

The **RED SWEATER** *Newsletter*

Winter 2018



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



Dear Parents,

I write this foreword having just returned from St. John's Church following our Christingle Service for Years 5 and 6. It was a lovely service celebrating the light of Advent and also remembering those less fortunate with donations made in support of the Children's Society.

This has been a busy term, a phrase I use at the end of every term! The children never fail to delight with their enthusiasm and commitment and the staff work so hard to inspire and cultivate that enthusiasm encouraging the children to "Give of Their Best" in all that they do.

The news letter provides a flavour of the many things that have happened and I have to mention Remembrance Week.

Both the service and the events building up to it illustrated what a special seat of learning St. John's is.

My thanks to all the staff for their hard work and to the children for rising to the challenge.

May I thank all Parents for their continued support and wish all a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 7th January 2019.



Mr. G. L. Roberts
Headteacher



In this issue . . .



Page 4

A local fountain of knowledge ?



Page 5

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them"



Page 6

A visit to Mazak in Worcester



Page 8

Fundraising activities



Page 12

*A Christmas message from
Reverend Ray Khan*



Year 5 update

Incredibly, this term has flown by and Year 5 have nearly completed their first full term and they are now well and truly settled as St. John's pupils. The transition process seems to have been very successful again this year and although there may

have been some nerves early on in September and some assessments to complete, pupils have now comfortably become part of their new classes and year group. This term has certainly been action-packed, with our Harvest Festival service at the Church which saw huge amount of generous donations very gratefully received. The drop-in afternoon for parents earlier in the term and the Parents' Evenings more recently were an opportunity to meet form tutors and subject teachers to discuss how Year 5 had settled in and how they are doing in their lessons and subjects, with lots of parents able to attend what were hopefully very useful evenings. More recently, Fizz Pop Science gave a brief show to Year 5 to launch their afterschool Science club, which many pupils have enthusiastically attended as well as many getting involved in the St. John's extra-curricular program including a large number in the year group returning their forms to attend our trip to Malvern next summer.

This term has also seen a poignant recognition of Remembrance Day and particularly the 100 year anniversary of the end of WW1. Year 5 pupils took part in a day of related activities, including poetry in English and even investigating how craters could be caused on battlefields in their Science lessons. All pupils also took their own personalised message on a miniature wooden cross and placed it beneath the commemorative cross on the school field, ahead of the whole school having a minute of silent reflection, a prayer and The Last Post played by Ms Russell.

With Christmas rapidly approaching, excitement builds towards the end of term and even more to look forward to, with the Key Stage 2 fundraising disco, the first terms' Give of Your Best trip to the cinema, our Christingle service, Christmas dinners and of course Christmas Jumper Day! With not long to go, 5BF are currently leading the way on house points with 14,323 so far this term, whilst 5MJ and 5CW are jointly in first place for best attendance at 98.4% this term, so congratulations to those classes. I would also like to say a big thank you to the brilliant Year 5 team for their endless effort and willingness to help out their Year 5 pupils with whatever worries or problems that may have arisen in this first term.

So finally, a big thank you to all parents for all their support this term and well done to Year 5 for making a great start to their time at St. John's, keep up the hard work and effort and have a great Christmas!

Mr. D. Owen
Head of Year 5



As we rapidly approach the festive period, another autumn term at St. John's is almost complete. I would like to congratulate all Year 6 pupils on how maturely they have made the transition from Year 5 to Year 6. They have settled brilliantly into routines and shown great resilience when faced with the added responsibilities that being in a National Curriculum Test year brings. More pupils than ever are being offered interventions in both Mathematics and English in order to help them achieve their full potential. We also offer a huge number of after school activities which I hope your children enjoy and if they haven't attended one of these activities yet then I strongly advise they do to further enrich their experiences at school.



Year 6 update

I would also like to thank parents for their ongoing support with ensuring pupils look smart, complete home work and can 'Give of their best' at all times. With a drop in evening and three parents evenings this term it has been great to

share the fantastic progress our pupils are making with you and ensure that this ongoing communication allows us to meet the needs of all our pupils.

The pupils have had many fantastic opportunities available to them this term including an inspiring trip to Witley Court. As part of their artwork pupils were given the freedom to explore the historic grounds and sketch the dramatic ruins of this enchanting mansion, their behaviour was exemplary and I would like to thank Mrs Davenport for organising this visit for the whole year group. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and memorable day. Having also taken part in Remembrance week activities, school sports tournaments and our recent non uniform day it certainly has been a busy term.

Our pupils continue to embrace the behaviour system positively by collecting house points and using these to buy items in our epraise shop, it's great to see pupils choose their own rewards for what they have achieved so far and with our upcoming 'Give of Your Best' cinema trip they can have a well deserved morning off! Amazingly pupils in Year 6 have achieved almost 80,000 points since September! Congratulations to 6SY who are currently year group leaders having achieved a whopping 14,689 of these points with 6MC just behind them on 13,910!

I would like to thank all of the staff involved with Year 6 pupils for their hard work and dedication in challenging our pupils to make the most of the opportunities available to them and for ensuring that their learning journeys are inspiring and memorable.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year! Enjoy a well deserved rest.

Mrs. C. Hirons
Head of Year 6



As we draw to an end of the calendar year it is an ideal time to reflect on the hard work and effort displayed by the Year 7 pupils throughout their first term as a Key Stage Three pupil. I have been fortunate enough to follow this year group up and remain their Head of Year, I feel this has really benefitted the pupils due to me knowing so much about them now.

The pupils have certainly made the most of the additional ePraise points on offer; amassing over a staggering 67000 achievement points so far at the time of writing, I wonder if we could break 250,000 by the end of July? Harriet and Adam are leading the way out of the pupils along with 7AME who are winning the battle of the form classes and congratulations to 7MMO currently have the best attendance of all the Year 7 Classes. All these points mean prizes and I am really happy to see how many pupils are purchasing the rewards on offer and hope that all those that came to the cinema enjoyed the film – it was a well-deserved reward.

In addition I would like to thank all the parents that attended the recent parent evenings, Year 7 parents alone attended over 1200 appointments over the three evenings. Your continued support in your child's educational journey is very much appreciated. If you have any further concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's form or subject teacher.



Year 7 update

Year 7 have two residential trips to look forward to later in the academic year with the pupil's visiting Arete in North Wales to undertake a whole host of outdoor activities and a Science and French trip to

France and the Loire Valley.

Mr Ridge is the teacher in charge of the Arete trip and Miss Mosseri in the lead teacher for the French trip if you have any queries for them

Finally I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Year 7 staff and support staff for their continued hard work and dedication through the longest term of the year.

I hope you all have a well-deserved rest over Christmas and that Santa brings you something good.

Mr. K. Hirst
Head of Year 7



As we approach the end of what has been a very busy but productive autumn term, I would like to thank Year 8 for their hard work throughout. It has been a privilege to watch the children settle in with their new class teachers and now as the eldest pupils in the school.

Fundraising

Issy Weaver led a fantastic bake sale with some friends with the intention of raising money for the Blue Cross. The cakes were delicious and they managed to raise a fantastic £159.00, well done girls!

Transition to High School

As soon Year 8 began, the pupils had to begin the process of considering their journey after St John's! I know they enjoyed the assemblies presented by some local high schools and attending their open evenings to see what they have to offer. Fingers crossed you all get the place you wish for when they are released next term.



Year 8 update

Eisteddfod

The whole of Year 8 went to South Bromsgrove High School to watch their annual Eisteddfod performance. The afternoon offered some fantastic performances in drama and music, and was a good opportunity for the pupils to see one of the things that some of them may wish to be a part of next year. It was lovely to see some old faces on stage continuing to shine!

House Points and Attendance

All the classes are continuing to work hard to achieve as many housepoints as they can. At the moment 8JCD are top of the leader board for housepoints and 8MF lead the attendance chart with 98%.

Congratulations to the following boys and girls who are currently top of the housepoints leader board;

Boys	Girls
1 Jack Wright	Maddison Hagger
2 Connor Bray	Isabelle Weaver
3 Joe Roadknight	Aimee Wood
4 Robert Parker	Lucy Weston
5 Michael Eccles	Kiera Hilton
6 Kieran Fox	Lucy Cashmore
7 Kian Kinsella	Amy Driver
8 Gino Maurri	Charlotte Hawthorn
9 Jake Webber	Isabelle Keavney
10 Noah Wallace	Niamh Gardner-Knight

I hope you all enjoy a peaceful Christmas and a very happy new year and look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for a new term in 2019!

Miss Birmingham
Acting Head of Year 8



WITLEY COURT - On September 18th 2018 Year 6 pupils went on an art trip to Witley Court. Pupils drew a series of sketch's, took rubbings and photographs which they brought back to school to create art work from.

"The fountain was amazing when they switched it on but you had to be careful where you stood as it was a very windy day and the water was going everywhere."

"I had been before with my parents but I'd never seen the church. It was really pretty."



Lantern making

During November three lantern making workshops ran at the school. Pupils in Year 5 were given the opportunity to make lanterns and decorate them for the Festival of Light parade on December 9th.

"It was really messy but fun."



English civil war day

On Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th November we welcomed the Colonel back to the school to hold an English Civil War day for Year 8 students. The students had a great day and learnt lots about what life was like during the Civil War and how the conflict was fought getting to actually handle weapons from the time such as matchlock muskets, pikes and swords amongst other artefacts from the time. The highlight of the experience was the actual firing of a musket by the Colonel and the students themselves actually firing a cannon on the school playground, something which they enjoyed greatly !





REMEMBRANCE

St. John's Middle School enjoys a rich history. Several of the school's former students fought during the Great War and consequently we felt it was

imperative to mark the anniversary of the armistice which ended WWI. During the week building up to the centenary, we have been remembering those who fought and those who made the ultimate sacrifice defending their country between 1914 and 1918.



During the week each subject has delivered a lesson with a World War One theme. In Mathematics, for example, pupils have been trying their hand at code breaking. In R.E, students have been learning about the different faiths of those who served in the forces, in Geography pupils have been locating different parts of the world where soldiers came from and in English children have been writing a letter to the Unknown Soldier.



LEGACY 110
FIRST WORLD WAR COMMEMORATIVE PROJECT

This year the school has also continued with its participation in the Legacy

110 project and two pupils have been researching two brothers who were former students of St. John's. George Wallace, who died in 1915 whilst returning home to Bromsgrove wounded and Albert Wallace, who died after being hit by a shell on the third day of the Somme in 1916. Albert's name appears on the Theipval Memorial in France as his body was never found.

We concluded the week by holding a whole school last post ceremony on the school playground. As part of this ceremony every child was given a wooden remembrance cross, on which they had written their own personal message. This could not have been achieved without generous donations made by local businesses, Broad Street DIY and Thomas Brother Funeral Directors.

Battlefields Trip

At the end of September, Jack, Mr. McEvilly and I made a trip to the First World War Battlefields of France and Belgium. We were chosen to go on this trip as part of the Centenary Battlefields project and were joined by other schools.

The following day we crossed the channel into France. For the next two and a half days we travelled around the battlefields, museums, and cemeteries of France and Belgium. My favourite place we visited was the In Memoriam Museum in Passchendaele where we got to see lots of artefacts from the time and showed us the truths and horrors of the battle. We also got to go in some lifelike trenches.

Whilst we were away Mr. McEvilly also arranged for us to take part in the Last Post ceremony in Ypres where we got to lay a wreath at the Mennen Gate memorial. I enjoyed the trip thoroughly and learnt loads along the way!

Naomi Curtis 8MW





A Trip to London

The day started with us having to be at school for 5:30 (thanks a lot for that Mr Hirst). When we got on the coach, it took us about 4 hours to get to London – including a stop at Oxford services for some breakfast. We arrived at the Science Museum at 10 o'clock and that's when we entered the first exhibit called 'Who Are We?', there were interesting machines and amazing things to look at and enjoy. Later on, we moved onto two more exhibits, in which we learned about atmosphere and engineering for our future. Upon leaving the museum we walked through the gift shop filled with exciting toys and gadgets. We then boarded the coach once again, but this time to do some sight-seeing and eat lunch. We drove past many places including Hyde Park, Harrods, China town, The Houses of Parliament, 10 Downing Street, Buckingham palace and Big Ben. At 2pm, we arrived at The Prince Edward theatre, collected our tickets and sat down ready to watch Aladdin! The play was brilliant, with bright lights, fireworks, shooting fire and great acting and singing. I think that it's safe to say that we all enjoyed the show. Sadly, the day was almost over as we departed from the theatre and headed back to the coach at around 6:00pm. Like on the way there, we stopped at Oxford services – this time to get tea. Finally, we arrived back at school at 9:30pm where our parents met us. Thank you Mr Hirst and all of the teachers that helped organise and made the trip so great.

Chloe Smith, 8KJT

Can you help ?

We are always trying to enhance the curriculum opportunities for our pupils and hearing people with first hand experience is a fantastic way of doing this. With this in mind , if you would like to come in and talk about your faith or your career please can you contact Mrs Woodward (Head of SSE - Spiritual and Social Education). She would love to hear from you!

Christingle

On Tuesday 11th December Years 5 and 6 gathered at St John's Church, joined by many of our parents, for our annual Christingle Service. This was a lovely morning with music, dance and poetry interspersed with carols, an explanation of the Christingle from our worship leaders, and of course, lighting our Christingles as we sung the Christingle Song.



Mazak

On the 12th of December a group of our Year 8 pupils visited the Mazak factory in

Worcester with Mr Meehan. This trip was organised as part of our Careers Education programme and to further enhance our provision for pupils who have an interest in and aptitude for the STEM subjects. Mazak is a leading global manufacturer in the area of advanced technology solutions including the manufacture of machine tools and lasers. The pupils enjoyed a tour of the high tech factory and a talk about the opportunities available in this field. It proved to be a very interesting and informative morning. We thank Mazak for their hospitality.

"It was great fun and interesting to learn about the robots and new technology at Mazak " – Jess Levine 8RSE

"I was surprised how accurate the machines are"

– Robert Parker 8MWE

"Machines that make machines? Who would have thought it?"

– Charlotte Lewis 8MWE





Fully equipped

They do their very best to accommodate everyone but are advised not to interrupt lessons and can therefore only get messages to children at lunchtime registration and in some cases the forgotten/brought in item is required for the morning lessons. Pupils can often get upset and worried if they do not have the correct equipment for the lesson or club. Children will **not** be allowed to phone home for these items unless in exceptional circumstances for example if the teacher has specifically requested it. Of course it goes without saying that we will always continue to deliver messages or contact parents in the case of emergencies.

Please can you also remind your child that at the end of the school day, 3:15 p.m., if parents are not in the expected place after school, they should return to school where the office will attempt to contact their parents for them. In the case of an after school club you child should inform the teacher running the club. *As always, thank you for your support in this matter.*

Marathon man

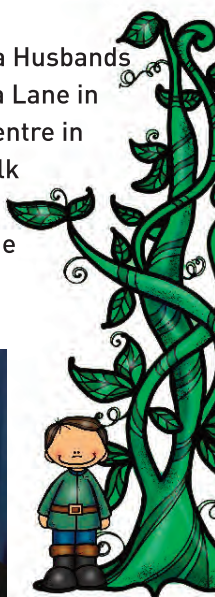
In October, Jonah Hodgson ran, walked, swam and cycled a marathon to raise funds for Hope at Home, a charity which provides a hosting scheme for survivors of modern slavery (www.hopeathome.org.uk). Here's a picture of him finishing off his miles on the bike! The '500 Miles for Freedom' event took part at Altered Images gym. Jonah also helped to organise the day by totalling up the miles others had completed, giving out drinks and snacks and showing people where to go. Funds are still being raised and if anyone would like to sponsor Jonah, the link is

www.give.net/hopeathome1/fundraising



Jack & the Beanstalk

We are delighted to inform you that Olivia Husbands and Imogen Bridge in Year 6 and Natasha Lane in Year 8 are appearing at the Artrix Arts Centre in their production of Jack and the Beanstalk between 15th and 23rd December 2018. For anyone wishing to see this pantomime please contact the Artrix for tickets. Box office: 01527 577330



Olivia Husbands, Natasha Lane & Imogen Bridge



Your child will be bringing home a Christmas Activity sheet before the holidays.

There will be lots of Children's University credits up for grabs!

Visit childrensuniversity.co.uk for more ideas on activities and local attractions where your child can earn credits towards their graduation.

Merry Christmas !

Harvest Thanksgiving Service

We rounded off the first half term of the year with our Harvest Service at St John's Church. Music, readings, drama and hymns brought together the whole school as we celebrated God's bounty in creation by collecting goods for our local foodbanks.

Thank you to everyone who contributed.



DANGER - Parking near the School !

Can we ask that all children cycling to school wear an appropriate helmet. There was an incident this term, as many of you will know, where a child was knocked off their bike on the Worcester Road. Thankfully they only had minor injuries but they were not wearing a helmet and in such circumstances a helmet can be the difference between injury and tragedy!

We would also point out that the child was knocked off while navigating between cars that were illegally parked at the entrance to Watt Close and the school.

Can we ask again for parents **NOT** to park there under any circumstances as it presents a clear danger both to the cyclists and to any children crossing.

We remind children that they should always walk to the pelican crossing but many still cross at the entrance to Watt Close and parked cars present a hazard.

West Mercia police have a current campaign encouraging people to take photos of cars parked in hazardous and illegal locations and to send them the photos so they can prosecute.

The prime examples of this, they quote, is the entrance to schools and cars parked on double yellow lines.

Members of the public can send their digital photos of dangerous or inconsiderate parking to operation-lollipop@westmercia.pnn.police.uk



Thanks



Waitrose



Fund raising

The Year 8 netball team went on tour in November and undertook fundraising in order to be able to purchase netball dresses for them to wear in fixtures. They held a bake sale in the hall at breaktimes and hosted a Year 8 team vs staff netball match. Children from across the school were invited to stay and watch between 3:30 - 4pm for a donation of £1.

They also sold raffle tickets to win a sports tour hoody which is black and red and can be worn in PE lessons or a brand new Netball. They managed to raise an impressive **£681.68** so they were able to get a dress for everyone in the team. *Well done girls!*

Children in need - £555.60 – Pupils were allowed to wear their own clothes for the day together with odd socks to represent anti-bullying week.

Waitrose - A very BIG thank you to everyone who donated green tokens during the recent fundraising event held at Waitrose. Through your support, we received a cheque for **£195.00** – an amazing sum – which will be used towards purchasing some new resources for the pupils in the Launch Pad.

Cancer Research UK - Congratulations to Keira Newman in 8MF for all her hard work in raising an impressive **£596.64** for Cancer Research UK, well done Keira!

Congratulations also to Alice Watkins and Ellie Prescott, who are now in Year 9 at High School, who also worked hard to raise **£173.87** for World Scout Jamboree.



Keira Newman 8MF

Reminder

All Parents/Guardians - could you please check you are connected to ParentMail to ensure you do not miss out on emergency or urgent information that may be released at very short notice, eg: bad weather urgent school closure. If you are having trouble registering please contact the school office. You can also check school closures via the WCC email address

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/874/school_closures



PGL Netball & Football weekend

The weekend was a great success. It was fantastic for the students to travel away and play against some different schools. We're very proud of how hard the students worked. Both the boys and the girls had a fantastic time. The boys spent the weekend training and learning new skills while the girls competed against lots of other schools. The girls were presented with bronze medals by Eboni Beckford Chambers which is a great achievement.



Sports Council

We are now running a Sports Council who meet half termly to feedback on everything sports related within school. The children from KS2 and KS3 have offered some valuable insights which the PE dept are looking to use.

Sports Leaders

Boys and girls from Year 8 have been selected to act as sports leaders for the coming year. They have already attended a number of events and received rave reviews from the people running them. In 2019 they will also have the opportunity to complete an official coaching qualification which is an exciting opportunity for all involved.

Team Colours

Early in February, we will again be awarding Team Colours for students in years 7 and 8. Students could be awarded with a Badge or Tie if they are selected. The award of colours should be the ultimate accolade for any student at St John's Middle School. It should be the goal that they strive for and as such are a wonderful motivational tool. Here is a reminder of the criteria.

The Teacher in Charge of a sport may nominate a student in their particular sport who has played regularly for the 1st team (A team), noting the following considerations:

- The student has shown particular commitment to the sport throughout their school career.
- The student has shown good leadership skills and qualities.
- The student has shown greater ability to work together well with their peers in a team context than might otherwise be expected.
- The student has shown high levels of dedication and determination to succeed in an individual or team sport.
- The student has to have set an exceptional example: they have been a good 'role model' for the rest of the school.
- The student has to have been consistently highly motivated and shown a positive attitude towards their sport in both training and in matches.

B and C team players are also awarded for the commitment with a positive postcard / certificate.

We look forward to giving out our first round of badges in February. Recently we awarded full sports colours to two Year 8 students.



Josie Ward is always giving 100% and striving to be the best she possibly can be in all sporting activities. She is a fantastic sports leader and has represented the school at county level and above in Netball, Cross country and Athletics.



Luka De Waal, who has shown excellent commitment and determination in PE lessons, represents A team rugby and makes significant contribution to team success and has an excellent attitude towards school sport.

Well done both of you!



Football

We have had a fantastic turn out across all year groups for football thus far. Attendance is good and children seem to be enjoying the sessions. Year 5 boys have competed in a friendly tournament against local middle schools and performed admirably. There will be more of these tournaments to allow for all children to represent the school.

Year 6 boys and girls played in a county football competition and came second in both, which was a fantastic achievement against some very good sides.

Year 7 and 8 have played National Cup fixtures and although we are unfortunately knocked out of most cups we put in some excellent and encouraging performances.



Moving forward, we will aim to play as many friendly fixtures as possible against our other local middle schools up until Easter. We will be playing our under 12 girls National cup fixture against St Bedes when we return from the Christmas holidays.

Thank you to all the children for their efforts and parents for their support since the start of the year.

Judo club

The Judo Club is now in its third year and is going strong. Our more experienced Judokas have been wonderful ambassadors for the sport portraying the true spirit of Judo to help the new players learn the fundamentals of the sport. All of the students have learnt how to fall properly using break falls, throw others safely to the ground to score points and hold each other down successfully!

Our more experienced Judokas also continue to make fantastic progress on their Judo journey.

Libby Ranford has continued to progress and has achieved her 5th Mon and, with the support of our



schools to dojo link club, Redditch Judo Kwai, over the last term has attended multiple competitions across the country earning 1 bronze medal and 2 silver.

Rugby

Well done and thank you to all the children who continue to commit and represent the school in rugby. Steve Husbands, parent and rugby coach, has very kindly stepped in to cover training and fixtures in Mr Swain's absence. We are really pleased that we are now working to build a stronger link with Bromsgrove Rugby Club and the Worcester Warriors moving forward. In the New Year we are hoping to offer rugby across the school to KS3 girls and Year 5 boys too.



Inter house Netball & Football

All students across the school took part in Inter-house Netball and Football. The students and teachers had a great time and the results are:

Year 5 FOOTBALL / NETBALL combined scores

1st **HANOVER**
2nd **STUART**
3rd **WINDSOR**
4th **TUDOR**

Year 6 FOOTBALL / NETBALL combined scores

1st **TUDOR**
2nd **WINDSOR**
3rd **STUART**
4th **HANOVER**

Year 7 FOOTBALL / NETBALL combined scores

1st **STUART**
2nd **TUDOR**
3rd **WINDSOR**
4th **HANOVER**

Year 8 FOOTBALL / NETBALL combined scores

1st **HANOVER**
2nd **WINDSOR**
3rd **STUART**
4th **TUDOR**

FOOTBALL / NETBALL OVERALL

1st **STUART**
2nd **HANOVER**
3rd **WINDSOR**
4th **TUDOR**

Inter house Cross Country

Over 100 pupils took part in Inter house cross country! Despite the wet and cold weather, many turned out to run the distance and the results are:

Year 5 CROSS COUNTRY combined scores

1st **STUART**
2nd **HANOVER**
3rd **TUDOR**
4th **WINDSOR**

Year 6 CROSS COUNTRY combined scores

1st **WINDSOR**
2nd **STUART**
3rd **TUDOR**
4th **HANOVER**

Year 7 CROSS COUNTRY combined scores

1st **WINDSOR**
2nd **TUDOR**
3rd **STUART**
4th **HANOVER**

Year 8 CROSS COUNTRY combined scores

1st **HANOVER**
2nd **WINDSOR**
3rd **TUDOR**
4th **STUART**

CROSS COUNTRY OVERALL

1st **STUART**
2nd **WINDSOR**
3rd **TUDOR**
4th **HANOVER**

District Cross Country

Congratulations to all of the children who represented the school in this year's district cross country. They all worked so hard against some thought competition and a difficult course.

We are so proud of all of you ! Well done to Josie Ward !

Year 5 Boys	Position Out of 56	Year 5 Girls	Position Out of 69
Harrison Biddlestone	8th	Isla Moore	10th
Ollie Edrop	9th	Lily Jenkins	13th
Leo Cerrone	10th	Kaitlin Tifferney	33rd
Freddie Parsons	13th	Daisy Dowell	35th
Jake Cooke	15th	Bettie Green	49th
Team result	2nd / 12 teams		6th / 14 teams

Year 6 Boys	Position Out of 60	Year 6 Girls	Position Out of 57
Max Carter	10th	Hannah Osbourne	6th
Ben Jones	23rd	Hannah Thompson	9th
Dylan Ogden	26th	Imogen Bridge	18th
Heath Taylor	27th	Mae Vincent	25th
Ethan Lewis	29th	Amelia Godfrey	32nd
Team result	5th / 12 teams		3rd / 12 teams

Year 7 Boys	Position Out of 60	Year 7 Girls	Position Out of 63
Taylor Edrop	13th	Lucy Stewart	6th
Lewis Hart	17th	Jenna Hutton	14th
Theo Reeves	24th	Meegan Cartwright	27th
Travis Mayo	36th	Cassie Smith	40th
Henry Parsons	38th	Beth Jackson	45th
Team result	5th / 11 teams		6th / 13 teams

Year 8 Boys	Position Out of 64	Year 8 Girls	Position Out of 62
Callum Holland	19th	Josie Ward	4th
Kyle Shaw	24th	Keira Newman	30th
Ben English	32nd	Isabelle Keavney	42nd
Luka De Waal	36th		
Reece Jeffreys	50th		
Team result	8th / 11 teams		



*"Everyone has inside them
a piece of good news.
The good news is you don't know how
great you can be!
How much you can love!
What you can accomplish!
And what your potential is."
– Anne Frank*



Encouragement is an important gift that we give to others that can bring real change for the better. It is a gift that is often used when times are not good. It is a gift that creates confidence and it is a vital gift that we offer our children.

As a child I dreaded giving my dad my school report. If my report was 90% good and 10% bad, he would focus on the 10% and give me a lecture that lasted 2 hours! Those conversations never made me feel good. I began to realise that my Dad never saw the good news in that report. It took me many years to untangle that sense of failure from my own life!!

Most people get encouragement slightly wrong, it either isn't there (it will make them strong!!) or is not based on reality or truth. So when the question is asked "does this dress make my bottom look big?" you could say "no" or you could say that dress doesn't suit you or you could make a positive comment on that person's figure. Children need building up and encouraging, they often face challenges that sometimes are beyond their emotional or intellectual capacity to understand or cope.



What we need to do is to see the good in them and build them up; to encourage them to face the challenge and to help them understand. They need to know that they are valued, not alone, and loved. It is this that will enable them to face those challenges.

And if children need encouragement then so do we! There are many things in life that are beyond our control and power. But who we are when we face those times is in our power and it is the encouragement of others that helps us to face life.

And when you feel that strength is low, when you feel weary? Here is an amazing promise in the bible:

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

We are in the season of Advent where the big theme is waiting. We are waiting and yearning for a better world, to be better people, to see evil and suffering at last diminish. This waiting often feels pointless, but the promise is that in the waiting and hoping God renews our strength to carry on and in the waiting we will soar like eagles in the sky. As we approach Christmas can I ask you to unwrap and use this gift of encouragement, look for the good in others, be there and help them to face those challenges. And as you wait, may you know God's strength and I hope and pray that you will soar up with wings like eagles.

Reverend Ray Khan - Parish of Bromsgrove
Team Vicar St John the Baptist & St. Andrew's Charford
T: 01527 577172 M: 07952170840

DATES for your DIARY



Autumn Term Ends	Wednesday 19th December 2018 – 3:15 p.m.
Spring Term starts	Monday 7th January 2019 – 8:50 a.m.
Yr 5 Malvern trip Parents Evening	Tuesday 12th February 2019 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Half Term	Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February 2019 inc.
Yr 8 Ski Trip - Risoul	Friday 1st March - Saturday 9th March 2019
World Book Day	Thursday 7th March 2019
Parents Evening	Tuesday 26th March 2019 3:30 – 7:00p.m.
Parents Evening	Thursday 28th March 2019 3:30 – 7:00p.m.
End of Spring Term	Friday 12th April 2019 – 3:15 p.m.
Easter Holidays	Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April 2019
Summer Term begins	Monday 29th April 2019 – 8:50 a.m.

ParentMail



**ATTENTION
ALL PARENTS !**

As we look forward to a new academic year, we would like to ask all parents / guardians to ensure they are registered to use ParentMail.

This is our system for sending letters and emails directly to you and for collection of your payments. We do not want you to miss out on vital information, so if you require any help to register please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office.

Registration does not take very long and a member of the finance team will be very happy to help you through this process.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

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Web: www.st-johns-bromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk