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Newsletter

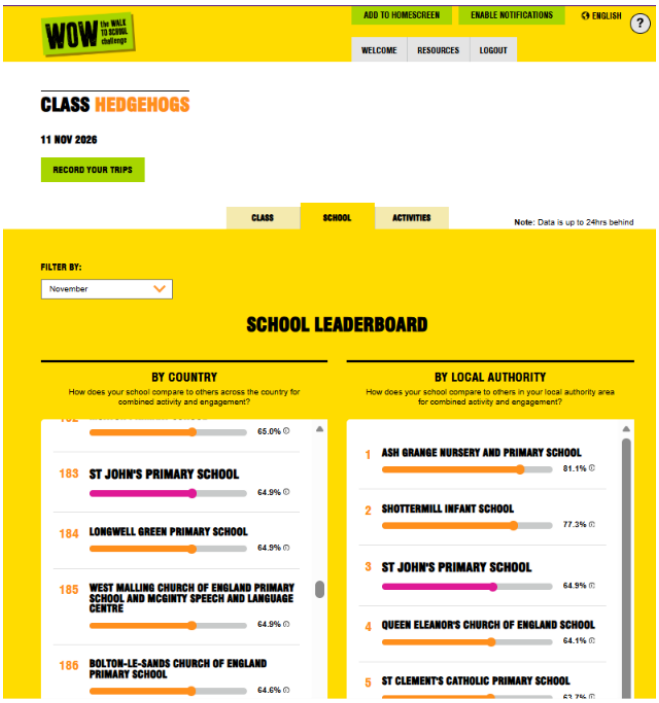
13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first two weeks after half term, it is hard to believe how much has been packed into such a short time, with rich learning experiences, special events and many moments that have showcased the enthusiasm and achievements of our pupils. This newsletter provides an opportunity to celebrate and share some of the many experiences that have enriched pupils' learning over the past fortnight.

Travel Working Party Update

Last week, we held the first meeting of our newly established Travel Working Party, bringing together pupils, staff and community representatives to support the development of our School Travel Plan and promote safe, healthy and sustainable journeys to and from St John's. The group celebrated the fantastic start to our Living Streets WOW Travel Tracker Challenge, with many children already recording active journeys and working towards their badges. The Working Party pupils also spoke in assembly this week to remind children that to earn their badge they need to enter only one active travel (Walk, Park and Stride, Cycle, Scoot etc.) journey a week and also explained that we recognise active travel is not possible for every family every day. Children can still contribute towards the challenge and earn their badges in a variety of ways, such as taking part in other jobs and activities that support our school goals to increase active travel journeys. The aim is to encourage every child to be involved in some way and to celebrate positive travel choices wherever possible. The children were also delighted to hear that we were currently 3rd on the leaderboard out of the schools taking part in the WOW Travel Tracker Challenge in Surrey!



Road Safety Week Poster Competition

To coincide with **Road Safety Week next week (16th-21st November**), members of the Working Party launched our Road Safety Poster Competition in assembly today. Children have been challenged to design an eye-catching poster that promotes safe and respectful travel within our school community, with themes including road safety, considerate parking, cleaner air, walking, wheeling and cycling safely. The winning design could become part of our Active Travel Project and even be developed into a professional outdoor banner displayed around the school. We look forward to seeing the creativity of our young designers and the positive messages they share to help keep our community safe.





Road Safety Week Poster Competition
Be Creative!
Think about:
Powerful messages
Bright colours
Eye-catching pictures
Positive ways to encourage safer behaviour

Closing Date: Monday 23rd November

Could Your Design Become Part of Our Active Travel Project?
Design a poster that encourages everyone to travel safely and respectfully around our school community.
Your poster could focus on:
Slowing down near school
Road safety for children and families
Keeping crossings and pathways clear
Respectful parking
Not blocking driveways or other vehicles
Switching off engines when waiting
Cleaner air and protecting our environment
Walking, wheeling and cycling safely

Grand Prize
The winning design could be:
- Displayed as part of our Active Travel Project
- Turned into a professional outdoor banner or sign
- Displayed outside the school for the whole community to see

Who will inspire our community to travel safely?

Open Events for Prospective Families
We have been delighted to welcome so many prospective families to our recent Open sessions. Visitors have shared wonderfully positive feedback about the warm, nurturing atmosphere at St John's and have praised our exceptional Year 6 Tour Guides. We are incredibly proud of how confidently and enthusiastically they have represented our school, sharing their experiences and helping visitors gain a genuine insight into life at our 'school on the common'.

Due to the popularity of our Open sessions, we have added two further events on **Monday 30 November at 1.30pm** and **Friday 4 December at 9.15am**. We look forward to welcoming even more prospective families and giving them the opportunity to meet our dedicated staff, explore our learning environment and discover what makes St John's such a special community of learners. Many thanks to our Year 6 pupils, whose maturity and pride continue to make a lasting impression on all who visit.

Parent Consultations
It was wonderful to see such a high turnout at our recent Parent Consultation meetings, with 97% of families attending. This fantastic level of engagement reflects the value our parents place on their children's learning and the importance of the strong partnership between home and school. When parents and teachers work together, children are best supported to thrive both academically and personally.

If you were unable to attend your appointment, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. Our staff are committed to ensuring every family has the opportunity to discuss their child's progress, and I know our teachers have already been reaching out to arrange alternative conversations where needed. We greatly value your involvement and continued support.

Great Fire of London Workshop
Hedgehogs and Squirrels had a fantastic start to their new topic with an immersive Great Fire of London workshop. Travelling back in time, the children explored what life was like in 1666 and learned about the events that led to one of the most significant moments in London's history. The workshop brought learning to life and sparked great curiosity and enthusiasm, providing the perfect launchpad for the exciting learning that lies ahead this term.







Anti-Bullying Week: Break the Silence



Next week, we will be marking Anti-Bullying Week and embracing this year's theme from the Anti-Bullying Alliance: **"Break the Silence."** Throughout the week, children will be exploring the importance of speaking out, showing kindness, celebrating differences and ensuring that everyone feels safe, valued and included within our school community. We are also looking forward to celebrating **Odd Socks Day on Monday 16th November**, a wonderful opportunity for children and staff to celebrate what makes us unique and to show that being different is something to be proud of.



To launch the week, every class has taken part in an engaging anti-bullying workshop, helping pupils develop the confidence, empathy and understanding needed to build positive relationships and challenge unkind behaviour. We are also excited to announce the launch of our Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme. Children who would like to be considered for this important role are invited to write a letter to Mr Williams, explaining why they would make an effective Anti-Bullying Ambassador and how they could help support others across the school. We look forward to reading their applications and to seeing our pupils take an active role in promoting kindness, respect and inclusion throughout St John's.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the Friends of St John's, whose fundraising continues to support enrichment opportunities such as these and enhances the personal development experiences available to our children.



School Council and Pupil Voice

Our School Council has been busy listening to the views and ideas of children across the school, ensuring that every pupil has a voice in shaping their playground experience. After gathering suggestions from their classmates, the councillors have created an Amazon Wish List featuring equipment they would like to add to the playground, as well as items that need replacing after years of enthusiastic use. We are so proud of the children's initiative, responsibility and commitment to making playtimes even better for everyone. If you are able to support this project, no matter how small the contribution, we would be truly appreciative. Thank you for helping turn the children's ideas and wishes into reality. **You can find the Amazon Wishlist here: https://amzn.eu/0goSjWRc**

Lest We Forget



On Wednesday this week, the school came together to observe the two-minute silence, pausing to remember and honour those who have served and sacrificed for our country. Year 4 deepened their understanding this afternoon with a visit to St John's Church, where they learned about the life of Private Cooper, shared poems and offered prayers in his memory. It was a meaningful day of reflection, gratitude and learning, helping our children appreciate the importance of Remembrance and the sacrifices that have helped shape the freedoms we enjoy today.

Maths at St John's

We were delighted to receive very positive feedback following a mathematics review held in school this morning. Visitors praised the calm and purposeful atmosphere in classrooms, pupils' enthusiasm for learning and the strong relationships between adults and children. They also recognised the inclusive nature of our maths lessons, where all pupils are supported to participate, succeed and develop confidence in their mathematical thinking. We are incredibly proud of our children and staff, whose hard work and commitment were evident throughout the review.

Children in Need

This week, St John's proudly supported Children in Need, with everyone coming together to show an awareness for children facing challenges across the UK. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, generosity and community spirit on display. Events like these provide a valuable opportunity for our children to think about the needs of others and demonstrate our school values through acts of kindness and compassion. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make the day such a success.







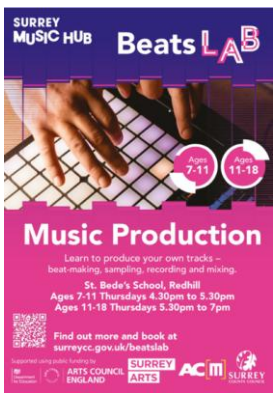


Music Opportunities with Surrey Arts

We are pleased to share some exciting music opportunities available through **Surrey Arts** in Redhill. Whether your child is interested in learning guitar, exploring music production, writing songs or performing with others, there are a range of after-school clubs designed to inspire young musicians of all abilities, including complete beginners. We encourage families to take a look at the information below and consider the fantastic opportunities available for children to develop their musical skills, creativity and confidence.

For children interested in music technology and creating their own tracks, **Beats Lab** offers sessions in beat-making, sampling, recording and mixing.

For aspiring instrumentalists, **Guitar Lab** provides a welcoming environment where children can learn, play and perform together, with opportunities for acoustic, electric and bass guitarists, as well as ukulele players.









Uniform Reminder
As the weather becomes colder and many families begin purchasing winter clothing, we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of a few key aspects of our uniform expectations. Hair accessories should be in school colours (green) or natural, neutral hair colours, helping to maintain a smart and consistent appearance across the school.
We would also ask parents and carers to ensure that coats are practical and suitable for school use. Whilst we appreciate the need for warm clothing, coats should not be excessively long, as this can present a safety issue when children are playing and using playground equipment. For this reason, Dryrobe-style coats are not permitted in school. Thank you for your support in helping us keep all children safe, comfortable and ready to learn.

Greensand vacancies
Vacancies available at Greensand Multi Academy Trust.

Upcoming Events

November	
16th - 21st	National Anti-Bullying Week
16th	Odd Socks Day
16th - 21st	Road Safety Week
December	
4th	Yr2 Christmas Journey
7th	Yr5 Egyptian Day
11th	Frost Fest/Disco* – 2-3pm Infants & 3.20-4.20pm Juniors
14th	Pick a Present*
16th	2pm Carol Service at St. John's Church, parents welcome
18th	Last day of term – early finish Infants 1.20pm, lower KS2 Y3&4 1.25pm, upper KS2 Y5&6 1.30pm
January	
4th	First day of Spring Term

*Organised by The Friends of St Johns – more information to follow from The Friends (https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stjohns-redhill/index.cfm)

School Governor's Meetings

The meetings for this academic year will take place on the following dates;
25th November 2026
3rd February 2027
10th March 2027
12th May 2027
23rd June 2027

If you would like any further information, please contact the Clerk on clerk@stjohn-redhill.surrey.sch.uk

FRIENDS OF ST.JOHN'S

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS!

BAKING VOLUNTEERS

We need 3 volunteers per class to make cakes for the carol service. 3 cakes or cupcake batch per class.

Please can cakes be dropped off on the morning of Weds 16th Dec at the school playground shelter.

PICK A PRESENT

Children will Pick a Present on Mon 14th Dec. This will be included in the price of the Christmas passport.

Please sign up to volunteer on the Friends website.

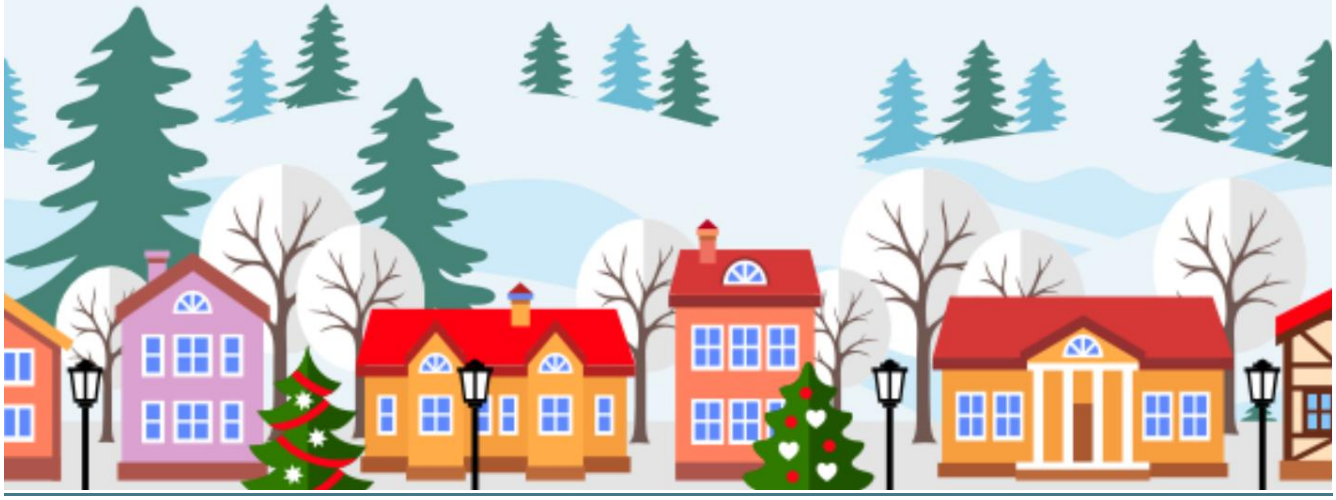
HAPPY SCHOOL BAG

Bag up all your unwanted clothes. We help turn your clothes into cash for the school! The next collection will be on Thursday 28th Jan.

FROSTY FEST

Frosty Fest/Disco is on Fri 11th Dec 2-3pm Infants and 3.20-4.20pm Juniors. £8 a ticket includes Pick a Present.

Please sign up on the Friends website to volunteer.



THE FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S PRESENT:

CHRISTMAS

Extravaganza

2026

FRI 11TH DEC: FROSTY FEST & CHRISTMAS DISCO

£8 for Xmas passport includes Pick a Present

INFANTS: 2-3PM

JUNIORS: 3.20-4.20PM

DRINK & SNACK INCLUDED

MON 14TH DEC: PICK A PRESENT

PURCHASE YOUR XMAS PASSPORT FOR ALL 3 EVENTS



GREENSAND MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Greensand Multi Academy Trust, registered in England & Wales. Company no: 10980776.
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