



Company Registered Number: 8517255

St John's Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Nicola Hughes

19th November 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope the opportunity to speak to teachers last week at parent teacher interviews about how your child is progressing and the next steps in their learning was helpful. Well done to the teachers for the late evenings and to everyone for navigating the School Cloud system. If your child is on the SEN register, you will be contacted next week regarding booking a slot to meet with your child's teacher during the remainder of this term.

Last Friday our local MP, David Johnston, visited school. He met with our newly elected School and Eco Councils who asked him questions about his role as an MP, as well as other issues they were concerned about. The councillors learnt about parliament, how to become an MP, the sorts of issues an MP deals with and the difficult aspects of the job. They also asked him about climate change and building projects. I was very proud of the children for asking such good questions. During his visit, myself and two of our governors also met with him to talk about the current challenges schools are facing. He was very keen that St John's children be offered the opportunity to take part in the Christmas card competition. If your child would like to take part, please see the details on the separate email sent earlier this week.

Wallingford Town Council have begun the renovation of the red phone box outside school, on St John's Road. Once the phone box has been renovated and made safe, St John's will take it over as a space for the school to use for exhibiting work - or another purpose. We will ask the children for ideas and I know that the Eco Council have already expressed an interest in helping to maintain it.

We have a wide array of 'mix and match' fancy dress outfits in school today for Children in Need. The children look fantastic and have really used their imaginations to put together their outfits! Well done to them and to you for helping them - there has been an air of excitement (and colour!) in school today and we have raised £380.30, which is a great total. Thank you to everyone who donated.

We have two topic related trips taking place next week. On Tuesday, Years 3 and 4 are visiting Wittenham Clumps as part of their Stone Age topic and Year 5 are visiting the Reading Museum as part of their Victorians topic. We will feed back on what they learn and share photographs on the Blog after the trips.

As our Harvest assembly was an in-school event this year, and we weren't able to invite you in to join us, we forgot to ask for donations for the Wallingford Food Bank as we normally would. We would therefore like to collect for the Food Bank prior to Christmas this year and will collect items during the week beginning 29th November. Our apologies for this - we realised after the event and I know a couple of parents realised too. Hopefully our donations prior to Christmas will be appreciated. We will remind you again nearer the time.

We are having another non-uniform day next Friday, 26th November, to support the PTFA in collecting items for Christmas hampers. The hampers are all going to be themed so do check the theme for your class hamper and send in a donation next Friday. The PTFA will put together the

hampers the following week ready to be raffled before Christmas. Details and pictures of the hampers along with how to buy raffle tickets will follow - so look out for those.

On the theme of Christmas activities, our school Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 15th December and children can wear their Christmas jumpers that day. As in other years, our infants will be rehearsing and performing a nativity play over the next few weeks. They have already started learning the songs. Unfortunately, we are still unable to invite audiences into school but will be filming the production and making that available to parents. The children will not miss out on taking part in a performance and we will also look at the possibility of them performing to other children in the school.

Ms Beckett and Mrs Ball have started up the Choir again for Key Stage 2 children so that we can take part in the Baptist Church 'Drive In' Carol Concert in Wallingford on 12th December. If your child has expressed an interest, you will be getting a letter telling you more.

In my last newsletter I invited nominations for a parent governor. Please do get in touch if you would be interested in supporting the school as a governor. Further details in the letter attached. The deadline is Friday 3rd December.

Do see our updated Blog for some photographs of this term's events and learning - <https://stjohnswallingford.org.uk/blog/>

Have a lovely weekend,

Nicky Hughes

