

St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 337

Code breaking at Bletchley Park





On Thursday, the Year 8 boys were inspired by a very special trip to Bletchley Park. On the 80th anniversary of the D-Day operation on June 6th 1944, they learnt about

the amazing work of the codebreakers of World War Two. One of those codebreakers was none other than the daughter of the founder of our school, Jean Kotchie (nee Norman.) The trip offered them a moment to reflect and give thanks for the service of those who served our country.

In other news. our chess teams had a very successful afternoon yesterday at the St Helen's Interschool Tournament. Younger boys have been busy learning outdoors, The Lambs in their garden, Year 2 out and about investigating symmetry and the Juniors competing in House cricket.

The boys all wore mufti today for St John's Charity Day and enjoyed an exciting team orienteering challenge in the School grounds, raising money for Save the Children. Many thanks to the SJA for organising a fantastic barbecue after school.

You can enjoy a whole range of summer sports in *The Lamb* this week: athletics, tennis and cricket. We wish all our Colts A and U13 6 a-side cricketers well this weekend in their matches.

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Code breaking at Bletchley Park cont...

On Thursday Year 8 visited Bletchley Park on a combined Maths and History venture to find out more about the codebreakers of World War Two. It was fascinating to explore the extraordinary task of breaking the German Enigma cypher that they faced at the start of the conflict, and even more so to find out how they achieved it. Highlights

included the mansion, the working Bombe replica in Hut 11, and Hut 8 where much was set up as it originally was, including Alan Turing's office complete with his coffee mug chained to the radiator. Freddie even found the name of a distant relative. Overall, it was a great day out and the boys were a credit to the school.









St John's Charity Day 2024

The sun made an appearance to make our Charity Day extra special this year. Boys from different year groups enjoyed taking part in exciting team based orienteering activities in the School grounds and we all loved wearing mufti. The Pre-Prep boys had fun solving clues in a special treasure hunt. We hope to have raised lots of money for our charity of the year, Save The Children.













St John's Charity Day 2024 cont...















Year 8 Business Enterprise

Preparations are coming to a frantic close in Year 8 as they put the finishing touches to their creations for their Business Enterprise Course Sale next week.











St Helen's Chess Tournament

We had an exciting time at the St Helen's Chess Tournament yesterday. We met many teams from local schools. The boys quickly got organised with help from their team captains, Hari, Kai and Harry, who did an excellent job of leading their teams. All teams played five matches each and our boys

won a good number of their matches. The U9 A team were victorious, coming in first place and the U9B team only missed 3rd place by half a point. The U11 team, just missed a placing, coming in 4th place. The boys were excellently behaved and represented St John's admirably.











Story time for Year 5 and Reception

Once upon a time Year 5 came to read the Reception boys the traditional fairy tales that they had written themselves. This was great opportunity for the older and younger boys to get together.











Lamb life this week

The Lambs have been enjoying the fresh air in the nursery garden this week. They have been learning through role-play, finding inspiration in nature, problem solving with colours and shapes, expressing themselves artistically and getting active in the sunshine – it's a Lamb's life!















Something fishy is going on! The boys in Reception are always keen to practise their fine motor skills, so making fish out of clay was a good way to

The boys in Reception are always keen to practise their fine motor skills, so making fish out of clay was a good way to strengthen and control fingers and palms. After flattening, shaping and adding textured patterns to the fish, it was time to control paintbrushes with great care, to create colourful scales....swim little fish....swim!!!













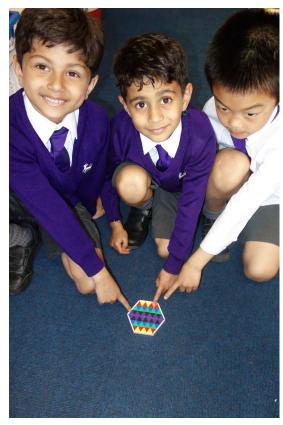


Year 2 have been learning about symmetry











Year 3 House Cricket

Year 3 participated in a fantastic House cricket tournament this week. All boys played with confidence and enthusiasm and their coaches were thrilled with the efforts and attitudes of all players. Well done to all boys and staff.











Paper, parcel tape, pots and more

Year 5 have been making miniature dog sculptures out of newspaper and parcel tape. Year 3 boys have finished off their Greek pots and Year 4 have been learning about Henry Moore.











Brilliant Bird Feeders

Year 3 have been learning about sustainability and materials as they have been making bird feeders from home recycling. Now they have to take them home to test them out. We hope they get lots of visitors!











Senior musicians enjoyed music masterclasses today

Four of our senior musicians enjoyed a day of music masterclasses at Christ's Hospital School, the only school in the UK to hold a performance on every day of the school year. Boys composed using top facilities, performed as part of a combined orchestra and watched a marching band performance.











Senior teams had a brilliant time at Orley Farm

It was great to see the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Xl in action on Wednesday. All the boys enjoyed their cricket in the sun, and we saw some fantastic individual and team performances. The 2nd XI maintained their undefeated streak with a strong win. Mehul retired on 50* after a strong opening spell with Matthew to give us a respectable total of

131. Yuvraj was the pick of the bowlers taking 3 wickets for 9 runs off his 3 overs. This fixture was a great opportunity for the 1st XI squad to showcase all the hard work the boys have put into their cricket this season. St John's suffered an early batting collapse, but it was good to see the boys' fighting spirit in the bowling.











Orley Farm cricket: 2nd XI triumphant team



First cricket fixture for Under 9s

After many games practice sessions and cancelled fixtures due to rain, the U9A cricketers finally enjoyed the excitement of their first cricket fixture for Year 4





York House Junior Athletics

Our Year 3 & 4 athletes really enjoyed taking part in the athletics match at York House. All boys had a fantastic time and ran, threw and jumped exceptionally well. We had multiple podium finishes across the year groups and all boys came away smiling!















Tennis v St Martin's 4th June

St John's comfortably beat St Martin's in the first tennis match of the summer. There were three teams in each age group, U11 and U 13, with the boys playing a doubles format. A match was won by the first pair to win two games, with normal scoring rules applying for each game. All of the boys played to an excellent standard, with the Teddy and Kian pairing winning all of their games 2-0 for the U11s, and the Caiden/Zacharah and Thomas/Adhiraj pairs winning all of their games 2-0 for the U13s. A special mention to the David/Alexander and Yuvraj/Hamza pairs who also played extremely well. The U11 team result: played 9, lost 1. The U13 team result: played 9, lost 2.





