for your support in helping your child and our pupils 'Give of their best'.



*BE A
RAINBOW
IN
SOMEONE
ELSE'S
CLOUD*



Black Country Living Museum

By Isla Moore and Isabelle Cox 8NGE

On Friday 29th April Year 8 pupils were given the opportunity to visit the Black Country Living Museum. During the day, we experienced the lives and jobs of people living in one of the first industrialised landscapes in Britain. At the beginning of the trip, each group were paired with a tour guide - acting a historical character. Throughout the day we toured around the museums site viewing the many historical areas, including: the reconstructed shops (some of which we were able to explore and buy from) houses, the steam engine, mine demonstrations and activities as well as a Victorian school experience. One of our favourites was the live chain making and playing the old-fashioned street games.

Don't forget to order your
LEAVERS HOODIES!

CLASS OF 2022

Our login details are as follows:

USERNAME: SL58713

PASSWORD: 58713stjohn

All orders must be in before 28th May 2022 without exception.

We would like to see as many Year 8's as possible wearing their leaver Hoodies to the end of year celebrations!!



Junior Maths Challenge Results

By Miss K. North - Assistant Head of Maths

This year, 109 of our fabulous mathematicians across Year 7 and Year 8 were invited to take part in the Junior Maths Challenge. This challenge is designed to encourage mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. Most problems are accessible, yet still challenge those with more experience.

Whilst all pupils receive a participation award for taking part, we were thrilled to have pupils achieve Bronze, Silver, Gold and even Kangaroo (qualification into an extra round) awards! Here is a breakdown of the results:

	THRESHOLD	NUMBER OF PUPILS	PERCENTAGE
PARTICIPATION	0	42	39
BRONZE	52	34	31
SILVER	66	23	21
GOLD	84	3	3
KANGAROO	92	7	6
OLYMPIAD	120	0	0

A huge congratulations to the following pupils who will be competing in the Kangaroo round on Tuesday 14th June:

Liam Parish, Alistair Cox, Kaitlyn Tiffany, Jacob Venn, Heidi Godwin, Kayla Edwards and Callum Hilton.

“The JMC is a brilliant experience as it challenges every mathematician to the limit. It also combines every aspect of the subject to produce a truly unique experience. I have done the challenge for the past two years – I love it because no matter how well you do you always get a participation certificate for having a go and giving of your best!” – Freddie Smart

“When we did the maths challenge I found some of the questions easier than the ones we practised in class and at Elite Maths club with Miss North. Some of the questions were more logic than calculating which I liked. I enjoyed the challenge because it was something different to what we normally do and really tested my brain!” – Lily Smart

Can you solve these questions from the maths challenge...?

How many squares of any size can be seen in the diagram?

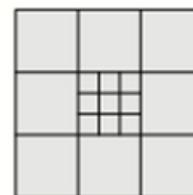
A 25

B 27

C 28

D 39

E 40



See next page for more ...

During a particularly troublesome lesson, the following conversation occurs:

Pam: "I always tell the truth."

Quentin: "Pam is lying."

Roger: "Both Pam and Quentin are lying."

Susan: "Everyone is lying."

Terry: "Everyone is telling the truth."

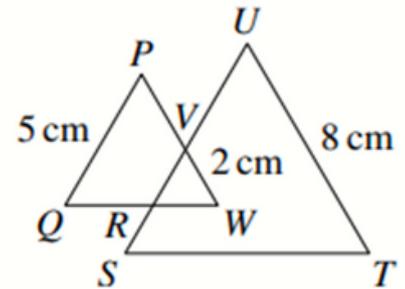
How many people are telling the truth?

- A 0 B 1 C 2 D 3 E 4

The diagram shows a seven-sided polygon, $PQRSTUV$. It is formed from two equilateral triangles PQW and STU of side-length 5 cm and 8 cm respectively. The two triangles overlap in an equilateral triangle of side-length 2 cm.

What is the perimeter of $PQRSTUV$?

- A 27 cm B 30 cm C 33 cm D 36 cm
E 39 cm



Answers:
1 - 27 squares
2 - 1 student is telling the truth
3 - 33cm

Timberhonger Children's Challenge, Bromsgrove Carnival 16th July

By Kim Joy Edmunds - Bromsgrove Carnival

As part of Bromsgrove Carnival weekend, there will be a fun run for children up to the age of 10 in aid of local charities; Bromsgrove Scouts, the Basement Project, and Sense. The run will be split into two age groups with 7s and under doing approximately 800m and the 8-10s just under a mile. Races start at 5pm on Saturday 16th July, entirely within the safe confines of Sanders Park, Bromsgrove. Everyone who finishes gets a proper race medal and a big cheer as they cross the line, and there are prizes for the first three home in each age category. In previous years there have been over 150 children taking part. If mums and dads and older brothers and sisters fancy a go too then there is the annual Timberhonger 10k race and new for 2022 is a challenging 5k run for anyone aged 11+. Both races start just after the fun run at 6pm.

Entry to the Children's Challenge is £6. To enter and for more information see the run [website](#)

Dates for Your Diary

Summer Term 1

Year 5 Lakeside
Monday 16th May

HPV Vaccinations Year 8
Year 6 Lakeside
Tuesday 17th May

Year 8 Lakeside
Wednesday 18th May

Oaker Wood Leisure Year 5
Friday 20th - Sunday 22nd May

Arete - Year 8
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th May

HALF TERM
Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June

[Calendar of Events](#)