



Respect Kindness Confidence Tolerance Self-Discipline

Key Dates

Monday 16th December

Rudy's Run!

Tuesday 17th December

Year 2 Moon Landing Workshop

Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December

KS2 Concerts 1.45pm

Friday 20th December

End of Term 2

Tuesday 7th January

Children back to school

Friday 10th January

Y6 PSHE Workshop - Making wise choices (drugs awareness)

Tuesday 28th January

Year 6 Visit—STEM workshops at IBCC

Wednesday 29th January

4D to visit Pizza Express

W.B. Monday 3rd February

Children's mental health week

Wednesday 5th February

Year 6 Trip—National Holocaust Centre

Thursday 6th February

Priory Voices Event

Friday 14th February—9.15am

Year 3 Class Assembly

Friday 14th February—End of Term 3

Dear St John's families,

I can honestly say there is no better place to be in the lead up to Christmas than in a primary school. The excitement and build up to the big event lead to a joyful school atmosphere, even if we are beginning to see some tired faces from both children and staff!

The last couple of weeks have been non stop. We have learnt about the season of Advent and we have been treated to some amazing Nativity performances from Early Years and Key Stage One. Of course, we also still have two fantastic concerts to come next week from Key Stage 2. It has been wonderful to welcome so many of our families in to school for these events and I hope they have brought you as much joy as they have to us. The children have certainly made us incredibly proud and I hope they have provided you with memories which you will cherish for a long, long time.

I also had the pleasure of a wonderful evening at St Peter and St Paul Church this week where our amazing singing group and the singing group from St Hugh's Primary Academy joined together in aid of Age UK for a carol concert. It was a lovely evening and the children represented our school so incredibly well. Our signing choir also represented us at the Christingle service and our singing group sang at the Christmas Tree festival at St Columbas church. I'd like to thank Mrs Ballard and Mrs Bosworth for their support during this very busy time of year for our singing groups!

One more week to go! I'd like to wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful new year and I can't wait to see all of our children back on Tuesday 7th January!

Mrs Emma Jefferson

Headteacher

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Website:

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

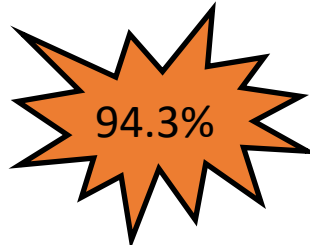
Attendance and Safeguarding

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



RJR	93.2%
RAS	86%
1T	93%
1HC	95.2%
2ST	91.8%
2F	98.2%
30S	92.8%
3B	95.4%
4T	92.2%
4D	94.8%
5N	96.2%
5BT	95.7%
6B	98.9%
6M	95.6%

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

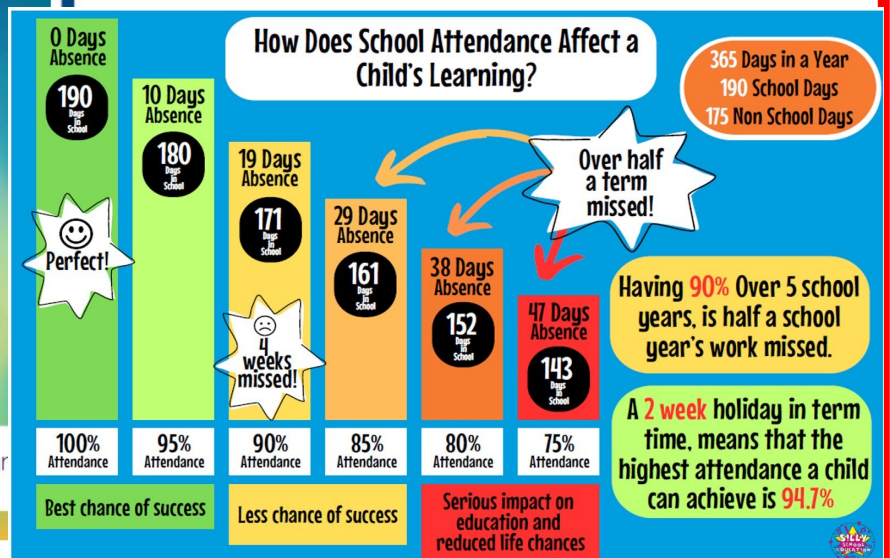
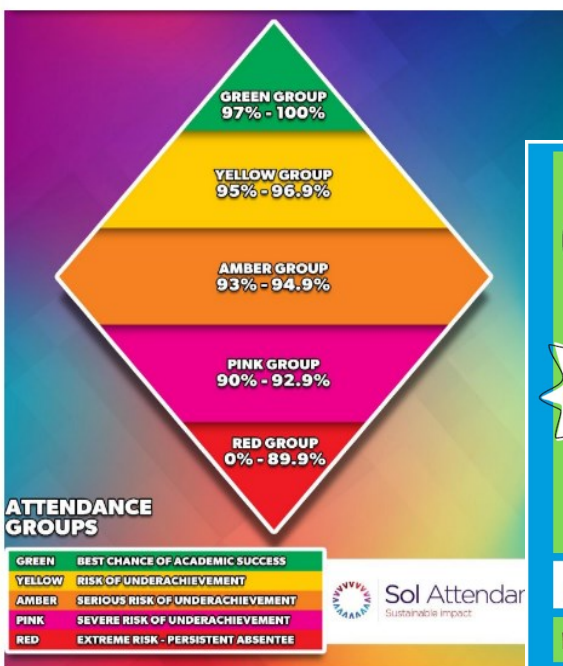
We are entering the season of coughs, sneezes and other winter illnesses. We understand that children fall ill and need to stay at home. If you think your child is a little under the weather but able to be in school then we can give them some TLC and make sure they take things nice and steady. If your child is in need of antibiotics then we are also able to administer these in school if you fill a form out at the office. Let's hope we get through this Winter season without many bugs reaching us!

We will announce our winning class and our 100 club winners in the first newsletter back in January!

Safeguarding

We have been made aware of some of our pupils who walk to school on their own arriving very early and therefore waiting around in the Co-op car park. Please could we ask that children who walk to school on their own arrive in time for our gates opening as this will be safer than waiting in a busy car park. Thank you for your support with this.

Attendance Ladder



Learning in Class



ST JOHN'S
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Early Years

Early Years have enhanced their curriculum provision with lots of Christmas themed activities. The children have been developing their communication and language skills during role play activities in Santa's Workshop and the Nativity Stable. They have also completed phonics activities to build and blend sounds into CVC words.

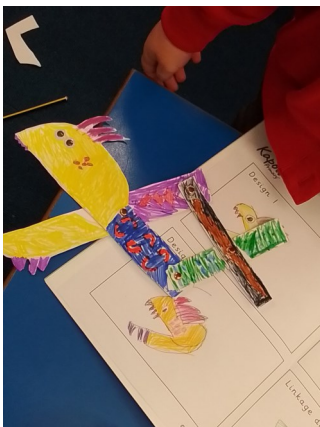


The children have also been reading the story of Stickman and the children have been creating different stick characters. In the story, one of the things Stickman was used for was to be the arm of a snowman. The children made some puffy paint by mixing glue, paint and shaving foam and created snowmen using real sticks for the arm! I think they look brilliant! Well done Early Years!



Year 2

Year 2 have made some fantastic moving monsters as part of their Design & Technology learning. They learnt about pivots, levers and linkages and used a design brief to then create their monsters. Year 2 also made some beautiful clay Christmas tree decorations. They had very intricate designs and Mrs Todd had to carefully bake them in her oven but they turned out beautifully. Well done Year 2!



Learning in Class



ST JOHN'S
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Year 1

Year 1 had a very exciting visitor this week to support them with their History learning all about Remembrance. We invited Helen Seymour into class who is in the armed forces and was the first ever female typhoon pilot! The children were delighted to meet her and loved asking questions. They also shared their own experiences of planes with Helen. This was a lovely way to end their Remembrance topic and recognise the hard work that our armed forces do to keep us all safe. Thank you to Helen for giving up some time to come and speak with our children!



Year 1 have been very busy because they all welcomed Reverend Jacqueline into their classrooms. They learnt about Advent and the symbolism of all the parts of a Christingle before making their own! They did a brilliant job and took their Christingles home.



Year 4

Year 4 enjoyed their Volcano and Earthquake workshop this week. The children enjoyed lots of drama activities which helped them understand many facts in a fun and exciting way. They particularly enjoyed taking part in the activity about the different features of an erupting volcano and adding their own sound effects. The children also worked in groups to re-enact different real life volcano eruptions and earthquakes and the aftermath. The children had different roles which included: a news reporter, an eye witness, a survivor or someone from the fire or ambulance service explaining what they did to help. All the children showed great enthusiasm throughout the workshop and it was lovely to see them engaging in all of the different activities. It was a great way to complete our Geography topic this term!



In other news



ST JOHN'S
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EYFS Nativity!

Well this week was certainly exciting for our Early Years classes as they performed their first ever nativity at St John's in front of a very large audience of families. It was absolutely brilliant and the children performed with such confidence and huge smiles on their faces. The Christmas Conga at the end was certainly a high point and they definitely have helped everyone to get into the festive mood! Well done to all of the children and staff for putting on such a show-stopping performance!



KS1 Nativity

KS1 also performed their nativity this week to a packed audience on two occasions and what an absolute treat it was. The singing, dancing and reading aloud was fantastic and we had so many lovely comments from families on the way out saying how much they enjoyed it. We must thank Mrs Moore who does such an incredible job directing this and inspiring the children with her passion for music and dance and to all the staff and children for their hard work.



Christmas Tree Festival

Thank you to all the children who made a decoration for the Christmas tree festivals. We didn't just take part in one but two different festivals this year and the trees looked wonderful! At St Columbas Church, the St John's tree was voted 2nd favourite overall out of all the different ones so well done to everyone!

Rudy's Run

We had a special visitor this week delivering our antlers ready for the school to take part in Rudy's Run. Rudy visited our early years and KS1 classes delivering the antlers. He was very excited to hear how much money we have raised for St Barnabas so far! He was so impressed that he will be visiting again on the day of our run. Please note the last day for donating to our just giving page will be Monday 16th December. Thank you so much for all your support. We know this will be such a great event and so much fun for the children to be part of.



In other news / In the community



ST JOHN'S
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Christingle Service—Signing Choir

Our signing choir took part in the Christingle Service at the Village Hall last weekend and sang beautifully. We are always so proud of how they represent our school and they brought a lot of joy to those who attended. Thank you to Mrs Bosworth for taking them and giving them this opportunity to perform.



Congratulations Mr Clay!

Some of you may know that Mr Clay is employed as a teaching assistant here at St John's, however he has also been undertaking his teacher training qualification and recently completed his final placement here at St John's in 5N. He has now finished his teaching qualification and so we wanted to congratulate him on a wonderful achievement. He will be a great asset to the teaching profession and I know the children in 5N have really enjoyed being taught by him.



The Heath GP Surgery

The Heath Surgery Patient Group (PPG) is seeking a volunteer to be the dedicated PPG committee secretary to join the group. In this volunteer role, you will play a vital part in helping the group represent the voice of our patients.

Your responsibilities will include:-

- organising quarterly meetings
- preparing and distributing meeting agendas
- taking and maintaining accurate meeting minutes

Be part of a passionate group of volunteers dedicated to improving



Celebrating Christmas in Bracebridge Heath 2024.

- Christingle and Christmas Tree switch on / Carol Service 1st December 330pm at the Heath in Bracebridge Heath.
- Carols for Advent 15th December 3pm.
- CHRISTMAS EVE 2PM Carols round the Crib.
- CHRISTMAS EVE 8PM Bethlehem Mass.
- CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE 10 am.
- St John's Church, Grantham road Bracebridge Heath (opposite Tesco, next to the school).

