



NEWSLETTER Term 2: 6th December 2024

<https://sjm.academy>

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Upcoming Whole School Dates

November	Saturday 30th : Christmas Fayre inc. Elfridges
December	Wednesday 11th : Karate Taster - All classes in PE kit Tuesday 17th : Reception Christmas Sing 9AM & 2.30PM Wednesday 18th : Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch Wednesday 18th : Nativity Year 1 & 2 at 2.30PM Thursday 19th : Nativity Year 1 & 2 at 9.15AM Friday 20th : Christmas Church Service (PM) & Last day of term 2
January	Monday 6th : First day of term 3

*Whole School
Reminder:*



NO NUTS

are to be brought in to school.

Thank you.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas Fayre



I had to share this picture as it summed up the day wonderfully! Thank you Reuben for agreeing to pose so beautifully.

It was my first one at St John's Meads and I was taken aback by the effort of The Friends who went to great lengths to make the fayre festive and fun! There were so many happy children accompanied by parents and carers who looked increasingly concerned about the amount of sugary treats their children were consuming, buying and winning! The stalls and games were amazing and while I did not win anything (but a bottle of squash)- my family and I really did enjoy it, and we all felt a part of something truly special.

I was especially grateful to Clem Jackson - his outfit was spectacular - and all the kind parents who helped make this event happen. A special thank you to those who stayed late to put school back in order till late on Saturday evening.
Thank you everyone!

Pantomime

It seems like some time ago now but the whole school Pantomime was also a real success and this was again down to the efforts of The Friends.

The Headteacher of St Andrews - Mr Gregory made us all feel very welcome and was really impressed by our children and staff. Since then, I have been back to meet with him, and we are both keen to collaborate more in the future - watch this space!



Admissions

We have seen an increasing number of families coming in for our Open events, which is great news.

They have been looking for spaces, not just in Reception, and the feedback is really encouraging. Due to a decrease in national and local birth rates there are more spaces in schools than there are children, which means we must really increase our efforts to show off our lovely school to potential families! Please spread the word - if you know anyone who may want to come and see us, they can get in touch with the Office, and we will do our best to accommodate them.

Parent feedback

Here is an update your suggestions from the parent voice survey:

Increasing school activities: Mrs Satchell has taken advantage of some additional sporting events and activities such as the kickboxing/karate taster session next Wednesday. We are also looking at what is being offered locally, and we will continue to say, 'yes please' and expose the children to as many additional activities as we can. **If you have any ideas about an after-school club that you think may want to run at St John's please ask them to get in touch with us.**

Rewards: This has been an ongoing piece of work, and I am pleased that you are now going to be able to see the rewards on the Arbor App. Staff are being actively encouraged to reward the children as well so please do look out for those alerts.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Byrro



Attendance

We are excited to celebrate an outstanding whole school attendance rate of **96%** for the year so far!

This remarkable achievement is a testament to the dedication, commitment, and resilience of our children, teachers, and families. Consistent attendance not only supports academic success but also fosters a strong sense of community and belonging. We are incredibly proud of everyone for making learning a priority and for their collective efforts in maintaining such an impressive attendance rate. **Let's continue to work together to keep up this momentum and make the rest of the year just as successful!**

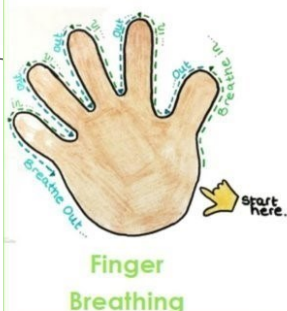
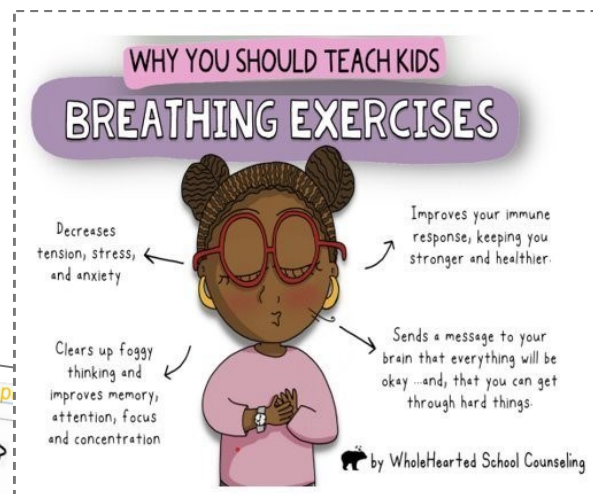
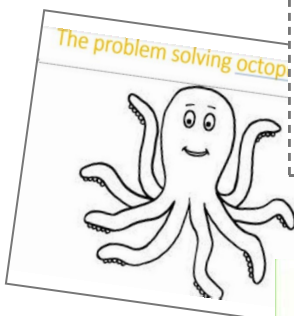
Mental Health at St John's Meads

We are taking great leaps in our work around Mental Health! This week in worship, the children learned about mental health - what it is and why it's important.

They were encouraged to identify five trusted adults in school who they can talk to if they ever need support. We also introduced strategies to help them manage their mental health, focusing on 5-Finger Breathing and the Problem-Solving Octopus. These techniques aim to provide children with practical tools to navigate their emotions and solve challenges effectively.

Our staff are also taking part in an ongoing training and development program to develop the mental health support in school. We know each child well and this really helps us to support them effectively.

Please continue to let the teachers know if you have any concerns. The information you give us always helps us to ensure the children are cared for and supported effectively.





Rewards

Mrs Byroo has written about the new rewards system previously. We are finally ready to launch this! We have spoken to the children and explained how they can earn recognition from us.

This includes: **Class Teacher Award** (doing exceptional work in class), **Headteacher Award**, a **Contribution to the Community Award**, or by demonstrating our **St John's Meads school values: Love, Independence, Generosity, Honesty, or Teamwork**.

If your child receives a reward, it will appear on your Arbor App under Behaviour so you can celebrate their achievement with them. We are currently working on ways to send parents notifications.

The children are really excited about their parents knowing about the wonderful things they do at school, and we are keen to improve our communication with you in this way.



School Council

The School Council had a very important job last week - helping the Friends decorate the Christmas Tree!

School Choir

The choir had a busy week last week - entertaining the crowds at Meads Magic, and singing beautifully at the Christmas Fayre.

They will also be visiting two local care homes this month to sing carols for the residents. **Mrs. White says well done everyone!**



Coming Up in December

- Wed 11th : Karate Taster - all classes in PE kit
- Tues 17th : Reception Christmas Sing! 9am & 2.30pm
- Wed 18th : Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch – all children to bring in a minimum £1 cash donation to go into the buckets on the school gates to raise money for St Wilfred's Hospice
- Wed 18th : Nativity Year 1 & 2 at 2.30pm
- Thurs 19th : Nativity Year 1 & 2 at 9.15am
- Fri 20th : Last day of term 2 - Christmas Church Service at St Johns Church at 2pm
Parents invited to come and watch. All children to be collected from the Church after the service – (by 3.25pm) there is NO LATEBIRDS that day.

Highlights from Year 1

We have been using part-part-whole models to help with our addition in Maths.

We even made a huge one on the carpet to show how we could partition groups of objects into their parts!



We have been exploring the Christmas story. We took a journey around the school, discovering each part of the story and learning more about why this time of year is so special.



We have been learning about instructions in English.

We were sent some instructions on how to build a "Mr ClimbFierce" out of cardboard boxes.

To help us remember the instructions, we acted them out and made a story map by drawing pictures.



A sneak peek of our Nativity practice.

Not long to go now!

Highlights from Year 5



We have been using place value counters and grids in maths, to multiply 4 digit numbers by a 1 digit number then using this to learn a formal written method.



Destination Reader -

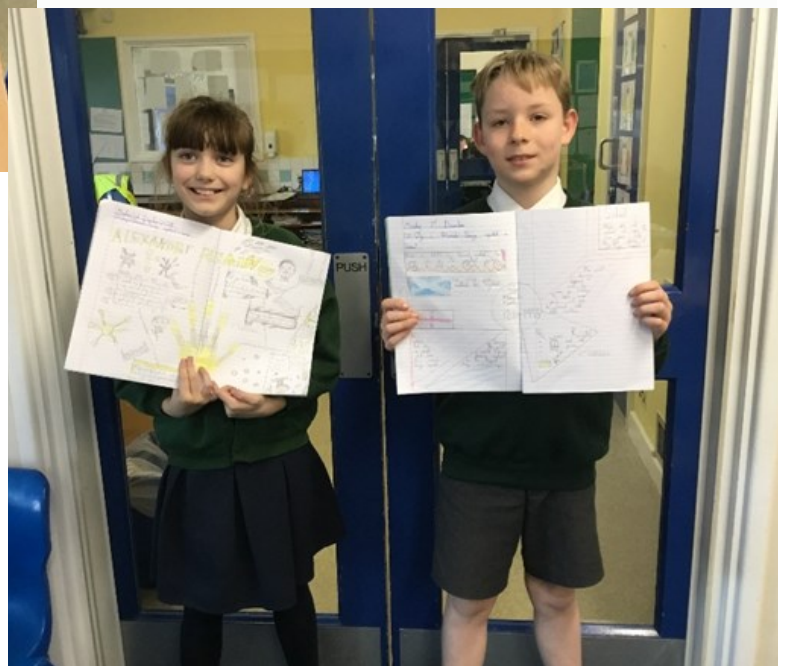
Focusing on 'clarifying' questions when reading Holes by Louis Sachar.



Speed stacking in PE.

Learning about why the work of Scientist Alexander Fleming is still important today.

We presented posters about him in our Science books.



THANK YOU

for supporting the Christmas Fayre



The children had an amazing time and you raised a massive

£2,850

Friends of
ST JOHN'S MEADS
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

In aid of



St Wilfrid's Hospice



Join us in wearing your most wonderful

Christmas Jumper

on

Wednesday 18th December

Kindly donate £1 on the day to raise vital funds for St Wilfrid's Hospice.

Thank you



stwhospice.org



fundraising@stwhospice.org



01323 434224



New Winter Edition 2024 out now:

[Raring2go! Eastbourne](#)



If you have children who are interested in running / athletics at a local club and would like the opportunity to compete in U11 Sussex races...VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<https://eastbournroversac.co.uk/> OR CALL JENNY ON 07712 351724 FOR INFORMATION, OR TO BOOK A TASTER SESSION

CLASS+

Communication, Learning Autism Support Service

Fantastic and very knowledgeable advisors. I felt listened to and validated. Excellent advice really valuable.' This is a really valuable service that has been very helpful!



EDUCATION
EAST SUSSEX
TOGETHER FOR EXCELLENCE
AND INCLUSION

ABOUT US

CLASS+ works across East Sussex to support families/carers of autistic children and young people including those on the diagnosis pathway. We provide advice and support that enables families/carers to develop their knowledge & understanding of autism. We aim to help parents/carers develop their confidence around how to best to support their neurodiverse child whilst also building on their child's strengths, confidence, and self-esteem. The team is part of the wider CLASS service and focus on home based concerns. We are a Parent Carer referral service.

SCAN QR CODE TO SEE
WHAT WE OFFER



NB: Please note that CLASS+ is not a mental health advice point and practitioners do not hold the appropriate clinical expertise to directly address mental health needs. CLASS+ do however, provide Autism advice, give ideas for resources, share helpful approaches, and perhaps most importantly listen to the needs & experiences of parents/carers.

CYBER PROTECT



The Digital Dilemma

Keeping Your
Kids Safe Online

December 4th, 11th, 18th



FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Thames Valley Police

Hints and tips to secure your family
online, covering:

Gaming



Social Media



Email

BOOK YOUR SPACE:

Eventbrite: Police - South East Cyber

DON'T LET IT BE **GAME OVER**
LEVEL **UP YOUR ONLINE SECURITY**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/police-south-east-cyber-77121396093>

BOOK NOW ACTIVEEDUCATIONSUSSEX.CO.UK



FUN FOOTBALL CAMP

Hailsham Primary Academy
BN27 4FB

23rd December 2024
2nd & 3rd January 2025

Breakfast Club 07:45-08:45 £6.00

Main Day 08:45-15:15 £25.00

After Camp Club 15:15-16:15 £6.00

COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR FUN FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CAMP, WITH PLENTY OF FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING: FOOTBALL, TENNIS, FOOT GOLF, FOOTBALL ROUNDERS, SHOOTING DRILLS, TOURNAMENTS, SKILL ACTIVITIES, GOALKEEPING DRILLS, MATCHES, INDIVIDUAL CHALLENGES AND MANY MORE!



SCAN ME




CHRISTMAS MULTI ACTIVITY CAMP

Hailsham Primary Academy BN27 4FB

23rd December 2024, 2nd & 3rd January 2025

ACTIVITIES, TIMES AND PRICES

BREAKFAST CLUB - 07:45-08:45 - £6.00

MAIN DAY - 08:45-15:15 - £25.00

AFTER CAMP CLUB - 15:15-16:15 - £6.00

Come and join us for our Multi Activity Holiday Camp, with plenty of activities including: A Wide Selection of Sports, Fencing, Gymnastics, Dance, Painting, Festive Art and Craft Activities, Movies and many more!

All Children Welcome From Any School!

SCAN ME TO BOOK NOW!

ACTIVEEDUCATIONSUSSEX.CO.UK



SCAN ME



swimming nature

Exclusive Offer with our School Partnership

Private Swimming Lessons for Eastbourne Parents!

Dear Parents,

Did you know that over 1 in 4 children leave primary school without the ability to swim?!

We believe every child should have the opportunity to learn this essential life skill, and we are thrilled to share an exclusive offer with you

We are offering Swimming Nature lessons at the following Eastbourne venue:

Bannatyne Health Club - Eastbourne
7 Edward Rd, Eastbourne BN23 8AS

Our award-winning Swimming Nature Method makes learning to swim a natural, relaxed and fun experience with recognisable results.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER:
Get 20% OFF early-bird bookings when you mention your child's school

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT US:

info@swimmingnature.com 03445 04 05 06

We're here to help make swimming an accessible and enjoyable experience for all students.

www.swimmingnature.com

Willingdon HOLIDAY CLUBS

NEW YEARS EVE ADVENTURES
CHRISTMAS BREAK

Thursday 2nd January 9.30am - 2.30pm
Friday 3rd January - 9.30am - 2.30pm

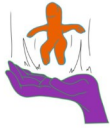
Multisport
Basketball, Football, Benchball
Badminton, Table tennis, Just dance

Team Challenges
Taskmaster, STEAM, Photography
Logic Puzzles, Scavenger Hunt Team

Students welcome from Year groups 4-8 from all schools

Rates
£40 per day per child.
10% sibling discount
PP students attending year 7 or 8 at Willingdon Community school 50% discounted rate

All enquiries to holidayclubs@willingdonschool.org.uk



EASTBOURNE TRAMPOLINE

On Friday afternoons
Hillbrow Health and Wellbeing

Ages 4+
Fun first trampoline sessions



£6.00
per session



- ✓ DBS checked
- ✓ Safeguarding
- ✓ British Gymnastics Qualified

Register online: www.eastbournetrampoline.com
Email: admin@eastbournetrampoline.com

Does your child love to

SING?



Empowering Young Singers

- Festival Appearances
- Showcase opportunities
- Vocal Technique
- Stage Presence
- Qualified Coaches
- Supportive Network
- Group & Solo



* Eastbourne Branch *
* Opening January *

The Function Room, Fishermens Club, BN22 7AA

For more info;
radseaford@gmail.com
www.rhapsodyartistdevelopment.co.uk



WINTER TIMETABLE

Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each
If you can't make the date ask for the link to the recording, available for 48 hours afterwards
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
go to the PARENT page

FREE - Decreasing Depression FREE - Anxiety Explained	25 NOV 20 JAN
What is ACT?	26 NOV, 21 JAN
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 NOV
Supporting a Child with ADHD	5 DEC, 2 JAN
Understanding Anger	16 DEC, 13 JAN
Facing Defiance	17 DEC, 14 JAN
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	19 DEC, 16 JAN
Anxiety-Based School Avoidance	7 JAN
AUTISM: Improving Communication	9 JAN
Raising Self-Esteem	27 JAN
Supporting Healthy Sleep	28 JAN
Improving Family Communication	4 FEB
Introduction to OCD	18 FEB

facefamilyadvice.co.uk info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



Winter 2024/2025

Newsletter

FREE
until
JAN 25



Understanding the Teenage Brain
Watch this recorded session in your own time, to learn why our teens think, feel and behave very differently from adults and how we can support them.

Thursday
5th Dec
19:00 - 21:00
£24



Supporting a Child with ADHD
Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.

Tuesday
17th Dec
19:00 - 21:00
£24



Facing Defiance
Effective interventions for handling defiant behaviour. ADHD, ODD and PDA relevant as well as regular challenging behaviour. Introduction to the FACE programme - Facing Defiance - 6 week course

Tuesday
7th Jan
19:00 - 21:00
£24



Anxiety-Based School Avoidance
Understanding and supporting children who are anxious about school. Steps you can take to help them back into the classroom.

Thursday
9 Jan
19:00 - 21:00
£24



AUTISM: Improving Communication
Looking at how small changes in how we communicate with children on the spectrum can lead to big improvements.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk