



NEWSLETTER Term 2: 8th November 2024

Upcoming Whole School Dates

November	Tuesday 5th : First day of term Tuesday 5th : Parent's Consultation 3.30-6pm Thursday 7th : Parent's Consultation 3.30-6pm Tuesday 12th : Friends AGM Tuesday 12th : Odd Socks Day Tuesday 12th : Cricket Taster - All years in PE Kit (and odd socks!) Friday 15th : Mufti Day - Tombola Donations Friday 22nd : Bookfair arrives Monday 25th : Pantomime Performance Saturday 30th : Christmas Fayre inc. Elfridges
December	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

<https://sjm.academy>

Telephone: 01323 730255

Email: office@sjm.academy

Whole School

Reminder:

NO NUTS

are to be brought in to school.

Thank you.



November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your feedback on the recent survey. It is good to know that we are getting so many things right and we also appreciate your views on what we need to still work on.

Support for Social, Emotional and Mental Health of children

This week I got in touch with parents and the children who have been working with Place2Be. Unfortunately, we are no longer able to retain the provision after Christmas. They have offered us a valuable service but sadly the challenge that we (and many other schools) face - is that we cannot afford this service in this current form.

We have not been complacent about this, and have sought support from The Schools and Colleges Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Adviser from the Local authority. They came in to school on Monday and delivered training to all staff, and will return at different points throughout the year to carry on this work. This means all our staff are becoming more skilled at supporting the mental health of the children in our care.

They are also providing us with additional capacity over the next few months/year to support in the form of a Parent Carer practitioner who is attached to St John's Meads - more on that to follow.

We will be running workshops and Wellbeing sessions for all the children this term. This was a part of our training and teaches children various strategies to regulate their own emotions. I am sure you will hear all about it in the weeks ahead and I will communicate this in the newsletter as well.

Lastly - we are preparing to boost our own in-house support for Mental Health and have made a new appointment for a member of staff who will be leading on Mental Health in school. She will be undertaking further training with the Local Authority to support the workshops and 1:1 work with children in school as part of her wider role and this will be improved over time.

I do hope you feel reassured that we have made alternative plans.

- All staff development so that we are all trained and skilled in this area
- A member of staff to be trained to continue to support the children who need additional support
- Working with all the children to support them with strategies for self-regulation

Visions and Values work

On the Inset day this week, we worked with Nigel Jewell - Deputy Headteacher of St Catherine's College - on the vision and values of St John's Meads. We started this crucial work in September, as it reflects the school's core principles and provides strategic direction. As we are a church of England school and part of DCAT, it is important that we align with their vision while still holding on to what our school community know and love about St John's Meads.

Staff were unanimous in their decision to keep the school logo and motto "IN TENEBRIS LUX" which is 'Light in Darkness'. They felt this is firmly embedded and understood by everyone. It was also felt that a move away from the rainbow values is needed. We will hold onto some of the key values but have less of them, and will choose values that are perhaps linked to the word LIGHT. So far, this is the Vision that we have created that incorporates the vision of St John's Meads, DCAT as a Trust and the Church:

To help every child achieve their God-given potential, we live life to the full; worshiping and working to 'be a LIGHT in the darkness' so everyone at St John's Meads may flourish.

We are still working on this and I will be getting the children's views on the proposed changes next week. I will of course ask for your feedback as well.

Mrs Byroo

The poster is for Anti-Bullying Week, specifically Odd Socks Day on Tuesday 12th November 2024. It features the Anti-Bullying Alliance logo at the top left and the 'Andy and the Odd Socks' logo at the top right. The main text reads: 'This ANTI-BULLYING WEEK we are holding ODD SOCKS DAY on TUESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2024'. Below this, it says 'Come to school wearing your odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique!'. A blue box contains the hashtags: '#OddSocksDay #AntiBullyingWeek #ChooseRespect'. A speech bubble says 'If you're worried about bullying you can speak to ...'. At the bottom, there is a photo of five diverse people (three men and two women) smiling and making hand gestures. The footer includes the National Children's Bureau logo and text, the Anti-Bullying Alliance logo, the 'CHOOSE RESPECT' logo, and the 'ANTI-BULLYING WEEK' logo.

ODD SOCK DAY

On **Tuesday 12th November** we will be joining in with 'Choose Respect and Odd Socks Day' for anti-bullying week.

The theme this year is 'Choose Respect' focusing on kindness, the fact that we are all unique and the impact that our actions have on those around us.

On this day we ask that children, if possible, come into school wearing odd socks, with their school uniform. The wearing of odd socks is to demonstrate that everyone is different, special and unique.

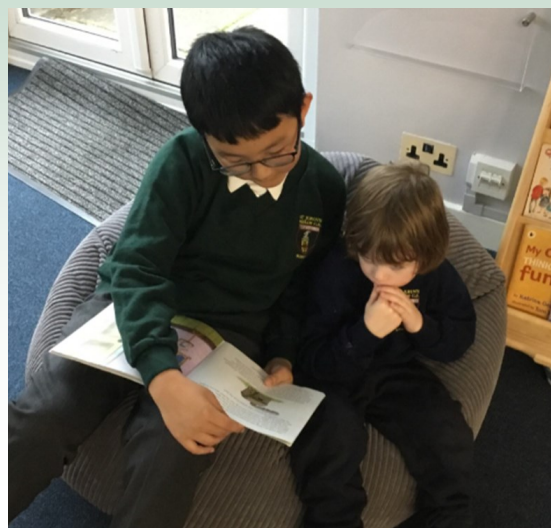
Highlights from Year 6

Year 6 (and Year 5!) had an amazing trip to the British Museum in London just before half term.

We focused on the Ancient Greek artefacts relating these real objects to our history lessons. The children were brilliantly behaved and coped with a very busy museum and London Underground!

Thank you so much to all the adult helpers who came along, and especially to Mrs Lawrence, who is supporting us with coordinating and booking all of our school trips.

We can't do these special things without our lovely parent/carer support - thank you!



Back in school, we've had a great first few days back.

Working and playing with their Reception Buddies has been really special and the bonds and support (going both ways) is lovely to see.

Year 6 enjoyed reading their friends a story this week.



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

FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER

FRIENDS NEWS

Don't miss next week:

- **Xmas4Schools Deadline: Sunday 10 November**
Place your order of Christmas cards & other personalised items by this Sunday. All orders will be delivered to the office for free.
- **Friends AGM: Tuesday 12 November, 9-10am**
Find out what we do and how you can get involved. All welcome! Please stay for coffee and cake afterwards.
> **RSVP** by emailing chair@stjohnsmeadsfmsa.org.uk
- **Tombola Mufti Day: Friday 15 November**
Children can wear their own clothes, suitable for school, and bring a **bottle/chocolate** gift for the Christmas Fayre Tombola.

Coming up later this month:

"HE'S
BEHIND
YOU!"

Monday 25 November: Panto - Dick Whittington, 2-3pm

The whole school will be going to St Andrews Prep next door to watch a touring theatre company. Please collect your child from St John's school as per normal.

> A donation of **£2.50 per child** can be made via the **Arbor app**.



Saturday 30 November: Christmas Fayre, 12-3pm

Booking now open!

Kids enter free but please pre-book for; 'Adult fayre entry' (£1), 'Santa's Grotto' (£2.50) and 'Elfridges wrap a gift' (£2.50).

> **Book tickets now at pta-events.co.uk/stjohnsmeadsfmsa**

About The Friends

We are a group of parents and carers, hosting fun events that raise money for our school. We're always looking for more help - please get in touch if you'd like to get involved.

> Get in touch: chair@stjohnsmeadsfmsa.org.uk



TOMBOLA MUFTI DAY

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER

Wear your own clothes
and bring a bottle or
chocolate donation

Donations can include:

- CHOCOLATES
- WINE, BEER, SOFT DRINK
- BUBBLE BATH, SHOWER GEL



> Drop your donations into the boxes at the
school gates on Friday 15 November

Please wear comfortable clothes suitable for a school
environment. Your donations will be used as Tombola stall
prizes at the Christmas Fayre. Thank you.

Friends of St John's Meads presents

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Friends of
ST JOHN'S MEADS
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Live Entertainment
- Crafts & Games
- Grotto & Elfridges
- Hot Food & Mulled Wine
- Raffle & Tombolas

SATURDAY
30 NOV

12 - 3PM

St John's Meads School
Rowsley Road
Eastbourne

❄️ **BOOK ONLINE** ❄️

ADULTS £1 / KIDS FREE
GROTTO £2.50 & ELFRIDGES £2.50

➔ pta-events.co.uk/stjohnsmeadsfmsa



Sponsored by



All the proceeds from this event will go to the Friends of St John's Meads; a charity dedicated to raising money to benefit pupils at St John's Meads CE Primary School. Registered charity 1106227.

Fussy Eating

Free online workshop



Join us!



Fed up with stressful mealtimes? We're here to help...

As parents we want our children to eat well – and to enjoy mealtimes together

Come along and get support and new ideas for:

- How to encourage your child to try new foods - and begin to enjoy them!
- Child-friendly foods that provide what they need to grow and be healthy
- Happier family mealtimes

Event details:

Delivered by the East Sussex School Health Service, to join Call: 0300 123 4062 Complete: Online referral form: <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/forms/school-health-service-east-sussex-referral-form/>



ANXIETY TOOLKIT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS WEBINAR

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY 2025, 10AM- 12 MIDDAY

LEARN PRACTICAL TIPS AND STRATEGIES TO HELP PARENTS AND CARERS SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH ANXIETY IN THIS ONLINE EVENT!

Are you feeling overwhelmed by your child's anxiety? Join us for this online event where Your Space Therapies will provide you with practical tools and strategies to help you support your child. Emma Connor, Child Psychotherapist will share valuable, easy to implement strategies to navigate through challenging situations and promote your child's well-being. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn and connect with other parents and carers facing similar experiences. Register now and equip yourself with the **tools** to better understand and manage anxiety in your child.

Price: £27.80

For more information and booking please scan the QR code:



Scan me!

YOUR NEAREST HOLIDAY CAMP...

Venue: GILREDGE HOUSE

Dates: 23RD DEC, 24TH DEC, 2ND JAN AND 3RD JAN (24TI

Times: 9-4PM

Ages: YEARS 1 - 6

Additional info: <https://eequ.org/experience/11228> - HAF BOOK

PLEASE BRING

Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

With great value sports, performing arts, and games to enjoy each half term, we have plenty for your children to get stuck into in the school break.

Over the winter break, there will be lots of festive fun to enjoy too.

Our Holiday Camps keep children entertained, safe & on the move during the school holidays.

Book now for a school holiday full of fun!



SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

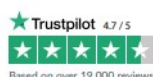
PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Premier Education | INSPIRING ACTIVITY



SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps



Willingdon

HOLIDAY CLUBS

NEW YEARS EVE ADVENTURES

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Thursday 2nd January 9.30am - 2.30pm

Friday 3rd January - 9.30am - 2.30pm



CREATIVE



FUN

Multisport

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

Students welcome from Year
groups 4-8 from all schools

Team Challenges

Taskmaster, STEAM, Photography
Logic Puzzles, Scavenger Hunt Team

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