



When taking over the position of Headteacher in January I could never have envisaged what was about to unfold. The challenges have been varied and unprecedented but we come to the end of the school year having proven that we are adaptable and strong.

We have been inspired by the stories and work that the students have shared. They have actively worked with teachers on-line, shared with their classmates and continued to learn.

Some student's circumstances and learning environment have varied but they have risen to the challenge. In June we saw the return of some of our year groups to school. Again our pupils and parents were encouraging, calm and patient. We feel that their return has been an invaluable and positive experience. Whether at home or in school, I must also thank all my teachers and support staff for everything that they have done in the past months.

Finally, thank you for all of your support and encouragement. Our parents have supported us and have proven that St John's is far more than just buildings: our school goes far beyond that as this term has certainly proven.

Sadly COVID-19 has impacted us all in varying degrees. Throughout this term we have received constant government guidance and updates to which we have adhered. As we start to prepare for September I would like to assure you that nearer the end of the summer holidays we will once again be communicating the relevant updates regarding our planned return to school.

In the meantime I wish you all a relaxing summer break and look forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

Yours sincerely

*Andreas Angeli*

Mr A Angeli  
Headteacher



Visit [www.stjohnsschool.net](http://www.stjohnsschool.net)

## Staff Changes from September

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Hampton (pictured right), our new Biology teacher, and Mrs Cooper (pictured left), our new Business and Computing teacher from September. Many of you will have already met Miss Read, our new PE teacher.

We are also pleased to inform you that Miss Wand, Head of Art, has been appointed as our new Head of Purcell house. Meanwhile, Miss Wallis will be moving to Form 1 (Year 3) to join the Junior Department and Mrs Gell will be teaching full time in Lower Kindergarten (Year 1).







# Schooling in Lockdown

## 1<sup>st</sup> Half Trinity Term Remote Learning

When the term began on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, for the first time in its 92 year history, our schooling format was to change and the children were taught remotely. We thank all of the parents for signing the online permission slips so swiftly and for ensuring your children were set up with the relevant technology to support their remote learning from the beginning.

From Reception through to Lower 3 (Year 6) our pupils used Zoom to access their online lessons with their teachers along with additional work being set for them to complete independently and/ or with the support of parents. Our Senior pupils have continued with their full timetable logging on for each lesson using Microsoft Teams.

Fortunately, having asked all our senior pupils to use their own devices during the National Online Safety Week, many were ready to go when we instigated our remote learning. Throughout lockdown we received numerous photographs from teaching staff and parents which highlight our pupils working remotely. We are pleased to share a selection of their incredible work for you to enjoy.





## 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Trinity Term

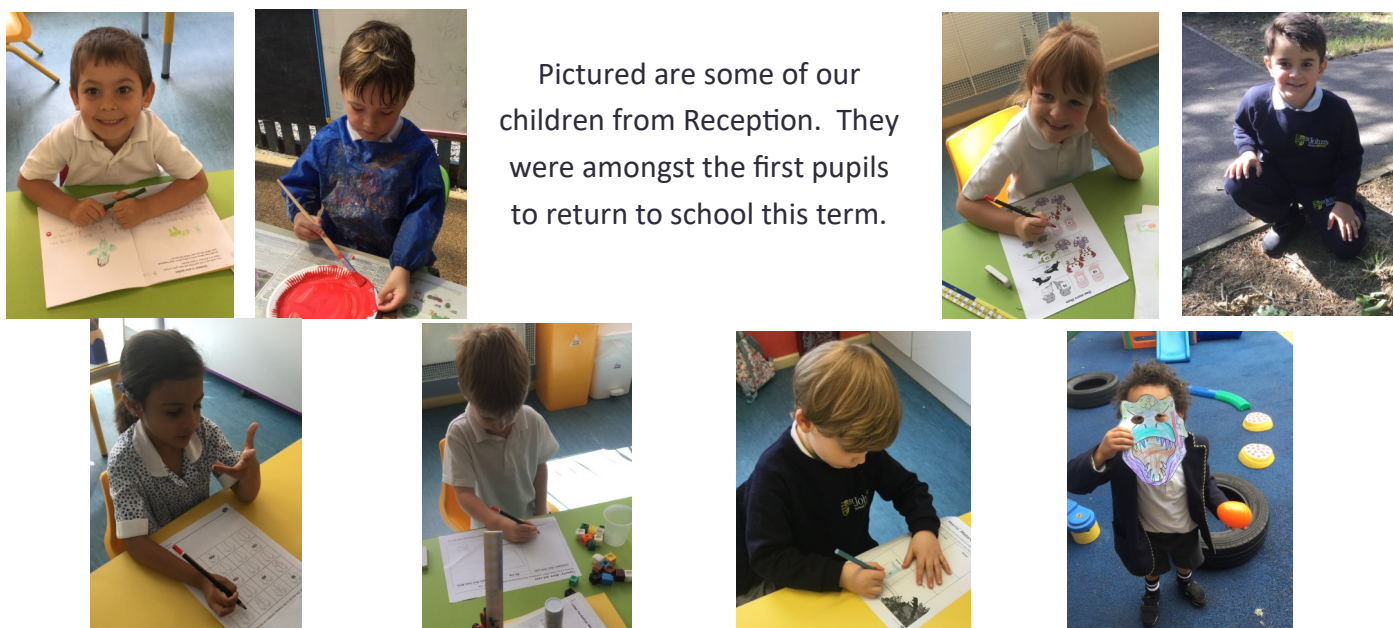


St John's  
School Billericay

Our Senior pupils continued to receive their full timetable remotely, using Microsoft Teams, for the remainder of the Trinity Term. We have extended the term by a week for our Lower 5 (Year 10) pupils, so that they can have important contact, in person, with their teachers prior to the summer holidays.



During the last half term, we welcomed Reception, Lower Kindergarten (Year 1) and Lower 3 (Year 6) back on the 1<sup>st</sup> June and the remaining classes returned by 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Our children have adapted well to the changes.



Miss Blore's Upper 2 (Year 5) class took advantage of the glorious weather and outdoor teaching space to enhance their learning. She explained, "We have been learning about volcanoes in class and conducted experiments to understand how powerful the magma is when it bursts through the Earth's crust."

One experiment involved adding Mentos to diet coke in order to understand how powerful the magma bursting through the Earth's crust could be due to the pressure building up (pyroclastic flow). The other experiment demonstrated lava flow using simple kitchen ingredients.



For further information and regular updates please visit our Facebook page





## Celebrating a long history.....

For many, the end of a career usually ends with a celebration. Sadly this term's send off for the following teachers has been a little different to normal. With a combined 122 years of teaching at St John's, we bid farewell to a number of staff who have been devoted teachers who will be greatly missed.



**Mrs Hogsden**

Started in 2008

Computer Science



**Mrs Bayliss**

Started in 1979

Biology



**Mrs Elwood**

Started in 2001

Kindergarten Teacher



**Mrs Fish**

Started in 2002

Junior Teacher



**Mrs Gregory**

Started in 1988

Design & Technology

We asked Mrs Jeni Bayliss, our longest serving member of staff, to give us her account of life at St John's School.

"Fresh from earning my degree in Biology and Education, I joined the staff team of St John's School in 1979, not just as a teacher of Biology, but tasked specifically by the then Head, Mr Knibbs, with the establishment of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and other outdoor activities.

Leading frequent trips over the years to Wales, The Lake District and many an overseas ski trips, as well as weekly visits to the dry ski slope in Brentwood, has ensured that this brief was certainly fulfilled. Over my 41 years of teaching at the school, I have always loved my role.

I have held the posts of Head of Science and Head of Purcell House (introducing Henry the Polar Bear as a longstanding and much loved mascot) and the Leavers Ball (an event sadly cancelled and sorely missed this year) and the Upper 5 Yearbook. I have always taught with dedication and a passion for all to achieve their very best and a strong belief that learning does not only take place in the classroom. I will miss the students of St. John's and wish them all a successful future."

As a school we will remember the many years of Mrs Bayliss preparing and presenting the annual house quiz and also the organisation of the annual shoebox appeal every October. We wish Mrs Bayliss and all our other retirees a long and happy retirement.

We would also like to make a special mention to Mrs Spooner who left at May half term after 14 years in the PE Department at St John's. She was devoted to training our netball teams and also of late successfully co-ordinated the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. We thank all of the staff for their hard work and commitment to the school.







## Important Information

### *Diary Dates Michaelmas Term 2020\**

Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> August	GCSE RESULTS DAY
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> September	FIRST DAY OF MICHAELMAS TERM
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> September	UPPER 3 (YEAR 7) AND OTHER NEW STARTER PHOTOGRAPHS
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> October	UPPER 5 (YEAR 11) CAREERS ADVICE MEETINGS
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> October	UPPER 5 (YEAR 11) CAREERS ADVICE MEETINGS
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> October	UPPER 5 (YEAR 11) CAREERS ADVICE MEETINGS
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> October	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	FIRST DAY 2 <sup>ND</sup> HALF MICHAELMAS TERM
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> December	LOWER & UPPER KINDERGARTEN CHRISTMAS PARTY
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> December	JUNIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> December	PRE-RECEPTION & RECEPTION CHRISTMAS PARTY
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> December	END OF MICHAELMAS TERM

**Further dates will be added. Please check our online google calendar located on our website;**

[www.stjohnsschool.net/school-life/school-calendar/](http://www.stjohnsschool.net/school-life/school-calendar/)

\*Dates may be subject to change due to COVID-19

## ISI Report

In February, we were visited by a team of Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) inspectors. The publication of the report was delayed due to the recent pandemic. We are pleased to now share our inspection report with you on our website or via the following link;

<https://www.stjohnsschool.net/about-us/inspection-reports/>



## Who to Contact

### Child Absence

Absence Line

☎ 01277 623070 (press option 3)

✉ office@stjohnsschool.net

### Fee Queries

Mrs Truscott, Assistant Bursar

☎ 01277 623070 (press option 2)

✉ finance@stjohnsschool.net

### Admissions

Mrs Cox, Admissions Registrar

☎ 01277 623070 (press option 1)

✉ registrar@stjohnsschool.net

Please state your child's name, form and reason for absence.