

The RED SWEATER Newsletter

Summer 2017



St. John's Middle School
A Church of England Academy



As we approach the end of the academic year it does not seem very long since I was writing the foreword to our Autumn Red Sweater Letter ! There is no such thing as "wind down" at St. John's and the last few weeks saw us preparing for our Sports

Awards presentation evening, the Summer Concert, our end of year Prize Awards Evening, the Year 8 Prom and the list goes on !

It has been a busy and very successful term both in the classroom and beyond. The sporting success has been outstanding. Recently we won the Key Stage 2 District Athletics, having also won the Key Stage 3 District Athletics earlier by over a hundred points. We have won the District swimming gala and the tennis and I haven't even mentioned our various teams such as the Year 7 rugby team that won the district cup !

We performed very well again in the UK Maths Trust Team Challenge entering 3 teams with one of the teams coming a very close second to Bromsgrove School. The pupils were competing against Independent and Grammar schools for the prestigious UKMT award. We came second this year in the Annual Poetry Slam and on 5th July over 30 children "graduated" at Worcester University as part of the Children's University making us one of the largest Children's University schools in the Country !

There have been numerous performances with the children participating in the 1000 years of Song which will culminate in a performance in Kidderminster at the Town Hall on 6th July. Our Advanced Choir performed in the Diocesan Marquee at the Three Counties Show.

I would just like to thank the staff and Reverend Ray Khan who we count as very much part of the team and of course the children for all their hard work this year and to all the Parents for your support during the year. Thank you for helping to make St. John's such a wonderful community that allows the children to flourish,

Can I wish everyone a safe and restful summer break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 5th September 2017.

Mr. G. L. Roberts
Headteacher



Outstanding News

We are very proud to announce that we have been judged as **Outstanding** in all three areas that were assessed on our recent

SIAMS inspection that took place on Friday 30th June. I shall provide more details when we receive the full report. But this is a wonderful validation of all the hard work of our staff and children. I was delighted to read about how impressed the inspector was with the quality of the relationships seen between staff and children and how we make every effort to nurture each and every child. We are also celebrating the recent SAT examination results which again are a testament to the hard work of both staff and our year 6 children ! In maths 95% of children achieved the expected standard. In reading and writing the numbers were 74%, and 80% with 68% of pupils achieving the threshold in all three areas. I would add that on the 2016 threshold boundaries this figure moves up to 76%. More details will follow but both outcomes along with the wider success that we have included in the Red Sweater letter illustrate what an outstanding school St. John's is.



Page 4
A visit to the school from our local MP



Page 5
A school trip to where ?
(Clue: not Blackpool)



Page 6
Pupils get their heads together to solve some tricky maths problems



Page 8
A trip to the supermarket - but which one ?



Page 10
Duncan is representing England. But what's his sport ?



Year 5 update

As the end of the academic year approaches, September and the start of St. John's seems a distant memory for our Year 5 pupils. During the summer term the transition process really gets started as I visit

Year 4 pupils ready for the whole process to begin again and Year 5 look ahead to Year 6. I am sure many Year 5s will have some great memories of the various activities during their first year such as World Book Day, Enrichment Days, Give of Your Best trips and Malvern to name a few.

104 Year 5 pupils have recently attended our Malvern outdoor activity weekends in May and June. I am pleased to say the weather was reasonably kind and the pupils were well behaved and yet again good ambassadors for St. John's despite the usual Friday excitement about being in dorms! For another year, the Malvern Outdoor Centre was excellent, with fantastic activities, food and instructors which made for two fun-packed action weekends.

The pupils took part in a wide range of activities including climbing, canoeing, zip wire, high ropes, giant swing, and orienteering, among others. All pupils participated to the maximum of their ability with some really pushing themselves to attempt things they may never have done before and were sometimes a little outside their comfort zones, whether this was climbing, quad tower or even staying away from home for the first time.

I am sure it was an experience most will remember for many years to come and may even have given them a taste for something new or confidence for similar events in the future.

Overall, Year 5 have made a great start to their 4 years at St. John's and I wish them good luck for next year.

Mr. D. Owen
Head of Year 5

I'm currently writing this on possibly the hottest day of the year and thinking that your child will no doubt be counting down the days till the summer break and after such a challenging year for our Year 6 pupils, who can blame them. The last year has been one of the most difficult years in your child's educational journey, not only dealing with the changes as they head towards becoming teenagers, but also tackling the most difficult end of key stage two tests children have ever faced. I know they all put in a massive effort and all deserve praise for their effort and determination.

After the National Curriculum tests we managed some well-deserved time away from school with 45 pupils attending the final ever Paris trip at the end of May.



Year 6 update

I would like to pass on my thanks to Mrs Hirons and all the staff involved in the Paris trip this year and all other previous visits. Organising residential trips and especially those in another country takes

hours and hours of organising and planning above the teaching day, but the pupil's behaviour on the trip was exemplary and made the trip that bit extra special and the effort worthwhile.

The current class with the most Achievement points are 6SP with an impressive 3282, working out as an average of 109 per pupil very closely followed by 6SY. 6SP also top our class attendance charts with an average attendance of 98.17%, but less than 0.5% ahead of second placed 6GM. The whole of Year 6 attendance is 96.90% just short of the schools target of 97%, this is a very good effort and I would like to thank all those pupils who have helped get so close to that target. While there is not much time left, the scores are tight in all sections and anyone can still take the top prizes. We still have our final GOYB day to come so all positive points will count towards taking part in the very enjoyable activities planned.

Finally I would like to pass on a huge thanks to all members of the Year 6, pupils, parents, teaching assistants and especially the teaching staff. I couldn't wish for a harder working team that has allowed every pupil in their care to have such a wonderful and successful year. I hope you all have a well-deserved summer break and here's hoping the sunshine lasts !

Mr. K. Hirst
Head of Year 6

Unbelievably we are almost at the end of another school year. Many of our Year 7 pupils have had the opportunity to go to PGL this term and thoroughly enjoyed challenging themselves and being away from the classroom and home.

With Year 8 just around the corner it is a nervous time for our Year 7's as they face the responsibility of being top of the school. Mrs Bourne will be on the lookout for our next Head boy and Head girl, along with prefects and mentors. The Year 7 class teachers and I will be on the lookout for those pupils who put in the extra effort and have proven themselves to be mature and responsible within and around school. Mrs Bourne will be inviting applications early in September.

As we approach the last few weeks the class league tables are extremely close and the overall winners for the year so far are as follows:

House Points – 7KC 2117

Stamps – 7JCL 97.6%

Attendance – 7JD 97.8%

Congratulations to the winning classes and the prize for the winning class in each category will be a Movie in the hall in the last week of the term.



Year 7 update

For those pupils who have continued to work hard this term, ensuring they always 'Give of Their Best' and go over and above expectation, they will be rewarded with the opportunity to

tackle a giant inflatable obstacle course, out on the field, on Wednesday 19th July.

Finally I would like to thank the Year 7 teachers for their hard work and commitment this year and wish our Year 7 pupils the best of luck as they move into Year 8.

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Mrs. C. Hirons
Head of Year 7

Just a few short weeks left at St John's for our Year 8 pupils and we are now focusing on their transition to High School. Our rewards day, involving inflatables on the school field, is looming and pupils are therefore reminded to be on their best behaviour at all times. More points earned now means there's more chance of them participating !

Once again Year 8 welcomed several volunteer speakers for our annual 'Careers Day'. Pupils heard talks from the Fire Service, Legal profession, The Blue Cross, Photography, a mechanic and of course Mr Ridge, who did a fantastic job discussing careers in teaching. As always our Year 8s did us proud and we have received lovely feedback from the visitors after the event.

Year 8 Prom is fast approaching and the Year 8 corridors are buzzing with talk of fancy dresses, false nails (mainly the boys) and various forms of rather unusual transportation they have planned. Just a reminder that this is not the 'Oscars' and you don't have to spend a fortune !

If pupils prefer not to make a big entrance then that is absolutely fine. It is always a wonderful evening and an opportunity for pupils to say goodbye to their friends and indeed the staff, who have taught them for the past four years. Time has gone so quickly and we look forward to wishing them well as they take the next big step to High School.

On that note, may I say that we wish your children all the best for the future. They really do have endless possibilities before them and we would encourage them to push themselves well beyond their perceived limitations.

Having been a St. John's pupil, 'Give of Your Best' is a motto that should resonate with them for the rest of their lives.

Good luck everyone and keep in touch.



Year 8 update

Mrs. R. Bourne
Head of Year 8

A visit to St. John's from Sajid Javid

Bromsgrove MP Sajid Javid visited St John's Middle School for the Speakers For Schools national programme, to 'raise the expectations' of its pupils.

Mr Javid gave a talk to 300 Year seven and eight students on March 31 about his life and career, to show children that anything is possible.

Mr. Roberts said: "As opposed to talking about government business, Mr Javid talked about himself, which was quite remarkable in terms of his development and the challenges he faced to get where he is today, which was a good tale to tell.

"He was told he shouldn't do A-levels but didn't listen, he was also told not to do a degree but he went on to do a degree despite this.

It gave a strong message to pupils that, if people tell you you can't do it, don't listen. He also emphasised the importance of people around him and gave a positive message as a role model."

After the talk, Mr Javid met St John's headboy and girl Ethan Lynes and Esme Elwell-Thomas, then answered questions prepared by pupils.

The Speakers For Schools scheme aims to get high-achieving children to start thinking about the next steps in their careers, through a programme of inspirational guest speakers.

Mr Javid said: "It was a pleasure to visit St John's and share my personal experience with students. It's important that we continue to inspire the next generation and give back to our local community."



Pictured left to right are Esme Elwell-Thomas, Ethan Lynes, Sajid Javid MP, Geraint Roberts headteacher, Harvey Saunders-Woolley and Grace Andrews-Tonks.



We all very much looked forward to this year's Children's University Graduation at Worcester University on Wednesday 5th July. The children worked hard all year to earn their stamps in order to attend this prestigious occasion. Look out for pictures in the local press of our pupils receiving their certificates!



Calling all books !

Following a recent check of our library stock, it has come to our attention that we have a high number of school library books - approximately 450 - that have been out on loan to our pupils for over six months (and, in some cases, several years!) Please would you check your homes for any mislaid library books and send them into school with your child for return as soon as possible. We can then begin our new term with a fully-stocked library for all pupils to enjoy.

Many thanks, Miss Pemberton - Head of English



Pupils at St John's Middle School received talks from a range of volunteers on Friday 26th May in a bid to help them decide their jobs of the future. Representatives from Worcestershire Fire Service, SME Solicitors, DNA Automotive, The Blue Cross and F8 Creates visited the Watt Close school to speak to pupils about careers before they take the next step up to High School and choose their GCSE options.

Head of Year 8, Rachel Bourne, said: 'This is always a fantastic opportunity for our pupils and it wouldn't be possible without the help of these wonderful people volunteering their time. The majority of our teenagers are still undecided and that's fine. Hopefully they might consider jobs they hadn't before as a result of today'.



Get into Teaching School Direct morning

on

Thursday 28th September 2017

at

South Bromsgrove High School
for graduates who are interested in
a career in teaching

If interested please email Mrs Alison Elwell-Thomas
at aelwell@st-johns-bromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

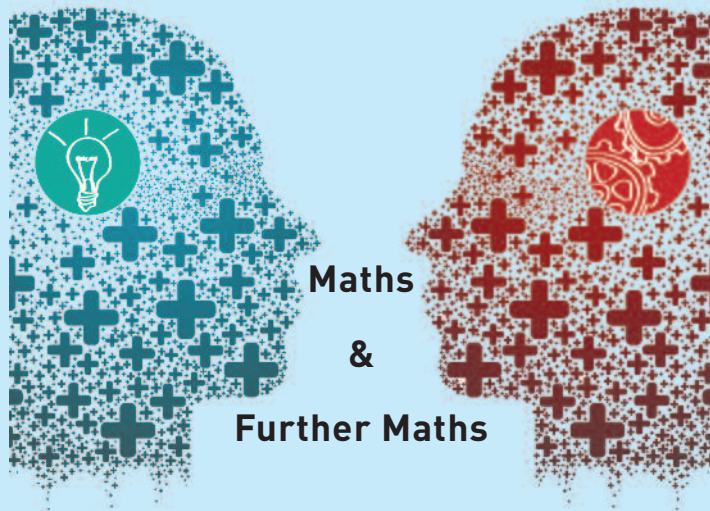
Paris 2017

On Tuesday 23rd May 2017, 40 Year 6 pupils set off for the annual trip to Paris. After a 12 hour journey we arrived at the fantastic Explorers hotel and spent time unpacking and relaxing. After a delicious first meal in the hotel we made use of the pirate themed pool. On Wednesday we spent the whole day in Paris, exploring many of the famous tourist areas including: a trip up the River Seine, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dam and Sacre Coeur.



After a lovely meal in the Place de Tetre, soaking up the atmosphere of one of the most beautiful places in Paris we headed back to the hotel. On Thursday we visited Disneyland Paris for the entire day and returned to the hotel exhausted and laden with gifts. Being our final morning we visited Disney Studios before the long journey home. I would like to thank all of the pupils who came on the trip and the staff who gave up their time for making this yet another extremely successful and enjoyable trip.





On Friday 9th June, twelve pupils were taken to Bromsgrove School to compete in the UK Maths Trust Team Maths Challenge. They were competing against private and grammar schools for the prestigious award of UKMT Winners. All three teams competed admirably and used their mathematical expertise to fly through the four rounds. At the end of the competition, we secured 2nd, 4th and 10th place, out of 18, which was an incredible achievement; we narrowly missed out on 1st place by 7 points which, in one round, was just one more correct answer! Four of our pupils will now go on to an additional challenge at Alcester Grammar later this month. Well done to all the children involved.

Earlier this term, four Year 8 pupils competed in the regional final of the UKMT Team Maths Challenge in Birmingham. This was open to Year 8 and 9 pupils and our team finished 12th out of around 35 teams - a fantastic achievement. A huge well done to all involved! Well done to 120 children across the top sets in Years 5 to 8 who took part in the Junior Maths Challenge test in April. The scores are in and we have beaten our school record, with 83 children achieving Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. A special well done to Neve Daly and Owen Dyson (both Year 6) who qualified for the Bonus Round and will take their test for this in June.

On Friday 23rd June, pupils from Finstall, Hanbury, Sytchampton, Meadows and Beoley First Schools attended a Maths Challenge afternoon at St. John's. This involved lots of teamwork and relied on fast mental arithmetic and applying of mathematical skills. Year 5, 6, 7 and 8 students from St. John's supported the teams, kept track of the score and awarded bonus points for excellent teamwork and strategy. Medals were awarded to Meadows First School for finishing first place after three intense rounds. A great time was had by all involved!

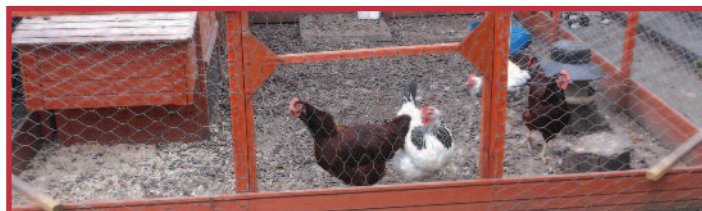
Miss K. Chambers
Head of Maths



The Garden in the Quad

Finally we have some warm weather, a little too warm some will say. After months of growing and watering seeds in our heated green house, and then weeks of hard work spent potting up and planting out, it has all paid off as we now have a fantastic show of colour that has brightened up our garden a treat, it has encouraged a wealth of wild life including bees and butterflies. As well as all the flowers we also have a small selection of vegetables growing very nicely, broad beans, beetroot and rhubarb. Now that the green house has been void of all life we can now grow tomatoes, which are well and truly on their way to giving us a very healthy crop, let's hope this weather continues.

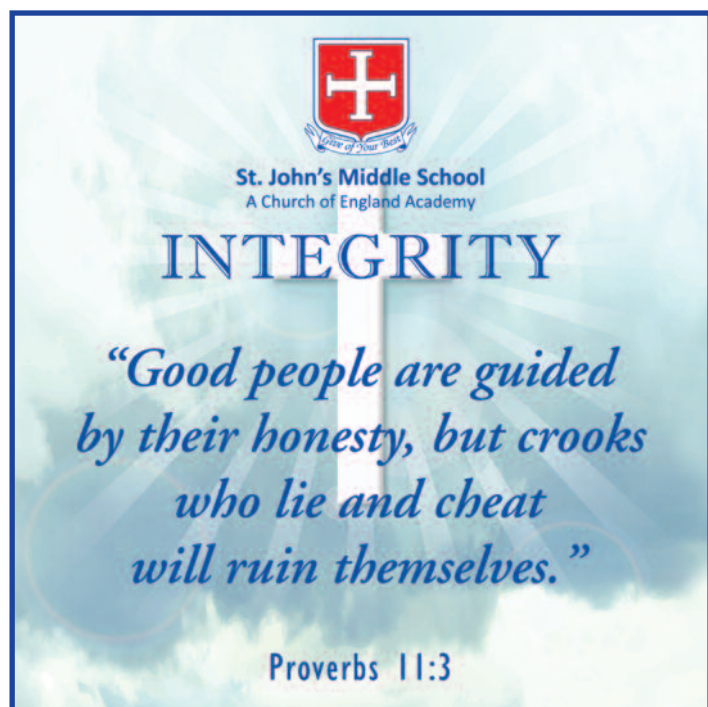
Our chickens are still going strong, driving us all mad with their egg laying announcements which ring out around the quad on what seems like a permanent basis, this is of course when they are not sunning themselves in our glorious weather.



Pupils taking part in the maths challenge at St. John's

Collective Worship

Our value for this half term is Integrity.



At the end of last half term our student worship leaders led our Pentecost celebration. This term we have explored courage, responsibility, truthfulness, honesty, wisdom, humility and gratitude, building towards our End of Year Celebration and Thanksgiving Service at St John's Church on Friday 21st July.

Students did a fabulous job of Fundraising for Christian Aid Week organising class-led bake sales which raised £379 for Christian Aid. In recognition of over 35 years of supporting Christian Aid we were thrilled to be awarded the Diamond Award by the charity early this half term.



Young leaders

Molly Costello 8RS (left) and Pheobe Longmore 8RS (right) have been awarded Platinum Young Leaders Badges - the highest award - being only the 2nd and 3rd badges awarded this year in district.



Care & Art in the community



As you are aware from our previous newsletter, pupils in 5KN and 6ET produced Art work for the hoardings outside the new Care UK home in Bromsgrove. As a thank you for all their hard work the school has been given £250 worth of Art vouchers so well done KS2! We look forward to spending and using some new, fun equipment.

Following this, pupils across the school were asked to come up with names for the suites at the home. They had to come up with four names based on the area and it's history as well as providing reasons for their choices.

The winners were Naomi Curtis and Lucy Weston who received £25 worth of book vouchers each. Again Care UK were so impressed with the attitude and amount of entries from the pupils they awarded the school a further £200 of book vouchers.

Well done all !

Mrs J. Davenport, Head of Art



We aren't allowed to put the names of the suites at time of printing as Care UK are waiting to launch these themselves !

This picture shows Lucy Weston and Naomi Curtis (The winners of the naming competition) Miss Pemberton Head of English, receiving the book voucher for school, Alfie Smailes and Dan Lloyd with Mrs. Davenport, Head of Art receiving the £250 voucher for producing the art work on the hoardings.



Music



This is a busy term for the music department. A number of our gifted and talented musicians took part in their first workshop of the 1000 Years of Song project, working with visiting artist Olivia Bradbury to devise a new work in response to Dido's Lament by the English Baroque composer Henry Purcell. They will continue to develop their piece through workshops and rehearsals culminating in a performance at Kidderminster Town Hall on 6th July.

On Friday 16th June senior members of our Advanced Choir performed in the Diocesan Tent at the Three Counties Show. Our Summer Concert is on 18th June this year, 7pm in the school hall. All of our main ensembles will feature as well as solo performances from our gifted Year 8 leavers.



A hair cut for Rosie

Year 5 pupil Rosie Lee has had a lengthy 22 inches chopped off her locks to be made into a wig for a child fighting cancer.

Rosie had hair down to her knees, but had most of it snipped off to raise money for the Little Princess Trust.



Rosie's mum Adele Smith Lee said: "We've been trying to get Rosie to have it cut for a while and she has always said no, but then she saw something on the internet about doing it for charity.

She's always had long hair - she was born with long hair, so she was quite nervous about having it cut off but I'm very proud of her for doing it."

Rosie has already raised the £350 needed for the wig to be made but is hoping to fundraise as much as possible for the children's cancer charity.

Year 5 Waitrose visit

When the new Waitrose was being built a group of year fives went over to have a private tour of the shop when they were still in the process of building.

Before we left we had a quick safety briefing. We then went into the office waiting area and was given our high visibility vests, hard hats and permission stickers giving us permission to enter the site while under construction. We got to speak to some of the builders and saw some of the equipment used in the process of making. We saw what the shop would look like when it was fully built and furnished.

On this little trip we learnt how people build shops and had fun learning how we now use equipment to build.

Written by Kadey Godwin 5KN

Waitrose



Drama

Year 7 spent a Drama Day at South Bromsgrove High School, and this is the email we received from Head of Drama – South Bromsgrove High School.

"I wanted to take this opportunity to compliment you all on the talent and maturity of your Year 7 students who have worked with us in Drama today. Over the course of the day they have worked with our year 10 and year 12 students on a wide range of drama activities related to 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' building to a final performance of scenes from the play on our stage with lighting and sound.

Throughout they worked with enthusiasm, imagination and confidence and Mrs Elsner Gummery and I were greatly impressed by the performances they achieved.

They are truly a credit to your schools and I am looking forward to hopefully working with them further in Year 9.

Once I have had chance to process the photos taken I will of course pass on copies to you".

Fundraising

March 2017 – World Book Day raised **£483.62**
£242 went to Book Aid and £241.62 went to the school for books.

April 2017 – Red Nose Day raised **£501.24**



June 2017 – A bake sale raised **£46.50**, going to the UK Solidarity Fund. This was to help victims of the Manchester and London terrorist attacks.



June 2017 – Red, White and Blue Day raised **£440**
£110 went to Emily Hawthorn for her girl guide trip. £110 to a refugee charity and £55 to each year group charity.

Christian Aid RAISED **£379.63**



The money was used to best possible effect to help people in the Third World especially the refugees like Noor, Nejebar, Farzad and Faraidoon. For example, it is to be hoped that Nejebar and other families will now be able to have cooking facilities in the refugee camp in Greece. St. John's school has achieved the Diamond Award from Christian Aid for more than 35 years of loyal support for this charity.

Staff vs Students - Game on !



On Friday 23rd June, as part of the schools Red, White and Blue charity day, the hugely anticipated staff versus students rounders game finally took place.

The match, organised by Emily Hawthorne, was to raise money for not only the schools numerous charities but also the Bromsgrove refugee group and to help with fund Emily's trip to Iceland with her Guide group. Something she was very lucky to be chosen for from all the girl guides in the area.

The tempo of the game was set from the very first ball when Mr Swain heaved the ball over the hoards of excited spectators and completed the first rounder of the game.

Both sides played with great commitment and desire and as the final innings approached things were still in the balance. Possibly the biggest cheer of the day came when Mr Cheuk finally hit the ball after numerous attempts.

With the scores in the only thing remaining was for Miss Birmingham to announce the final scores,

TEACHERS 11 STUDENTS 10.5

(Thats 10 and a half not a hundred and five !)



Thank you to all the players and supporters for making it such a fun and successful afternoon.





Netball

On the 24th April of the Year 7 and 8 Netball team travelled to Worcester University to support the Severn Stars team play in the Netball Super League. It was a great opportunity for the girls to see how the professionals play and it was a gripping game. A particular well done to the girls who volunteered to act as ball attendants and did a great job too!



Super 6 athletics

We also saw great success in this year's super 6 athletics competition held at Droitwich High School. The events involved just 6 boys and 6 girls, all of whom have to compete in a track, field and relay event. All of the students work exceptionally hard in their events which resulted in the team winning the event overall! They will now go on to represent North Worcestershire in the Summer Games. Well done all.



District swimming galas

Some students represented the school in two recent swimming galas. This was a team event in which the students competed in individual and relay races. They had very successful day and we were extremely proud that both our Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 team won their competitions. The Year 5 and 6 team will now represent North Worcestershire in the Summer Games Swimming gala.



Key Stage 2 District tennis competition

We entered 3 teams into our district mini tennis competition.

Our teams took both 1st place and 3rd place between them which is a fantastic results.

A particular well done to Callum, Daisy, Charlie and Luka who won overall and will now represent North Worcestershire in the Summer Games.



Black belt Duncan represents England

Duncan O'Brien has achieved his black belt in Tae Kwon-Do and is a member of the England squad.

He recently visited Dundee on the 1st weekend in July and won two bronze and two silver medals in the ITS Pan European championships.



Rugby

Massive congratulations to St John's Y7 and Y8 rugby teams in their recent success in the Bromsgrove and Redditch district cup tournament. Our Year 8 team battled their way to the final with tough group games, and a nail biting semi-final against Parkside, to come up against a formidable opponent in Aston fields who kept the boys at runners up in an action packed final that ended with the final score being 34-12 to Aston fields and St John's taking away the silver medal.

The Year 7 boys also had a successful tournament with great skilful rugby on display and some tough, physical battles between the other schools. They reached the final of the same tournament and emerged champions after a bruising 43-12 win over Ridgeway in the final. They were all extremely happy with their victory and from their past performances thoroughly deserved to come away with the cup.



Back row: Liam Lewis, Zak Bennett, Devante Adams, Bobby Atkinson, Haroon Rashid, Harry Thomas-Rich, Toby Payne, Sam Carter, Luke Schofield, Stephen McCallum, Charlie Deverill-Skelding.

Front row: Toby Csonder, Josh Leonisio, Ptolemy Bignall, Connor Robinson, Daniel Arkell, Enzo Maurri, George Roke, Cameron Crawford



Back Row: Sam Godfrey, Josh Gumley, Miles Thompson, Callum Yeomans, Jacob Lynch, Liam Lewis, Louie Chapman-Hart, Charlie Muir, Leo Cadman, Keanu Swain, Josh Byng.

Front Row: Kian Kinsella, Callum Holland, Luka De Waal, George Roke, Cameron Crawford, Levi Bradley, Isaac Bridge, Jack Ellis, Morgan Goode

St. John's judo - Redditch judo kwai mini-mons

This has been a very successful term for Judo at St. Johns with students continuing to move up the grading ladder and representing the school in competition. Dominic and Seb Chauhan earn their third mon whilst Dara Costello and Fran Bignell have moved up to second mon. We have also seen more people join the club and Merrick Terry, who only joined the club in February has already achieved his first mon. With our Judokas continuing to improve 4 of them attended a mini-mons competition run by Redditch Judo Kwai, St. Johns school-club link, at Bromsgrove school on the 3rd June. The event attract 50 of the best junior judokas from around the midland area and our competitor's performance was outstanding and Fran, Merrick, Seb and Dominic all won bronze medals ! Congratulations all !



Key Stage 3 District athletics competition

50 students from Year 7 and 8 competed in the annual district athletics competition held at the Abbey Stadium in Redditch including 10 schools from across Bromsgrove and Droitwich. Students competed in events such as sprinting, distance running, hurdles, shot, javelin, long jump, and high jump amongst others. Overall, both the Year 7 and 8 teams won and we had 31 students leave with individual medals!

A special well done to the following who competed exceptionally well in their event and will now compete in the Minors County Competition at Nunnery Wood.

Devante Adams – 100m Sprint and Long Jump
Finton Hutt – 1500m ● George Copestake – Long jump
Joe Clayton – Triple Jump ● Josh Leonisio – Shot
Bobby Atkinson – Shot ● Mia Scarlett – 75m Hurdles
Katie Griffiths – 100m Sprint ● Jessica Reeves – 200m
Devan Braumanis – Long jump

We are now in the process of trials and competition practice for the Key Stage 2 competition! Fingers crossed for similar success.

DATES for your DIARY



| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Summer Term ends for pupils | Friday 21st July 2017 - 3:15 p.m. |
| Autumn Term starts for pupils | Tuesday 5th September 2017 |
| St. John's Open Evening | Thursday 28th September 2017 at 7:00 p.m. |
| Half Term | Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October 2017 inc. |
| Autumn Term ends | Tuesday 19th December 2017 |
| Spring Term starts | Monday 8th January 2018 |

Staffing Changes

We say sad farewells to:

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Miss Katie Chambers | Head of Maths who is moving closer to home to a school in Stratford |
| Mr. Alan Tamplin | Head of French who is moving to a school in Malvern |
| Mrs Laura Singh | Head of RE – moving to Bromsgrove School |
| Mrs Jane Chambers | Class Teacher - Who is taking retirement but won't be leaving us completely and we are happy to report will be returning as a Maths mentor |
| Miss Katie Nolan | Class Teacher – who lives in Birmingham and is also moving to a school closer to home. |
| Miss Hollie Brittle | Teaching Assistant – who is going on to train as a teacher with our Schools Direct Programme |
| Mrs Sue Bryant | Teaching Assistant who retired after 25 years at St. John's |

We thank them for the contribution they have made over the years to St. John's and wish one and all the very best for the future.

We look forward to welcoming:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mrs Louise Moyle | Head of Mathematics |
| Ms Magali Mosseri | Head of French |
| Miss Katie North | Class Teacher (Maths) |
| Miss Katie Taylor | Class Teacher (PE/English) |
| Miss Emily Taylor | Class Teacher (English) |

We wish Miss Natasha Birmingham, Head of PE, all the very best for the birth of her second baby, a little girl, we believe, due in August and congratulate Mr. Mathew Cowdery in being appointed to Acting Head of PE during her absence.

We congratulate Mr. Mathew Ridge on being appointed to the post of Deputy Head of Mathematics, Mrs Claire Woodward to the post of Head of SSE (Spiritual and Social Education) and Mrs Ellie Taylor to the post of Deputy Head of SSE.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS !

As you know, the school uses ParentMail,



a service used by over 6,000 schools, nurseries and children's clubs to communicate to parents. We'd like to encourage all parents to download the APP as there are a number of benefits both to you and the school.

Responding to change

A lot of sad and bad news has recently been filling the news, whether it is Manchester, London, Grenfell Tower or something a bit closer. But nearer to home, year 8's will be thinking about moving to High School and I know for some family life has changed. For some this has led to uncertainty and fear, a sense that the world is getting darker. There are things that we cannot control, but what we can control is how we respond to what life throws at us.



Did you notice how people and communities responded to those tragedies? There was care, love, support, generosity and a coming together. The evil of individuals did not extinguish the goodness and light. Even though the darkness and pain remained, the goodness changed the end of the story. Instead of fear and despair there was love and hope.

For each one of us we have a choice to make as to how we can respond to the changes ahead. Will we chose despair and fear? or we will chose the path of love and hope, that offers a different and more hopeful ending? We can embrace, offer hope or we can turn away and offer despair? For some of you this will be a tough and hard choice. At the heart of the Christian Story is the idea of transforming, of how God can transform the darkest moments and bring light and life. That is a gift that God can give and it is a gift that we can pray for and offer.

"May God's peace and light be with you"

Reverend Ray Khan
Parish of Bromsgrove Team Vicar
St John the Baptist & St. Andrew's Charford

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