



We are growing
our learning



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 53, Issue 1
Newsletter Date:
Friday 13th January 2023

We ♥ we are all
Maths writers ...



Newsletter

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Follow us on Twitter: @SJG_News School Uniform: www.smartyantsschoolwear.com

A very warm welcome back to all our children and parents for 2023. The weather, which already feels decidedly cold—is going to get even colder next week, so please make sure children have their coats and other warm paraphernalia (hats/gloves/scarfs) clearly named and in school.

Stargazing

Dear Parents/Children,

As part of our Science curriculum, we will be hosting a Stargazing Night on Tuesday 24th January from 5.30-6.30pm at the Abbey Field site.

After parents and children gather in the main hall, Mr. Bates will be giving a short talk about what to expect to see in the night's sky and where to see it. We will then gather on the playground outside to take a look at the stars, planets and constellations in the night's sky.

Please wrap up warm for the night. You are free to bring telescopes, binoculars or Night Sky phone or iPad apps to aid your enjoyment of the stars and planets.

Children MUST come accompanied by an adult.

Unfortunately, if the weather forecast is for a cloudy night, with no stars, we will postpone the event to the next night, Wednesday January 25th at the same time.

A Lot of Lates...

It is cold, dark and recently wet in the mornings, but please could I remind parents that it is important that children arrive in school on time, regardless of the weather.

At AF the doors are opened at 8.30a.m. and children should be in school by 8.40a.m. at the latest.

At T the doors are opened at 8.40a.m. and children should be in school by 8.50a.m. at the latest.



Snack Reminder

Just a reminder that children are allowed to bring in a snack for their break time. Fruit, a bag of crisps, breakfast bar, etc are all excellent.

Chocolate bar, sweets, cake are all not—they just lead to a sugar rush!

Parents Evening Questionnaire

Many thanks to all those parents who completed the questionnaire at our Parents Evening just prior to Christmas. Please see below a summary of your responses.

	Definitely	Yes	No	Definitely Not	I'm not sure
My child feels happy at school	116	49	0	0	3
My child feels safe at school	122	42	1	0	2
Did you feel welcome and comfortable coming into school today?	120	43	0	0	1
Are you comfortable to come into school and speak with staff members for any questions or concerns?	108	56	1	0	3
Do you find it easy to speak to your child's teacher if you need to?	110	41	2	1	5
Did you find the Parents Evening useful?	106	53	3	0	1
Do you feel the School Curriculum engages your child in their learning?	96	59	2	0	8
Do you think that your child knows how to improve their work?	79	64	5	0	17
My child is making good progress	85	71	6	1	2
Has parents evening given you any ideas on how you can help your child's learning?	74	69	9	0	8

England v Jamaica Netball live on BBC2 tomorrow afternoon (Saturday) 2.00p.m. in the second game of a three match series.

Mr. Gilbranch is looking to start a netball club for our oldest children—so as good a place to start as any by watching this!

No NUTS

Please remember that we have a number of children in school with nut allergies. Children MUST NOT come into school with any nut based snacks/products. This includes peanut butter in sandwiches.



Breakfast Club/School Dinners

Please could I remind parents to pay for Breakfast Club and School Dinners when you book them.

We spend quite a lot of time chasing parents for the money owed.

If you are in financial difficulties, then please speak to either School Office and we will do what we can to both support and guide you.

One Square Mile—P2

Christmas Quiz

Next Thursday is the last day for entries for the Christmas Quiz.

If you've got it lurking around at home, please pop your child's name on it and hand it in to either School Office.

NO NUTS!

PTA Winter Warmer

Thursday 19th Jan After drop off at Town site

Drop in for a free coffee and slice of cake whilst hearing about what exciting plans we have for our children this term.

We love to hear new ideas so please do pop along (young children are welcome too)

Our Assembly Theme: Responsibility

Term Dates

Monday 13th—Friday 17th February—Half Term

Monday 3rd April—Friday 14th April—Easter Break

Monday 17th April—First day of Summer Term.

Monday 1st May—May Day Bank Holiday—The School is Closed.

Monday 8th May—King Charles Coronation—Public Holiday—The School is Closed.

Monday 29th May—Friday 2nd June—Half Term

Wednesday 19th July—Monday 4th September—Summer Holiday

Tuesday 5th September—First day of Autumn Term.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 17th January—Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 19th January—9.00 a.m. PTA Coffee Morning @ T

Tuesday 24th January @ 5.30p.m.—Stargazing with Mr. Bates

Tuesday 7th February—Safer Internet Day.

Friday 10th February—International day of Women and Girls in Science.

Monday 13th—Friday 17th March—British Science Week.

The **Big** Question for the Spring Term Assessment Period — Who is Responsible for the World?

Our Jigsaw Theme for this Half Term—Dreams and Goals

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 22 (refugee children) If a child is seeking refuge or has refugee status, governments must provide them with appropriate protection and assistance to help them enjoy all the rights in the Convention. Governments must help refugee children who are separated from their parents to be reunited with them.

The Winter Reading Challenge is not over yet—so there's still a couple of weeks to complete the challenge. Please make sure you log your reads on Boom Reader (Formerly GoRead).

Winter Reading Challenge

Running from Saturday 26 November 2022 to Saturday 28 January 2023, the challenge will follow the journey of Lyra, the plucky penguin as she learns how others celebrate the winter months. Made up of six tasks, there are prizes to all who complete the challenge, as well as a special prize to those that finish early! For more information, visit the Essex Libraries website.

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/winter-reading-challenge-2022/>

Six Core Strengths.

No 4—Awareness—Thinking of Others

Awareness is the ability to recognise the needs, interests, strengths and values of others. Infants begin life prioritising only their own needs and slowly develop awareness—the ability to see themselves and to sense and categorize the other people in their world.

Why it is important: the ability to be attuned, to read and to respond to the needs of others is an essential element of human communication. An aware child learns about the needs and complexities of others by watching, listening and forming relationships with a variety of children. They will become part of a group (which the core strength of affiliation allows them to do) and sees ways in which they are alike and different. The more aware a child is the more able they will be to include others into their groups and thus not engage in behaviour such as bullying.

Awards

STAR— Octavia (MM), CHARIOT— Emily (MM), JUMBO— Aidan (MM).

EAGLES— Kyra (MM), ROSES— Jim (MM), CIRCUS— Aubrey (RREX).

MERCURY— Tessie (MM), CLAUDIUS— Charlton (MM), ROMANS— Roman (MM).

DUTCH— Nina (MM), ICENI— Isabelle (MLM), PAXMAN— Isaac (MLM).

CASTLE— Amelia (MM), CAVALIER— Layla (MM), GARRISON— Salma (MM).

OYSTERS— Darcie (MM), MAGNETS— Zachary (RROX), RAEDWALD— Kai (MM).

TRINOVANTES— Stanley (CC), CYMBELINE— Hartley (MM), LATHES— Niamh (MLM).

ATTENDANCE— Chariot

LIBRARY— Daisy (CC).



One Square Mile: Heritage on Our Doorstep

Update 1 – January 2023 from Tina Bourne

A Happy New Year and a happy new project awaits us. You may remember that we put in a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund in the summer. The award of £62,000 is to celebrate our 125th Anniversary in September 2023 and importantly to vastly increase our knowledge of local history by collaborating with experts and the wider Colchester community.

During this two year project, we will all learn a lot about the 50 heritage sites within one square mile of the school. All children will be involved from EYFS to Year 6.

We will update you with regular newsletters on the One Square Mile: Heritage on our Doorstep project. Here are the basics ...

What does the Project involve?

- + Research of specific time periods.
- + Staff and pupils are assisted by our specialist freelance team and expert project supporters.
- + Staff will meet the experts, learn about the heritage on our doorstep and plan learning opportunities.
- + Many local visits to look at and research the 50 heritage sites on our doorstep.
- + Parents, governors and the wider community are involved in sharing stories and helping with research.
- + All the research brought together as an online teaching resource for other Colchester schools.

What will my child be doing?

- + Improve their drawing, art and design skills by working with a local artist.
- + Learn about the many historical and cultural sites near the school.
- + Learn how to look after archives and artefacts so that they are in good condition for others to enjoy.
- + Interviewing former pupils for their memories of the school.

We have an expert team of freelancers on hand to support us in our research: Laura Davison – Project Manager. Claire Driver – Local Historian. Nicola Burrell – Artist. John Walleth – Web Developer and Fine Artist. Jo Locke – External Evaluator

What can I do now? Complete this survey!

We have to evidence the development of the project over two years. If you know very little about Colchester history and heritage that is OK – the aim is to develop our knowledge, and interest over two years.

Survey QR code or url is here, please complete asap



<https://forms.office.com/e/cSdpeL3YUe>

We are very grateful to our local expert supporter organisations below for their enthusiasm and guidance

Colchester Civic Society

Colchester Archaeological Trust

Colchester Museums

Colchester Garrison

Colchester Recalled

Essex Record Office