



ST JOHN'S
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Newsletter

Issue 16—November 2024



Respect Kindness Confidence Tolerance Self-Discipline

Key Dates

Wednesday 6th November

Year 1 Road Safety Workshop

Thursday 7th November

Reception 2025 Open Afternoon and Evening

W.b 4th and 11th November

SEN reviews

Thursday 7th November

School Council trip—Bomber Command (Remembrance Service)

11th—15th November

Anti-Bullying Week

Wednesday 20th November—9am

Parent workshop—supporting your child with reading and writing

Friday 15th November

Children in Need

Friday 22nd November

Christmas Fayre—3.30pm

Friday 6th December

FoS Christmas Disco

Tuesday 10th December

Early Years Nativity—2.30pm

Wednesday 11th December

Y1/2 Nativity—1.45pm

Thursday 12th December

Y1/2 Nativity—10am

Friday 13th December—9.15am

Y6 Class assembly—parents welcome

Dear St John's families,

Welcome back to a new term at St John's. It's lovely to see the children back and refreshed ready for what is always an exciting term in the lead up to Christmas.

It was wonderful to see so many of you attending our parents evenings before half term. I hope you found the meeting informative and I know the teachers really enjoyed sharing how well the children have settled into their classes. Thank you also for supporting the book fair during these evenings. We raised an incredible £984 which has meant we have earned £492 to spend on new books for our school. We have our wish list at the ready and can't wait to buy new titles for the children to enjoy.

Our curriculum newsletters have been sent out today with details of what the children will be learning about in their classes this term so please do take a look.

This term is a busy one with lots to look forward to including Children in Need which is always a fun day. You can find out what we will be getting up to for that in this newsletter.

We will also be focusing on the month of remembrance and why this is important, thinking about this in our assemblies and in lessons. Our school council will be taking part in the remembrance service at the International Bomber Command Centre and we will lay a wreath at the war memorial as well.

Mrs Emma Jefferson

Headteacher

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Email: stjohnsenquiries@prioryacademies.co.uk

Website:

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



Championing children; making a difference

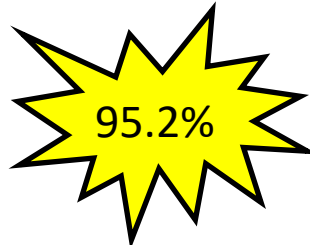
Attendance and Safeguarding

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



RJR	98.3%
RAS	97.7%
1T	95.2%
1HC	95.5%
2ST	94%
2F	96.5%
30S	95.8%
3B	95.5%
4T	95.9%
4D	95%
5N	94.5%
5BT	98.6%
6B	96.3%
6M	94.3%

Attendance for the week:



Attendance for the year to date:



Our aim is to try and be in the green for our overall attendance across the year!

Attendance Updates

We have our first 100 club winners of the academic year. We had 193 children entered on to the wheel for having 100% attendance in Term 1 and congratulations to our winners:

Freddy H - 2F

Thea K - 1T

Freya B-T - 3B

Eleanor B - 6M

Our 100 club now resets at the start of Term 2 and new winners will be chosen at the end of this term.

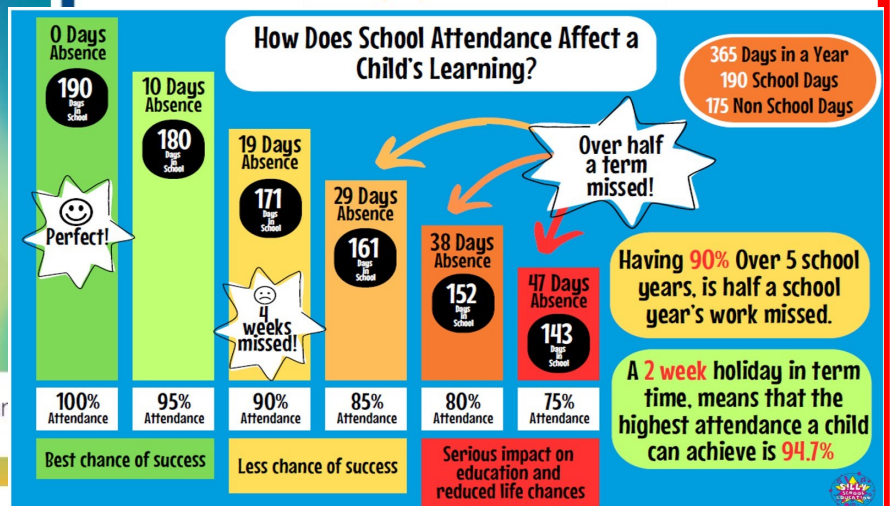
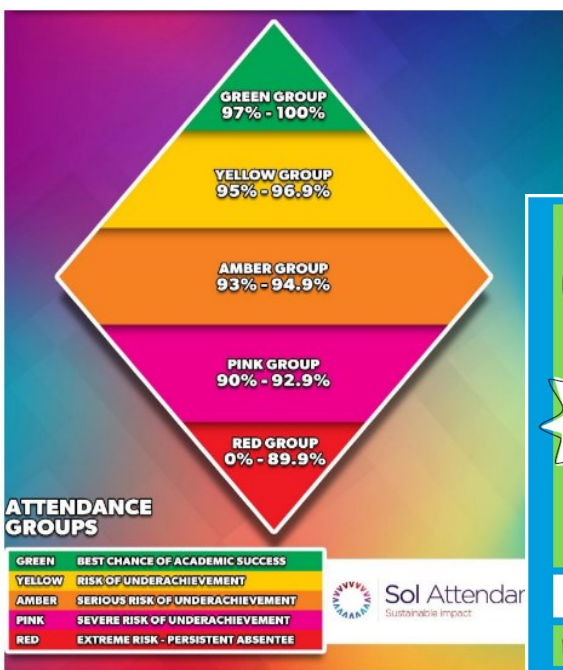
We continue with our class challenge as well with 2F leading this at the moment but with still time for it to change. The class with the most weekly attendance wins will receive a special end of term treat!

As we reach the colder months, we know coughs and sneezes will become more common. Please refer to the guidance below to support with knowing whether your child is too ill for school. Please also know that we can administer any medicine your child may need. If you speak to the office and complete a form this means we can give your child any medicine brought in by you to help them feel better during the day.

[Is my child too ill for school?](#)



Attendance Ladder



Learning in Class



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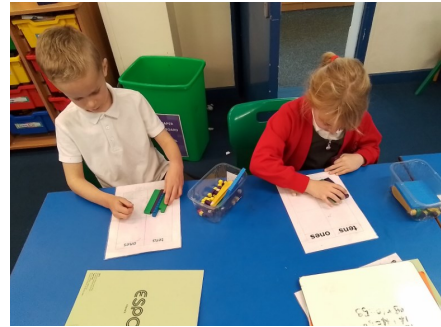
Early Years

Early Years have been reading the story of The Three Little Pigs. The children have used a variety of different story telling props to retell the story including masks, story spoons, puppets and loose parts materials. Our mark making area has been transformed to encourage the children to explore their own writing and story characters and in the creative area the children have also had a go at making their own masks.



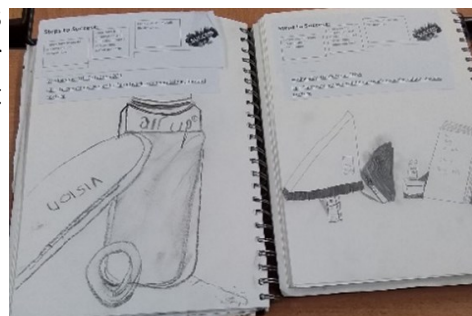
Year 2

Year 2 embraced Halloween this week with some "Boo Bun" hairstyles! They also read some very spooky poetry with some wonderful description. In Maths, the children have been using tens and ones and place value charts to add a 2 digit number to a 2 digit number. They're very good at telling us that we need to swipe the numbers down to find the total!



Year 4

Last term Year 4 completed a still life drawing journey. They started by finding out about the French artist Paul Cezanne who was famous for creating still life paintings and drawings. He particularly enjoyed using apples in his work! Next the children looked at still life compositions using a variety of 3d shapes and used charcoal to complete their drawings. Finally, the children created their own 3d still life compositions using items found in the classroom using either charcoal, sketching pencils or both. What wonderful drawings they have produced through the journey! Well done Year 4.





Black History Month

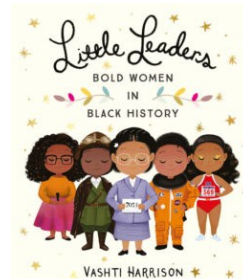
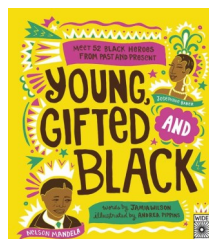
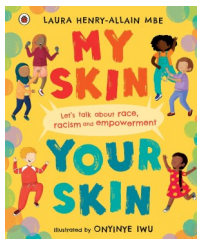
October is Black History Month. In our assemblies, we explored what Black History Month is, who started it and why it is important. We also looked at some significant black individuals from the past and present and what it is that they achieved.



We looked at Alice Coachman, an American high jumper who was the first black woman to win an Olympic gold medal in 1948. We also learnt about Nelson Mandela and the difficulties he overcame before becoming the first black president of South Africa. Wangari Maathai was a significant individual fighting against deforestation in Kenya and Benjamin Zephaniah who was a British poet and author writing about his experiences of migration.

We recognise Black History Month however we also ensure that our curriculum champions equality and diversity throughout and not just in one particular month. We understand how important representation is and teach our children about this. Our Year 5 pupils are just starting to learn about the transatlantic slave trade and the impact this had on Africa in their History learning and the lasting legacy that this still has even today. Our Year 3 pupils are currently learning about racism as a form of bullying in their PSHE lessons. This links with our school values of tolerance and respect and celebrating all cultures and ethnicities because we recognise how important this is in enabling our pupils to become well rounded individuals.

Recommended reads linked to Black History Month



Value of the term

Our value of the term is 'Confidence.' In our assemblies this week, we explored what makes people feel confident. We watched Taylor Swift perform and some football penalty takers and discussed how they feel confident in what they do. We then looked at what positive affirmations are. A positive affirmation is when you repeat a positive statement about yourself. Research has proven that positive affirmations do impact on self-confidence and self esteem so we then practised saying some altogether. Some examples were: I am strong. I believe in myself. My voice matters. We are going to add an 'affirmation station' to school with a mirror that the children can walk past and some positive affirmations placed around it to remind all of our children just how incredible they are and to boost their confidence whenever they walk past!



If this is something you are interested in at home, Amazon sell lots of affirmation card packs. Some examples can be found [here](#). Alternatively, children can write their own and decorate them! There are also many affirmation videos on YouTube too!

In other news

Parent Workshop - Supporting children with reading and writing difficulties.

As a reminder, our next parent workshop we are hosting in school is to be delivered by Dyslexia Outreach and will focus on strategies to support children with reading and writing difficulties. This is not just for families with children who have been diagnosed with dyslexia but for any families where a child may be finding reading or writing difficult as the strategies to help can be universal for all. This will be held in the school hall on Wednesday 20th November at 9am. Mrs Holt our SENCO will also be on hand to discuss any difficulties and support available in school.



Dyslexia Outreach
SERVICE

Christmas Tree Festival

We have been asked whether we'd like to participate in not just one but two Christmas tree festivals in the community this year, at St John's church and St Columbas church. The idea is that different organisations in the community decorate a tree, which are then put on display and can be visited and seen on Saturday 7th December. We'd love for our children to make a decoration at home to go on either of the trees depicting life at St John's Primary Academy.



All decorations need to be able to be hung from a Christmas tree so shouldn't be too large or heavy. Please could all decorations be handed into the office by Tuesday 26th November.

Remembrance



In support of the **Poppy Appeal**, we will be selling Poppies & Poppy items in school on the following days:

EYFS & KS1 - Monday 4th November & Wednesday 6th November
KS2 - Tuesday 5th November & Thursday 7th November

Suggested Donations will be **50p to £1.50**

Please can all donations be sent to school in a named envelope or purse

Thank you for your support

Children in Need

Friday 15th November—children can come in spotty clothes and be prepared to take on a world record attempt in their classes. Voluntary donations can be brought in all of which will be donated to the children in need appeal.



In the Community



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The Heath Library



St John's Church

This Saturday
2nd November

**Community
Coffee
Morning**

10am till Noon
At St John's Church

*A place to meet and chat
with refreshments and a raffle*



Wood turned items for sale
(Shop early for Christmas)
BBH history documents to look at
Heritage Trails available



ST JOHN'S
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THE
PRIORY
FEDERATION
OF ACADEMIES TRUST

St John's Primary Academy, Bracebridge Heath

Proud to be part of the Priory Federation of Academies Trust

Thinking of where your child should attend school in
September 2025?

Come and visit our school, meet our staff and see the fantastic opportunities on offer for your child.

Open afternoon - Thursday 7th November 1.30pm - 3pm

Open evening - Thursday 7th November 4.30pm - 6.30pm

Open afternoon - Thursday 5th December 1.30pm - 3pm

To book a space at one of our open afternoons or evening then please contact
stjohnsenquiries@prioryacademies.co.uk

St John's Primary Academy is a GOOD school. Ofsted 2023

"This school is an easy place to make friends. Everyone accepts you for who you are."

'Championing children; making a difference'

