



At the beginning of the academic year a lot of COVID changes were brought in at the start of our Michaelmas Term. The return to school with face masks, staggered start times and the introduction of year group bubbles. Sadly, Christmas brought with it a rise in cases in our area and the reintroduction of lockdown in January and the return to remote schooling. We then welcomed back our pupils in March and started twice weekly lateral flow testing for all senior pupils and thankfully, since then, we have been able to continue with our face to face learning on a daily basis with our pupils.

Throughout this school year, we have watched our pupils positivity and focus shine through in their work and enthusiasm to learn each day; whether learning in the classroom or in their home environment. At the end of last summer, I mentioned how, despite the challenges, we have remained adaptable and strong and I feel this still stands true. I would like to once again thank all of our parents for being so understanding with the government changes we have had to implement.

At this time of writing we are learning that certain COVID restrictions may be eased for our return in September. In particular, it seems that bubbles will no longer be in place. This will enable us to offer a wider range of experiences for the pupils including an increased number of clubs and visits. I am sure that the pupils will benefit greatly from these opportunities.

Please look out for our Parentmails at the beginning of September that will detail our return to school information. For now, I would like to wish you all a safe and relaxing summer break.

Yours sincerely

Andreas Angelis

Mr A Angelis, Headteacher



Farewell wishes and new beginnings

We are delighted to welcome Miss Robinson, our new Drama Teacher and Mrs Walker, our new PE teacher. We are also pleased to confirm that Mrs Bateman will be working full time from September and teaching Religious Education in our Senior School.

We would like to wish Mrs Zoller, Head of Drama and Pastoral Care for Upper 3 (Year 7) to Upper 4 (Year 9) and Mrs Coker, teacher of Religious Education and Food and Nutrition theory both a very happy and healthy retirement. We also send farewell wishes to Miss Read from our PE Department.

From September Mrs Lawrence will be responsible for Pastoral Care in Lower 4 (Year 8) to Upper 4 (Year 9) and Ms Raynard will be responsible for Pastoral care in Upper 3 (Year 7).

We are also delighted to announce that from September Upper 3 (Year 7) and Lower 4 (Year 8) will be offered Mandarin lessons as part of the activities programme and we will be offering a lunchtime Mandarin Club to Junior and Senior pupils.

Kindergarten Trinity Term



St John's
School Billericay



Throughout the academic year of 2020 to 2021 Kindergarten pupils have thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School lessons with Mrs Skeldon. Starting each session with a two minute lie down in nature, each week pupils then take part in various exciting activities. In particular, pupils have enjoyed the new rope swing across the ditch and toasting marshmallows by the campfire.



Use of the iPads has continued along with specialist IT lessons in the Kindergarten and Junior ICT Suite. In Upper Kindergarten pupils have been researching and looking at Rainforest ecosystems and the animals found within a rainforest. We even managed to squeeze in a Kindergarten Sports Day!



Mrs Revill, Head of Kindergarten would like to remind all Kindergarten pupils of the importance of continuing to read throughout the summer holidays.

One way to encourage your child to read more is to take part in Essex County Council's Wild World Heroes Summer Reading Challenge. At all of the Essex Libraries children can sign up for free and take part. Each time your child reads a book they will obtain a sticker and after reading six books they will receive a certificate and medal. The challenge will run from 10th July until 31st August.



For further information and regular updates please visit our Facebook page



St John's
School Billericay

Junior School Trinity Term

All Junior pupils receive a weekly specialist art lesson with Miss Wand, Head of Art. This term, Form 1 (Year 3) pupils have been creating artwork inspired by Kandinsky. Lower 2 (Year 4) pupils really enjoyed learning about photography and how we can use technology to assist us. Pupils explored the school and took photos and film clips. Back in class, they learnt how to take a screen shot from their video and how to crop and change the lighting.

It was perfect timing as they managed to get a fantastic photo of a fox! They loved mirroring their iPads to the interactive whiteboard in class so everyone could see and

then uploaded their images onto Microsoft Teams.

Throughout the Trinity

Term, the Junior pupils have enjoyed their weekly swimming lessons and their walk through Lake Meadows to the swimming pool and have continued to enjoy participating in the weekly mile around our beautiful grounds.



Over the course of the Trinity Term our Junior School have been actively involved in setting up a number of raised beds in our gardens for flowers and vegetables.

Lower 2 (Year 4) planted runner bean seeds and broad bean seeds as part of their topic about Life Cycles.

They have been investigating what happens when seeds germinate. Lower 2 nurtured their bean plants and grew them in the classroom. Mr Ball and his team kindly kept them watered over Half Term until the planters were put in place. Our pupils were all very keen to plant their beans into their new raised beds! It is hoped they will continue to grow over the summer.



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St John's
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Senior School Trinity Term



In June Upper 3 (Year 7) visited Thriftwood Activity Centre for a team building activities day. The pupils all seemed to thoroughly enjoy their day out.



Lower 4 (Year 8) pupils have enjoyed practising their language skills in a Spanish restaurant this term. Pupils used excellent pronunciation and they did particularly well at the 'tell the waiter there's a problem' part of the task. They had roasted parrot instead of chicken, spiders in drinks and a very inattentive dancing waiter who did not get a tip!

Upper 4 (Year 9) pupils have had some great success this week in their music lessons, using Bandlab software to compose music for three film scenes, Alien Invasion, The Chase and The Old Haunted House.



Trinity term is when we have to say goodbye to our Upper 5 (Year 11) pupils. This year our leavers day was blessed by wonderful weather and the pupils enjoyed signing each other's shirts, listening to music and sharing a pizza lunch on the meadow with our Senior teaching staff. We wish them all a well deserved break and the very best for the future.

The Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award is a programme of online badges that helps students develop digital, enterprise and employability skills. It is the digital and enterprise equivalent of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Upper 4 (Year 9) students have worked to complete the award in computing lessons and at home. We congratulate many students who have now achieved the Bronze Award and a few who have also managed to complete their Silver Award.



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St John's
School Billericay

A Tune for June



At the end of May Miss Ibbotson, Head of Music, invited our pupils to send in their entries for a 'Tune for June'. Many of our pupils have individual music lessons or enjoy weekly LAMDA speech and drama lessons. With so much talent and the unfortunate cancelling of our Music for Spring concert, a 'Tune for June' has been a wonderful way to showcase the talent we have within our school. We hope you have enjoyed watching the performances. If you haven't yet viewed them, please visit our Facebook page.

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Annual Fundraising

Each year St John's selects a local or national charity to support. This year a local charity from Chelmsford, Kids Inspire, was chosen.



The charity provides mental health and trauma recovery support to children, young people and their families.

Throughout the year Miss Blore and Mr Murray have organised various events for our pupils to enjoy such as cake sales and non uniform days. During the spring term we learnt the news that Kids Inspire had been broken into and they had lost a large amount of their equipment. Very kindly one of our parents arranged for some computer equipment to be delivered to their offices and in just one non uniform day our generous families helped raise over £1,100. Thank you!

The photo competition provided an opportunity for pupils to demonstrate their creativity and observational skills. All in all we are so pleased with the efforts this year, especially as COVID and lockdown has reduced our opportunity to fundraise. Over the course of the year we have raised over £3,000 for Kids Inspire.

Parent Social Committee

Our Parent Social Committee have always collected any second hand uniform and sold this at Parents Evenings. Obviously, with the last year this has hampered the chances of doing a nearly new sale. If your child has outgrown uniform and it could be reused we would kindly ask that you drop it to the school office at the beginning of the September term.

The Parent Social Committee are always looking for volunteers and this year very sadly we bid a fond farewell to Mrs Gill who has been a long standing and very active member of the committee. Mrs Gill has been instrumental in so many events including the Christmas Shopping Evening, Christmas Bazaar, Summer Fete, Valentines Sales and hot dog and doughnut days. We would like to thank her and all our other parent helpers for the time and support they continue to give to the pupils of St John's.

Computing News

When the recent lockdown was implemented, St John's immediately moved to online learning. Senior School pupils participated in their full timetable via Microsoft Teams and our Kindergarten and Junior pupils had various online lessons throughout the day via Zoom.

The use of technology for lessons during lockdown increased dramatically, and with this in mind St John's has decided to invest further by purchasing sixteen more iPads for our Junior School along with interactive whiteboards for all of the Kindergarten classrooms including Pre-Reception.

During the pandemic, the different technologies used to deliver lessons have further enhanced our pupils learning. As a result we are actively encouraging our pupils to embrace the technology in order to develop and enhance their learning across the curriculum subjects.



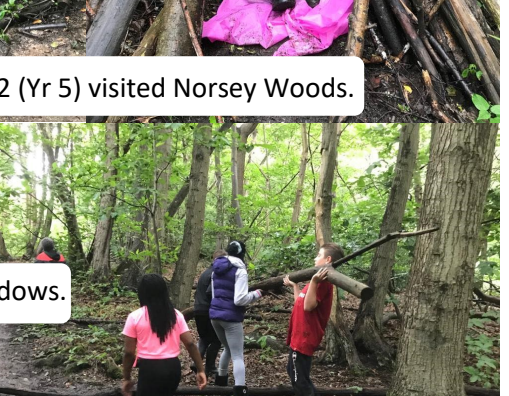
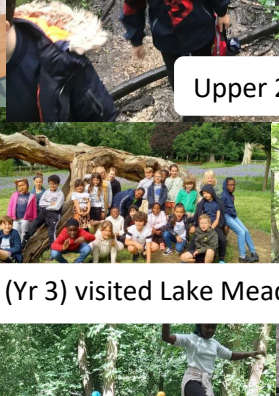
Final Week of Term



Lower 5 (Yr 10) PE GCSE course have spent the week rowing on the Thames. What a fantastic opportunity!



The KG & Juniors were visited by various animals.



Upper 2 (Yr 5) visited Norsey Woods.

Form 1 (Yr 3) visited Lake Meadows.



Lower 3 (Yr 6) visited Thriftwood for an amazing day full of activities.



Important Information



St John's
School Billericay

*Diary Dates Michaelmas Term 2021 **

Thurs 12 th August	GCSE RESULTS DAY
Thurs 9 th September	FIRST DAY OF MICHAELMAS TERM
Fri 8 th October	UPPER 3 (Yr 7) TEAM BUILDING AT DANBURY
Tues 12 th October	LOWER 2 (Yr 4) VISIT TO COLCHESTER CASTLE
Wed 13 th & Thurs 14 th October	SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
Fri 15 th October	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
Mon 1 st November	FIRST DAY 2 ND HALF MICHAELMAS TERM
Tues 7 th December	KINDERGARTEN & JUNIOR PANTOMIME VISIT
Wed 15 th 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/

*Dates may be subject to change due to COVID

New uniform

New uniform can be purchased via our online ordering system. Please visit www.stjohnsschool.net/pupils-parent-information/school-uniform/

Select the item/s and quantity of items you require and the form will subtotal the amount payable. Please make a BACS payment for the amount using your child's name followed by the word 'uniform' as the payment reference. All online orders must be placed by 12th August at the latest to ensure they will be ready for you to collect prior to the beginning of term*.

Pupils entering Reception, Form 1 (Year 3), Upper 3 (Year 7) and new pupils have been given priority uniform appointments. If you do need to bring your child in for an appointment please email registrar@stjohnsschool.net by 12th August and we will book you in for an appointment at the beginning of September.

*subject to stock availability.

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.

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