



ST JOHN'S
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Newsletter

Issue 4, March 2024



Respect Kindness Confidence Tolerance Self-Discipline

Key Dates

Class Photos

Wednesday 6th March

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March

International Women's Day

Friday 8th March

British Science Week

Monday 11th — Friday 15th March

Red Nose Day and FoS Disco Day

Friday 15th March

FoS AGM

Tuesday 19th March 6pm

End of Term 4

Thursday 28th March

Dear St John's Families,

It's been a great start back after half term and the children are back into learning about some fantastic topics. Please check the website where information about what each year group will be learning this term will be uploaded on the curriculum page.

Speaking of our school website, we are excited that over the next few months, we will be re-designing this and updating it so that it includes more information about the school, as well as easier to access information about the children's learning.

We will be welcoming a photographer into school to take some photos for the new website as well as other promotional materials so please look out for the consent form for this.

Our value for this term is self-discipline and we will be exploring what it means to be self-disciplined and how this can contribute towards our success. I've set each class a challenge to complete linked to our value of the term!

Finally, it has been so lovely to be able to speak to many of you over the last few weeks whether it be at the gates, on the playground, in meetings or on the phone. As I've spoken about before, your views really do matter. Please look out for a parent survey I will be sending out next week. It will be able to be completed online and we will use your views to identify ways we can improve as a school further. Thank you!

Mrs Emma Jefferson

Headteacher

Contact us:

01522 530954

Email:

enquiries@st-johns.lincs.sch.uk

Website:

<http://www.stjohnsprimaryacademy.co.uk/>

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Attendance and Safeguarding

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



FS RJR	94.6%
FS RAS	97.2%
Y1CT	91.9%
Y1RT	95%
Y2ST	94%
Y2F	95.8%
Y3B	95.5%
Y3HC	95.7%
Y4O	98%
Y4BC	95.3%
Y5M	98.3%
Y5N	95%
Y6B	98%
Y6D	97.8%

Attendance for the week:



Attendance for the year to date:



NB: A school day is split into 2 sessions—AM and PM

Is my child too ill for school?

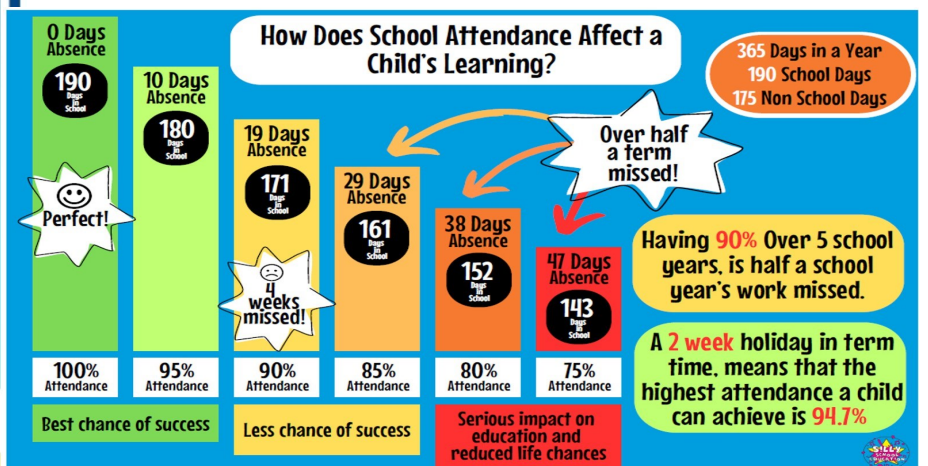
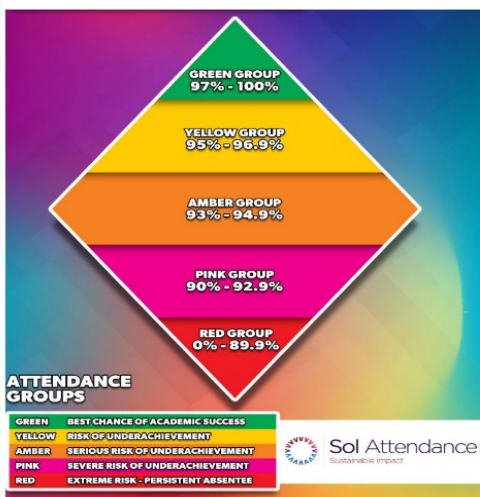
You may have seen or heard on the radio a national-campaign backed by the NHS helping to advise families on when children should attend school if ill.

Useful information can be found [here](#) which can be helpful in recognising when children should or shouldn't attend school if ill.

At St John's, we have compassionate, supportive staff who will look after any child who may feel a little under the weather with mild coughs and colds. We would encourage you to send your child to school using the advice in the NHS guidance. With some TLC, we often find that the distraction of being with their friends and their exciting learning will help them feel a little better.

Following the Priory Trust processes, where absence falls below 90% and is linked with illness, we may ask to see evidence of GP / medical appointments and invite you into school to create an attendance action plan aimed around identifying what support can be given to support a child's health needs and give them the best possible chance of improved attendance.

Attendance Ladder



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In other news:

Miss Coxon

Miss Coxon has made the difficult decision to leave St John's and her last day will be the end of this term—Thursday 28th March. Miss Coxon has worked at the school for many years, most recently as a part-time teacher in Year 3. I know she will be greatly missed by the children in 3HC and across the school but we wish her all the very best in her future endeavors. I will be in touch with parents of children in 3HC in the next few weeks to confirm staffing arrangements for the rest of the academic year.

World Book Day!

Details have been sent out about how we will be celebrating World Book Day at St John's this year. On Thursday 7th March, children can come to school dressed in their favourite colour and will be exploring stories with the theme of colour throughout the day. I look forward to seeing a vibrant rainbow of outfits! We are also challenging pupils to turn an empty toilet roll holder into their favourite book character and bring to school by Friday 8th March. There will be prizes and it will be a lot of fun seeing the children's creativity!

Playground Buddies

We are really delighted that the Educational Psychologist team have been coming into school to train up a number of playground buddies across the school. Our playground buddies will be around to help children on the playground if they're experiencing problems and help with how these can be resolved. They will know when adults need informing and will work to ensure no one feels lonely or left out on the playground. We're really proud of the children taking part in this training and have invested in some buddy stop signs for KS1 and KS2 so that children have somewhere to go when they may need some help from a buddy. We've also got some lovely buddy caps for our buddies to wear when they're on duty so that they can be spotted easily. A big thank you to Mrs Smallacombe for her work in organising this.

FoS

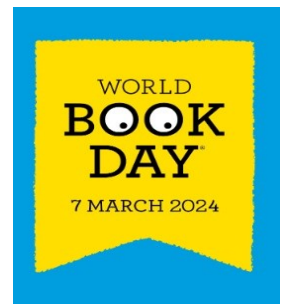
Thank you to all the participants of the half term quiz; we have some very knowledgeable children at St John's! We had 10 sheets with full marks and it came down to the tie breaker question. Well done Sammy (40) who was the winner!

Also, a huge FoS thank you to the Wilkinson family who kindly donated a box for an upcoming Lincoln City game. In just 5 days, we raised a brilliant £220 which will be used for the Year 6 Leavers Disco.

FoS still need you!! Please think about attending if you would like to see what we do or would like to help out.



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Year 2 - Dragon Eye Art

About 6 weeks ago now, I walked into the Year 2 classroom to immense excitement and to see Mrs Todd unwrapping some beautiful dragons. Fast forward to now and the children in Year 2 have been working to create the most fantastic clay dragon eyes using skills such as scoring, slipping and blending as well as adding texture using different tools. They used finishing skills to paint and gloss and the outcomes are fantastic! They are so unique. Well done Year 2!!



Year 3—Masks

Continuing with the Art theme, Year 3 have been working hard on their masks. They have been looking at sculptors Kimmy Cantrell and Osa Rosti and then designing their own masks about themselves. Some have decided to do half person / half animal and some have chosen their favourite colours, characters, teams or animals. The one thing their mask had to have was formers (scrunched up paper or rolled up paper to make them) and then paper mache over them. I think they look fantastic Year 3!

Year 6—VE Day

To finish their WW2 topic, Year 6 took part in their own VE Day. There were a range of activities including sewing, playing games of chess and making a huge pile of jam sandwiches! There was also singing and dancing in the hall. Thank you so much to our families for sending Year 6 in with some amazing costumes. They looked brilliant!



School Council

The school council wanted some space on my newsletter! Here's what they had to say:

"Hi, we're the school council. We are made up of a boy and girl from each KS2 class. We are a voice for all of the other children in the school. If there are any concerns and ideas, we bring them to our weekly meetings to discuss them and hopefully act on them. Last term, we were invited to the Remembrance Service at Bomber Command. We also held a stall at the Christmas Fayre to raise money for Mrs Harrison's trip to see children in Uganda. To help with this, we also held a bookmark sale and in total we managed to raise £116.80. Our most recent project is to raise money for a basketball hoop for the KS2 playground. We hope to do this by holding a teddy and book sale on Wednesday 20th March. An email will be sent out nearer the time. Your continuous help is very much appreciated!"

Sporting Success!



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There has been so much going on in the world of Sport at St John's that it has taken over a whole page of the newsletter. The number of experiences and opportunities that the pupils get to take part in at St John's is truly fantastic and this is down to a highly dedicated staff team who work relentlessly to organise and attend these events, often voluntarily. I'd really like to thank Mr Morris, our PE Lead and Mr Dunn, Mr Clay, Mr Brown and Coach Danny as well as all other staff who have been involved in developing the sports opportunities at St John's or who come and cheer our children on at the sidelines. Also, a huge thank you to you as families for supporting your children in these events.

Football



Athletics

Pupils from Year 5 and 6 joined other local schools at Priory Lincoln to take part in track and field events. They demonstrated their skills in events such as javelin, high jump, long jump and relays. The event was all about taking part and engaging in sports they may not have tried before and the smiles on their faces when they returned told me just how much they took from the event.

Cross Country

We had a friendly in cross country against Navenby where both St John's boys and girls won overall with some fantastic performances. The children's understanding of pace setting and the stamina required to complete the distance without burning out was really strong and they still had some energy in the legs for some sprint finishes at the end.

Chess

Coach Danny organised a chess tournament with pupils from St Giles academy visiting St John's. There were some tough matches but all children played brilliantly. St Giles won this time, however Coach Danny is already arranging for a re-match. I'm in awe of some of their skills and think I might need to have some lessons from them !

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