



We are growing our learning



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

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We ♥ Maths we are all writers ...



Newsletter

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Please remember that next week is Half Term and the school is closed. The second half of the Spring Term starts on Monday 26th February.

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Term Dates

Monday 19th February—Friday 23rd February—Half Term
 Friday 29th March—Friday 12th April—Easter Break
 Monday 15th April—First Day of Summer Term
 Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday—The School is Closed
 Monday 27th May—Friday 31st May—Half Term
 Friday 19th July—Last Day of Summer Term

Diary Dates

Wednesday 28th February. 3.30p.m.—5.30p.m. Open Evening for parents @ AF & T.
 Please note this is an opportunity for you to come in and meet informally with your children's class teachers and support staff.
 Friday 1st March—PTA—School Discos.
 4.30-5.15p.m., - Year 1/2
 5.30-6.15p.m.—Year 3/4
 6.30-7.15p.m.—Year 5/6
 Thursday 7th March—World Book Day—children can come to school dressed as a Book Character.
Monday 22nd April—Thursday 25th April—Year 4 Residential—Danbury

Assembly Theme for WB 26/2/2024: Why are creative arts important?

TICKETS ON SALE NOW (FREE ENTRY FOR U18s)

JUNIOR TAKEOVER
 ESSEX SPORT ARENA // SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY

WBBL vs NOTTINGHAM WILDCATS 16.00 TO
 D3 MEN vs NORTHAMPTON MAVERICKS 18.30 TO

MDA

The school has a vacancy for an MDA. 6.25 hours per week (1.25 hrs per day Monday-Friday)
 Term time only (not non-pupil days), Scale 2 point 3, £3,211.64pa
 If you're interested, please ask either School Office for an Application Pack.

Charlie

Hello I'm Charlie and I'm cutting my hair to donate for young children with cancer to help them have the hair they want. Please sponsor me. Thank you.



He hopes to raise £700 as this will be how much it costs to have his hair made into a wig and fitted for someone.

The big cut is booked in for 2nd March.
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/charliegra/ylpt#timelineUpdates>

Year 5 parents please remember that the next Kingswood Residential payment is now overdue.

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 17 (access to information from the media) Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

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

Our Jigsaw Theme for this Half Term—Healthy Me.



Football Match V North Primary School.

Unlike the mighty Colchester United, it would appear that our football team know both how to score goals and not concede as in their first game of their season, they beat North Primary School 8-0.

Really well done to the boys that played and thank you for the support from the parents.

Awards

- STAR—Violette (MM), CHARIOT— Miran (MM), JUMBO- Amy (MM).
- EAGLES— Joshua (RREX), ROSES— Zain (MM), CIRCUS- Bella (CC).
- MERCURY— Amelia (MM), CLAUDIUS- Jenson (MM), ROMANS- Veronika (CC).
- DUTCH— Malindu (MM), ICENI— Andrew (RREX), PAXMAN— Esmee (MM).
- CASTLE— George (RROX), GARRISON— Barney (RREX), CAVALIER— Sofia (RROX).
- OYSTERS— Reggie (RROX), RAEDWALD- Carson (RREX) MAGNETS— Maynee (MM).
- TRINOVANTES— Sunny (MLM), CYMBELINE— Kostiantyn (MM), LATHES— Chris (RREX).
- ATTENDANCE— Dutch

Pancakes

Our Year 2 children made 'Dutch' pancakes this week, linked to their OSM History work on the Dutch Quarter.

Dutch pancakes are smaller and rounder and rise a little bit more. Apparently it's all in the measurements. If you want to know more ask Miss. Aston!



Year 3 Castle Trip

Last week, our Year 3 children went to Colchester Castle to look very specifically at the Celts. The children used their historical enquiry skills to look carefully and compare objects from the Iron Age to the equivalent nowadays.

Really well done to all our Year 3 children.



St Johns Green Primary School Governor Meeting 7.2.24

The recent meeting of the Governors was lively and interesting, dealing with many aspects of our developing school.

We spent some time discussing the most recent attainment data from assessments. These are also tied to the revised targets for children and classes. This is one of the ways we keep an overview of progress within the school and form the basis of the questions we ask on our termly visits to classes.

The School Development Plan is a costed document that highlights identified needs within the buildings. These obviously differ between the buildings.

Since Safeguarding the children is always high on our agenda, we discussed the installation of increased security for people entering both premises. This is currently being explored for effectiveness and best value.

Our staffing is secure, with a teacher in every class. We are an inclusive and multicultural organisation.

There was a lengthy discussion about finance as we are approaching the new budget year. This included consideration of the excellent school meals as parents will all know about the rising cost of food over a prolonged period. Our Catering Manager has worked hard to revise the menus within the budget and still prepare healthy and balanced hot meals. All schools have financial constraints in the current climate and it is our duty to keep a watchful eye on the school finances. We have a very strong business management team that keep us informed on a weekly basis.

We reviewed six of the school's policies; there is a rolling review of all policies affecting every area of the school.

The PTA has put together an exciting plan of activities for the children this year. This takes a large amount of time and your support is very much appreciated.

Throughout the two buildings there are very impressive cardboard models of buildings in Colchester as part of our One Square Mile project that were created with the guidance of local artist Nicola Burrell. The children learned new skills in Design Technology and had great fun while doing so. Their enthusiasm was matched by the amount of cardboard they used!

Our next meeting will be on 20th March when we will discuss the budget in detail.

Lynn Spencer-Campbell

Women and Girls in Science Day 2024

As a school, we celebrated Women and Girls in Science Day on Monday 12th February. Every child took part in an experiment and learned about famous women in science.

EYFS learned about what the word science means and were inspired through the skittle experiment. They then went on to learn about **Mary Anning**, who was a palaeontologist and fossil collector. The children had the challenge of keeping their very own egg safe all week.

Year 1 learned about **Mary Jackson**, who was the first African American female engineer at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). She was a mathematician as well as an aerospace engineer. In addition to her professional work, Jackson was known for her volunteer work at NASA and in her community. To celebrate this amazing scientist, Year 1 solved mathematical problems, created their own rockets and used problem solving to complete a Ker-plunk challenge.

Year 2 learned about women who are linked to space/NASA such as **Katherine Johnson**, **Dorothy Vaughan** and **Valentina Tereshkova**. They made 'moon landers' and dropped them from different heights to see the strength of their structure.

Year 3 learned about the life and work of **Cecelia Payne-Gaposchkin**, an astrophysicist. They made their own spectroscopes to study the colours of white light.

Year 4 based their learning around **Katia Krafft** and volcanoes. Their experiment was coke and Mentos vs Vinegar and Bicarbonate volcanoes.

Year 5 explored the life and work of **Sylvia Earle**, oceanographer, and carried out an experiment to demonstrate how water pressure is greater the deeper down you go! The lower hole, in the bottle, spurted water at a faster rate, showing the pressure was greater!

Year 6 had scientists from St. Helena teach them about important women in science and the breakthroughs that they made. **Valentina Tereshkova** was the first and youngest woman in space. **Ada Lovelace** created the first computer programme and **Carolina Herschel** was the first female scientist to be paid a wage as well as the first woman to also have a role in Government too! They also learned about the PH system and were shown how an acid and an alkaline interact with each other. Finally, they learned what the word 'combustion' meant and had a demonstration of it too!



Science at home...

If you have been inspired by one of the above experiments, half term would be a great time to have some science fun with the help of a grown up! It would be wonderful to share photographs of these in the newsletter over the coming weeks.

Rotary Young Artist Competition

Theme: Rebuilding.—The 'Rebuilding' Theme can be interpreted as broadly as the Young Artist wishes and does not need to conform to the dictionary definition of the word.

'Rebuilding Lives and Rebuilding Communities' is one of three unifying themes Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (Rotary GB&I) is using to link all the service projects Rotary clubs undertake in and with their communities, and the people in them, locally, nationally and internationally.

The Theme for the Young Artist competition is simply 'Rebuilding' so it gives young people the widest opportunity to share their creative talents in showing us what it means to them.

The competition aims to encourage young people to use traditional or contemporary methods of art to:

- be creative
- develop skills in using traditional or contemporary media
- demonstrate interpretation of the topic
- express personal ideas through a selected medium

The closing date for entries is Tuesday 27th February—so entries need to be handed in to either site by this date. The entry form and further information will be sent out with the newsletter electronically.

