St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 357

## A happy hive of activity at St John's





From the Headmaster

Year 5 treated us to a theatrical Assembly inspired by Chinese New Year at the start of the week - a theme which offers so many creative opportunities. Year 3 boys were proud to showcase work to their families at the Art and Design Technology Open House. Our new Chamber Choir have been singing together harmoniously, and rehearsals for 'Bugsy' progress well. What a hive of creativity St John's has been this week!

Outdoors, children have been connecting with nature. In Forest Time, Nursery worked together to make a huge nest for all their dinosaur eggs; others learnt about erosion on rocks around the grounds. Senior boys in Wood Club enjoyed relaxing together in our beautiful grounds in the (rare) sunshine after their busy day this week. In sports, we enjoyed a fantastic set of hockey fixtures against MTP and some really determined rugby performances across the age groups.

The secondary school options available to our older boys will emerge over the next week or two. We wish all boys and their families well, and look forward to celebrating what we expect to be some outstanding results – and wonderful future opportunities – over the next coming weeks.



# Celebrating the Year of the Snake

5P and Miss Nayager presented a wonderfully creative Assembly to celebrate the Chinese New Year. All the boys in Year 5 had made colourful masks in their Art lessons. We enjoyed ribbon dancing, a puppet show, fascinating presentations and watching a dragon whirling around the Sports Hall in time to the beat of the drums, bringing us good luck and chasing away bad spirits. We learnt that the Snake is a symbol of wisdom, transformation and self-reflection. It reminds us to shed old habits and make room for new opportunities.









Year 7 explored acids and alkalis.

This week our Year Seven chemists have been exploring acids and alkalis. The boys used indicators to test liquids which can be found in all our homes to discover their pH value. Our young scientists are looking forward to the challenge of many more chemical experiments in the weeks to come!













# AROUND SCHOOL SINCE 1920



Niam spoke to us about the Smilestar charity. He is going to Mozambique at half term to help with their volunteer dental programme.



Bugsy rehearsals are underway. Save the dates for our exciting Senior production - 24th and 26th June.



This week we convened for our School Eco Council meeting. There were delegates from across the School from Pre-Prep to Year 8. The Eco-Councillors discussed the issue of litter, (including the whole School litter pick on 22nd March), Walking to School Week, and the importance of switching off lights when not in use. The Pre-Prep boys wanted to target idling cars in the car park, while the Seniors were focused on improving the School grounds for our wildlife.

# AROUND SCHOOL SINCE 1920



Wood Club enjoyed moments of well-being in the sunshine after school this week after a busy day of learning.



Last week a number of our boys competed against schools from across London in the EPSCA zonal chess tournament. They have qualified for the Semi-Finals, to be held later this year in London. Well done St John's!

# ST. JOHN'S ASSOCIATION

# QUIZ NICHT

DATE: 8" MARCH 2025

THEME: DENIM & PEARL

Bar Opens at 7.00pm Dinner at 7.30pm Quiz Starts at 8.30pm Carriages at 11.00pm

Gather your friends and family to beat the Headmaster's table



# It's totally roar-some in Nursery! Lambs and Cygnets are learning about dinosaurs. This week we have been looking at fossils. We loved making our own fossil

Lambs and Cygnets are learning about dinosaurs. This week we have been looking at fossils. We loved making our own fossil impressions in salt dough as well as our own dinosaur eggs. We can't wait to crack them open to see the dinosaur inside! In Forest Time, we made a nest for our dinosaur eggs. There were lots of different dinosaur sensory trays which were great fun to explore... totally roar-some!











# Dino-mite creations in Nursery!















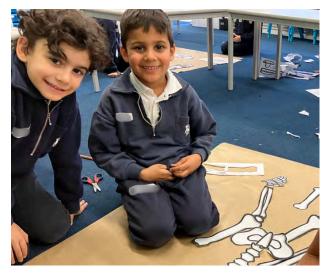


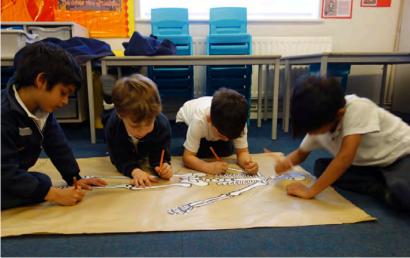
### The knee bone's connected to the thigh bone

The boys in Otters and Owls have been working in groups to piece together skeletons and label some of the bones. It was not an easy task but they persevered with great results. Everyone was proud of their finished work.







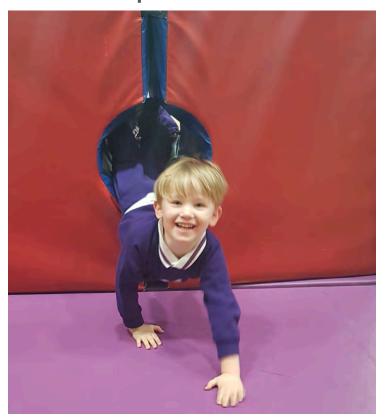








# Pre-Prep love their Games lessons











Year 3 geologists
This week Year 3 went on a 'Rock Walk'. The boys walked round the School grounds in pairs to observe signs of weathering and erosion on the rocks. They recorded their observations by sketching and describing.











# Introducing our new Chamber Choir

Well done, boys, for auditioning and gaining a place in our new Chamber Choir. We look forward to hearing you sing soon. In the meantime, enjoy your rehearsals. Pre-Prep boys have enjoyed taking part in ribbon dances and playing cymbals and drums to welcome in the Chinese New Year as part of their Festivals and Celebrations topic.









## Open House in the Art Room

It was lovely to welcome Year 3 parents to our Open House on Wednesday morning. A perfect opportunity for the boys to showcase their work. Year 4 have had fun painting their red Roman shields and Year 5 have been finishing off their Japanese blossom branches.







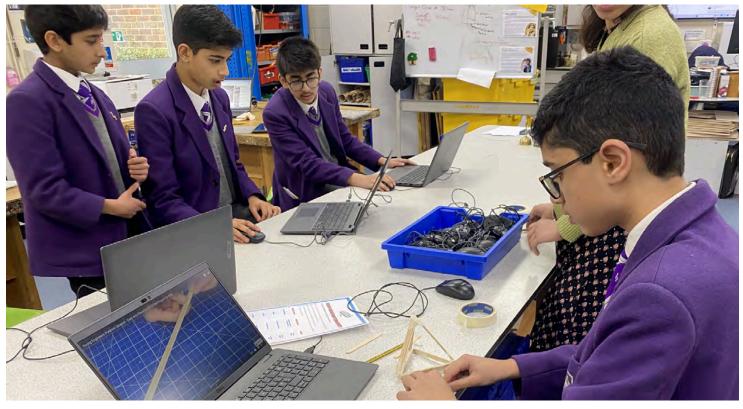




# Year 8 at work in the DT&E workshop This week, Year 8 explored 'potential' as they started to design and construct a catapult.







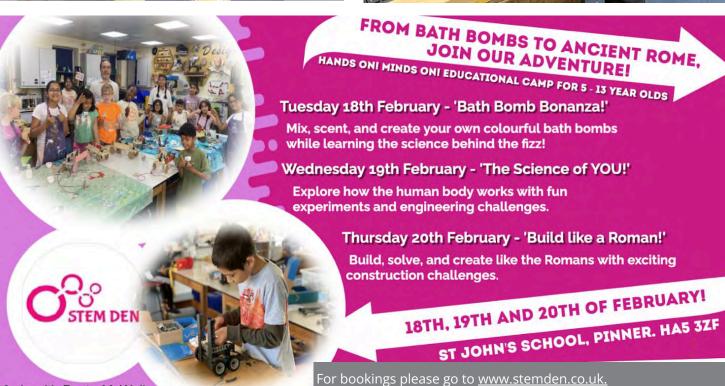


## Year 8 designers at work



Made with PosterMyWall.com









## Under 13 v Lockers Park

Our U13A team faced a tough Lockers Park team on Wednesday. We didn't come away with a win on this occasion, but our second half performance was gutsy and determined.







# Our sporting week



Our Under 11 & Under 10 A & B teams enjoyed a fantastic set of fixtures against MTP, hosted at the superb new MTS Astro pitches. The Under 10 team played two very close matches that ended in draws. Our Under 11 A team came out just on top, while our Under 11 B team lost narrowly.



This weekend you are invited to join Mr Lawrence and the astronomers of WOLAS (West of London Astronomy Association) to view the night sky at Ruislip Lido. If the sky is clear, there will be a host of telescopes available and lots of astronomers to guide you and help you use the equipment. As you may have heard, there is currently a great show of planets in the evening sky, with Venus, Jupiter and Mars taking centre stage. This weekend they will be joined by the moon in it's half phase. Saturn is visible just after the sun goes down - come early to see it!

# VIEW THE NIGHT SKY FROM RUISLIP LIDO

Once again the West of London Astronomical Society invites you to observe the Moon and stars.

Friday 7th Feb - Sunday 9th Feb 2025. Time 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

If the sky is clear, the just past first quarter Moon will be visible. This year's parade of the planets is at its end, Saturn only visible before 6:30 pm but Jupiter, Mars and Uranus will be well placed. The Orion Nebula and a variety of other objects will be on view.

To change target as you move around, check the next telescope is pointing in a different direction to the last - or ask the operator.

Bring friends and family to this FREE event, WOLAS provide the instruments.

Don't forget to wear warm clothing, and bring a torch. To avoid dazzling observers, please limit the brightness of your torch to your phone's light or equivalent and point it down when on site.

The Turntable Tea Room will be open and toilets are available next to it.

Please visit our website for more information.

A GO/NO GO call will be posted no later than 3pm each day.

Ruislip Lido is off Bury Street. Entry is via the gate adjacent to the car park at the end of Reservoir Road HA

KEEP RIGHT ON ENTERING THE PUBLIC CAR PARK £5 UNTIL 6 PM, FREE FOR HILLINGDON FIRST CARD HOLDERS, TICKET STILL REQUIRED. FREE AFTER 6 PM FOR ALL. CLOSES 8.30 PM.

PLEASE AVOID THE PUB CAR PARK TO THE LEFT.





## ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

# WHOLE SCHOOL LITTER PICK

Saturday 22 March 2025 Holland and Holland Ducks Hill Road

2 PM - 4 PM

TO REGISTER, PLEASE PICK THE LINK

