



We are growing
our learning



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 55, Issue 13

Newsletter Date:
Friday 8th December 2023

We ♥ we are all
Maths writers ...



Newsletter

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One Square Mile—Please remember to follow on: <https://m.facebook.com/people/One-Square-Mile-Heritage-on-our-Doorstep/100086912204893/>



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Term Dates

Wednesday 20th December—Last Day of Autumn Term
Thursday 4th January—First Day of Spring Term
Monday 19th February—Friday 23rd February—Half Term
Friday 29th March—Friday 12th April—Easter Break.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 12th December - EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 13th December—AP1 Reports to parents
Thursday 14th December - Year 3, 4, 5, 6 Christmas Lunch
Friday 15th December—EYFS/Year 1 Polar Express Day (Non Uniform—wear pyjamas/dressing gown, etc)
Monday 18th December—Christmas Dress Up Day—Come to school as Christmassy as they like
Monday 18th December @ 2.00p.m.—Year 1 Christmas Songs to Parents

EYFS Nativity (@ AF) 'A Bundle of Joy'

Tuesday 12th December @ 10.00a.m.
Wednesday 13th December @ 10.00a.m.
Thursday 14th December @ 10.00a.m.

Year 2 Production (@ T) 'Our Happy Christmas'

Wednesday 13th December @ 2.00p.m.
Thursday 14th December @ 10.00a.m.
Friday 15th December @ 10.00a.m.

Assembly Theme for W8: 11/12/2023—The Christmas Story

PTA Christmas Fair

Many thanks to everyone who braved the very cold conditions in support of our PTA Christmas Fair last Saturday. It was lovely to see so many of you there, desperately trying to part with your money as you sought victory in the chocolate tombola and teddy bear raffle.

With a Christmas Tree Wonderland to walk through, bauble making, hot chocolate, cakes and sausage rolls—there seemed to be plenty of things to try and stave off the cold.

Huge thanks to Mrs. Gaine and the choir for their excellent singing, (ably supported on the day by Miss Aston) and to Mrs. Taylor for bringing the whole of the fair together and

for seeming to know where everybody was meant to be and what they were meant to be doing. Also to our PTA for their enthusiasm and commitment and who worked tirelessly in making the magic happen.

In total, the PTA raised £2700 for the children of the school and that was down to you on the day and your generosity beforehand in donating prizes and your time.

Our next big event is the Summer Fair—which will hopefully be significantly warmer!



The 2 Johns Online Safety session – Sunday 10 December 7pm

The 2 Johns are running a session on Sunday evening (10 December) at 7pm to launch the ESCB online safety week. The virtual session and Q&A will be hosted on Zoom and also The 2 Johns Facebook page. This will be followed by a week of online safety messages and advice on the ESCB social media accounts.

<https://www.escb.co.uk/about/campaigns/online-safety/>

<https://www.facebook.com/The2Johns>

This will be well worth watching—scary, but well worth it.

Year 5—Kingswood Residential

Please remember that the £70 deposit for Kingswood (the Year 6 Residential) is now due. Many thanks.

Awards

STAR—Chloe (MLM), CHARIOT—Luke (MM), JUMBO—Leo (MM).
EAGLES—Jude (MLM), ROSES—Isabella (MM), CIRCUS—Octavia (RREX).
MERCURY—Darcie (MM), CLAUDIUS—Macie (MM), ROMANS—Alfred (CC).
DUTCH—Niranjan (ROX), ICENI—Reuben (RREX), PAXMAN—Aston (RREX).
CASTLE—Arsenii (MM), GARRISON—Lotta (CC), CAVALIER—Theo (MM).
OYSTERS—Eva (MM), RAEDWALD—Isla (RREX), MAGNETS—Ellis (RREX).
TRINOVANTES—Izabel (MM), CYMBELINE—Matilda (MM), LATHES—Harry (MM).
ATTENDANCE—Oysters & Raedwald

(One Square Mile) History Speech

Alishba, one of our One Square Mile Historians, has prepared this speech for our upcoming OSM History Club Assembly. Absolutely brilliant.

Hello, my name is Alishba and I want to discuss the fantastic History of SJG with you because it is fun and inspiring.

1 and a quarter centuries ago, in September 1898, the school opened with 325 infants and 413 juniors and in the month following that, October 1898 (again) children in those times were given a holiday to lay the foundation stone of the new Town Hall.

Our school library, which is now filled with adventurous books, was established as early as the 1900s.

Throughout the history of our school, we have celebrated important events happening within the UK. We had coronation tea for King Edward the VI in 1902 and for George V in 1911. Our school has survived both the first and 2nd world wars. During the 1st world war, teachers were involved in writing Rationing cards at the Town Hall and in 1918 the school had organised a Peace Tea towards the end of the 1st World War.

Throughout the 2nd World War, our school remained actively involved by being a welcome centre for evacuees arriving at St Botolphs Station and providing air raid shelters with 4 Morrison shelters by 1943.

Do any of you know what a Morrison shelter is? A Morrison shelter is a metal cage in which the occupants would lie until an air aid subsided.

Sports has always been supported by our school, right from 1936 when swimming lessons started, students took part in netball and football.

After 1 century and 16 years, in 2014, our school expanded and opened Abbey field Site. We are now a mighty and extraordinary 630 pupils in this school.



The **Big** Question for the Autumn Term Assessment Period – Where are my Roots?

Our Jigsaw Theme for this Half Term—Celebrating Difference

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 2 (non-discrimination) The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

Please remember that the closing date for Reception Admissions is 15th January 2024.

IMPORTANT—PTA

Following on from the PTA Extraordinary General Meeting this week, our current PTA committee made the very difficult decision to stand down.

I would like to thank them for their hard work and support of the school and most specifically for the money they've raised to spend on and support our children.

I'm delighted to announce that, at that meeting, a new committee was nominated and elected, which should hopefully produce a seamless transition going forward. The new committee will, I'm sure, be letting us know what events they planned for the children going forward into the New Year and 2024.

Orange Belt

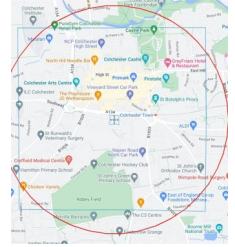
Really well done to Isla in year 4 gained her orange belt last weekend. Incredible stuff and very impressive—I never got beyond white!



"At one time, most of my friends could hear the bell, but as years passed, it fell silent for all of them. Even Sarah found one Christmas that she could no longer hear its sweet sound. Though I've grown old, the bell still rings for me, as it does for all who truly believe."
CHRIS VAN ALLSBURG



HISTORY ON OUR DOOR-STEP... ONE SQUARE MILE.



Colchester Roman Wall

Did you Know?

- Colchester's Town Wall is the earliest and one of the most complete town wall circuits surviving from Roman Britain, dated to c.AD 65-80.
- The Wall was constructed in a calcareous mudstone, septaria, imported from an outcrop near Harwich, supplemented by courses of brick.
- It was built to defend Colchester after the Boudican rebellion in AD60 and includes Balcerne Gate, the original main entrance to the town
- Nearly two thirds of the wall circuit still exists with the remainder surviving as buried archaeological remains; originally the Wall formed a circuit 2.8km long and 2.4m thick, and enclosed a rectangular area of 48ha.
- The original height is not known and the highest surviving part is 2.6m above modern ground level but it is thought the original height may have been over six metres.
- Six gates were built in the Wall and internal rectangular towers were constructed on the inside of the Wall; today, there are the upstanding remains of only two gates, the Balcerne Gate and Duncan's Gate.
- A large defensive ditch, over 5m wide and 3m deep, was dug around the outer foot of the Wall, around the same time as the construction of the Wall. This ditch was subsequently recut and enlarged in c.AD 275. An interior rampart was also added to the Wall in the mid-2nd century AD.
- An extensive programme of repairs was carried out in the 14th century and eight bastions were added along the south-east circuit. One of the best preserved bastions, Bastion 5, is today situated in Priory Street car park. The Civil War was the last military action seen by the Town Wall.
- It is one of the most important historic features and visual reminders of the Roman town, as most of the Roman evidence is buried deep underground.

