

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

"ShareTheMiracle" Easter Initiative

As you are aware St John's got involved with "ShareTheMiracle" this Easter in collecting Easter eggs to give out to the elderly in the community.



"ShareTheMiracle" is a simple initiative built around the pillars of *GIVING*, *INVITING* and *SHARING* that helps individuals and organisations, such as schools, build stronger communities through simple acts of kindness at Easter, ie the giving of an egg.

We chose two local organisations to support and the children delivered the eggs on Tuesday 2 April. Our Rights Respecting Ambassadors visited Abbeyfield Wessex [Harleston House] to deliver Easter eggs to the residents who were delighted to receive them. We are confident that this initial act will build links with Harleston House, which is one of our nearest neighbours.

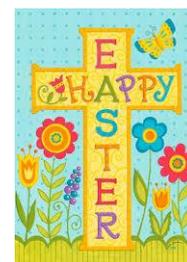
Our Year 3 class joined senior members of St John's Church at their weekly lunch club to hand out Easter eggs. The children performed Easter songs and chatted with the lunch club members. The Church members were thrilled to see the children and overwhelmed with the Easter eggs.

I would like to thank all those families who generously brought in Easter eggs; without your support this initiative would not have been possible and your kindness has made an immense difference to the older members of our community.

Easter Service

A reminder that Thursday 4th April 2019 is the last day of term and the children will be leading our Easter Service in St John's Church at 1.45 pm. All are welcome to join us for this special service. The children may then be collected from school straight after the Easter Service.

On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your family a very Happy Easter. I hope you have a restful break and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 23rd April 2019.



Dorset Local Authority has requested that the support I currently provide to Pamphill First School, on behalf of Wimborne Teaching School, continues for the Summer term. Therefore, it has been agreed that I will continue to provide Pamphill with leadership support. Mrs Morris will continue with the Year 4 team to allow Miss Dufek the extra leadership time required. We appreciate your understanding with this matter.

Yours sincerely



Katharine Anstey
Headteacher

Shakespeare Week

Shakespeare Week is a national annual celebration giving primary school aged children opportunities for enriching and enjoyable early encounters with **Shakespeare!**



To celebrate Shakespeare Week this year, the children of St John's took part in a range of immersive, Shakespeare themed drama workshops led by StageWise! Reception and Year 1 explored the theme of 'Dreams' making connections to 'Midsummer Night's Dream' whilst Year 2, 3 and 4 explored family rivalry within 'Romeo & Juliet'! Children across the school also had the opportunity to make a theatrical mask using different materials to understand and appreciate the role of costume in Shakespeare's plays and in the performances of his works.

The week culminated in a wonderful showcase of the children's learning, with Year 4 putting on a thrilling performance of a famous scene from 'Romeo and Juliet' and Year 3 performing a mesmerising ballroom dance. Check out the gallery on the school website to see pictures from our wonderful Shakespeare themed week of learning.

Thank you to Mr Ronayne for working so hard, to StageWise for an inspiring day of drama for all classes and Mrs Glover for her expertise in all things Shakespeare.



Year 2 Easter Experience at Wimborne Minster

To celebrate and make connections between the Easter Story and Jesus' life and teachings, the children attended an engaging and thought-provoking visit to Wimborne Minster.

Year 2 enjoyed investigating different elements of Easter and were able to use symbols, stories and interactive activities to deepen their understanding of Easter and make connections between Jesus' life and the meanings behind different elements of the story. They had a chance to explore 'The Last Supper' by sharing and eating grapes and bread with one another to understand the importance and relevance of this in the Easter Story and to make connections with their own special meals with family and friends. The children also explored themes such as 'remembrance', 'sharing our sorrows' and 'Jesus as a servant'. We thank Captain Kev and the volunteers who supported us to challenge our thinking and broaden our perspectives on this significant part of the life of Jesus.

Year 3 Egyptian Day

A wonderful day of Egyptian celebrations!

This term Year 3 have been learning about Ancient Egypt. Last Wednesday, they travelled back in time to Ancient Egypt for a day of celebrations!

The day began with a fabulous class assembly performance to parents, carers and the rest of the school. Pandas' class wowed the audience with their creative costumes, fantastic dancing and confident speaking parts.

The children then enjoyed a cooking activity where they had the opportunity to make their very own Egyptian mahlab bread. They used their weighing skills, which they had learnt earlier this term in their maths learning, to follow a recipe.

Next, the children designed their own Shaduf. A Shaduf is a hand-operated device used in Ancient Egypt to lift water from the river Nile to irrigate the land. The children followed their plans to make a model and evaluate their final product. Later in the day, the children also made their own clay jewelry and bowls.

Year 3 had a fantastic day and we would like to say a special thank you to all of our year 3 families for your support with providing the most wonderful costumes.



Joe Wicks School HIIT Tour



St John's Year 4 children had a fantastic opportunity last Friday. They were invited to Springdale First School, to take part in a HIIT (High Intensity interval Training) session led by Joe Wicks. Our children (and staff) were excited to attend this event along with 700 other pupils. This was Joe's last stop on his Schools HIIT Tour and he said it was the best crowd he had seen yet.

On our arrival, sports leaders led us in a warm-up shortly followed by some active games to play as a school. The children then lined up, waiting in anticipation, chanting "Joe Wicks, Joe Wicks." Before long, he was running through the crowd to his platform stage. We then took part in a 25 minute HIIT session; squatting, jumping, lunging and so much more. This was then followed by a Q&A session with Joe Wicks, where children heard him talk about having a healthy lifestyle. He was keen to stress that this involved having healthy eating habits alongside exercising. Although we never got our photo with Joe, the children thoroughly enjoyed their informative and active afternoon in the sun.

Attendance



For your information, the whole school attendance figure for the year so far is 96.2%. We are aware that towards the end of this term St John's has experienced a considerable amount of illness and of course the school supports children being at home when they are unwell to ensure they can recover properly and to ensure that the spread of illness is minimised. However, we are also aware that some children are being withdrawn for days out or long weekends away. Please remember that children should not be withdrawn from school for holidays and these cannot and will not be authorised.

Thank you for your support with this matter.

Wimborne Academy Trust



Sarah Pond is working with colleagues from other WAT schools to receive Dorset Steps training. This is a programme run by Dorset special schools to support inclusion. Three days' training in an up-to-date, practical and therapeutic approach for understanding and responding to behaviour within settings for children and young people is provided. Participants will then be qualified as '**Steps** Tutors' for their setting.

Safeguarding Leads from across Wimborne Academy Trust met recently to review best practice for safeguarding to ensure rigour and the highest standards are maintained across the Trust.

HeartSmart Parents' Workshop



It was great to see over 40 families at our HeartSmart workshop last week. Parents were introduced to our new HeartSmart curriculum and shown the positive impact it has had on our St John's children in just 1 term. The children then joined their parents in a crafty activity to complete together using HeartSmart language. To end the workshop, parents were joined by the whole school, who sang 'Magic Penny'.

Thank you to all those that joined us.

Friends of St John's Quiz Night



Last Friday, the Friends of St John's held a Quiz Night to raise funds for the school. This was very well attended and was great fun, with a slight competitive edge!!!

Huge thanks to the Year 1 parents who organised this event, and kept everyone well fed & watered throughout the evening!! A fantastic £458.00 was raised - what a great effort!!!



Bring a Bloom : Non-school Uniform Day - Friday 3rd May 2019

In preparation for Wimborne in Bloom, the children are invited to wear their "home clothes" in return for a plant to put in the school grounds.

This is a wonderful way to add colour to our school grounds and the children love watering them and taking care of them.

Thank you for your generosity.

Mrs Selby, Miss Smith and the Eco Warriors

East Dorset Invitation Football Festival

Following the Year 4 WASP football event in the Autumn term, a Year 4 team progressed to the East Dorset Invitation Festival held at Ferndown Leisure Centre last Thursday. They joined 5 other local schools and played against each team in the festival. Two members of our team, Joe and Harrison, received medals for good play & sportsmanship, after being nominated by the other participating schools. Well Done to all those who took part!



Forthcoming Diary Dates

All dates can be found in the News & Events section of the school website.

SPRING TERM 2019

April

Thursday 4 th April	1.45pm Easter Service End of term
Friday 5 th April	Staff training day - No children in school
Tuesday 23 rd April	Children return to school
Friday 26 th April	8.30am School Nurse Drop-in*

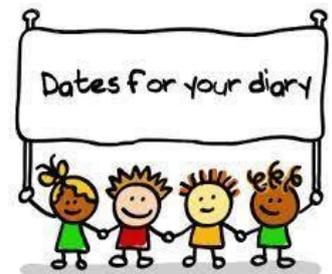
May

Thursday 2 nd May	Year 4 Tag Rugby event Reception Class Vision Screening*
Friday 3 rd May	Bring a Bloom - Non-school uniform day*
Monday 6 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 9 th May	Year 3 Trigolf Event*
Friday 10 th May	9.00am Diamond Assembly*
Monday 13 th May	Year 3 Cricket Event at Canford School*
Thursday 16 th May	Year 3 WASP Multi-skills and Athletics festival
Tuesday 21 st May	The Book People "Book Bus" visit

Half-term Holiday : Monday 27th - Friday 31st May 2019

June

Monday 3 rd June	Children return to school
Wednesday 5 th June	Class photographs
Friday 14 th June	9.00am Diamond Assembly* Grandparents' Afternoon
Wednesday 19 th June	Year 2 trip to Beaulieu* School Games Final Bryanston
Friday 21 st June	1.15pm Sports Day
Tuesday 25 th June	1.15pm Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 26 th June	2.00pm Elmer Club
Thursday 27 th June	2.00pm Elmer Club
Friday 28 th June	5.00pm Summer Fair



July

Monday 1 st July	Year 2 WASP Mini-Olympics day
Wednesday 3 rd July	2.00pm Elmer Club 7.00pm New Reception intake evening
Thursday 4 th July	2.00pm Elmer Club
Friday 5 th July	Transfer Day [Year 4 children attend Middle School] 5.00pm Summer picnic [tbc]
Tuesday 9 th July	Year 4 Leavers' event at Wimborne Minster*
Wednesday 10 th July	9.00am Diamond Assembly*
Thursday 11 th July	Year 3 trip to Brownsea Island*
Friday 12 th July	Annual reports home
Tuesday 16 th July	3.30pm Parent consultations
Wednesday 17 th July	Year R trip to Moors Valley*
Thurs 18 th /Fri 19 th July	Year 4 Leeson House Residential Visit
Monday 22 nd July	9.00am Diamond Assembly* 3.30pm - 5.00pm Year 4 Leavers' BBQ
Tuesday 23 rd July	1.45pm Leavers' Service End of term

*New event added