**‘Christian Value’ – Respect**

“*Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves*.”

 Romans 12:10

1st October 2021

**Head’s Message**

Next week is Space Week, and Mr Timmis has some exciting lessons planned for the juniors. We will also be welcoming Rev Nancy and Bev into school next Thursday, as they welcome all our Reception new starters to St John’s. Teaching staff attended numerous courses this week as part of our School Development process. Mrs Jobbins and Mrs Stout are enrolled in Mastering Number courses run by the Cheshire East and Wirral Maths Partnership. Mrs Watson is participating in a Sustaining Mastery programme. Mr Timmis has attended his termly STEM briefings. Finally, due to significant concerns nationally about the prevalence of peer-on-peer sexual harassment and sexual violence, including online, in June 2021 Ofsted published its review of the issue. Mike Akerman (Chair of Governors), Mrs Watson and I attended LA training on Ofsted’s Sexual Abuse Review on Tuesday evening. DfE guidance on the matter can be accessed below, and has been placed on the Safeguarding section of the website. [Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-violence-and-sexual-harassment-between-children-in-schools-and-colleges)

**Harvest**

We will be celebrating Harvest in school on Monday, with a whole school assembly for the children. Sadly, we are still not in a position to invite families into school, but we will upload photographs of the assembly onto the website. Harvest food donations would be greatly appreciated and forwarded to Hampers of Hope.

**Parents’ Evenings**

Parents’ Evening meetings will take place the 11th, 13th and 14th October. Time slots have been sent out via School Spider, and we would encourage you all to ensure you have made an appointment to meet your child’s class teacher.

**International Walk to School Month – October 2021**

International Walk to School Month is a month-long event where children and their families across the world are encouraged to walk to school. Benefits of this initiative include improving health and wellbeing, reducing car usage and improving air quality. Please go to the Cheshire East Air Quality Awareness page for more information, and also visit the Living Street charity for how to walk to school initiatives and resources.

**School Uniform**

Please could we politely remind you that there is an expectation all school children adhere to our school uniform. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

**Pupils Starting Secondary School – September 2022**

The application process to apply for a secondary school place for September 2022 opened on 1st September. To apply, please visit the ‘Admissions and attendance’ section on the Cheshire East website ([www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/schools.aspx](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/schools.aspx)). Please remember to submit your application by the closing date of 31st October 2021.

**Covid-19 Advice**

If your child has any of the main Covid-19 symptoms (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste), they should not attend school and should stay at home. You should arrange for them to get a PCR test and tell us the test results. Your child should not attend school while you are waiting for test results, even if they are feeling better. If the test is negative, they should go to school as normal. If they test positive, they should continue to isolate and follow public health advice.

**News from Reception**

This week, in Reception, we have focused on the story, ‘The Family Book,’ by Todd Parr. This beautiful book celebrates the similarities and differences between all families. We reinforced our learning by creating different family combinations during our carpet sessions. We have drawn detailed pictures of the people in our family and talked about what makes them special. In maths, we focused on the language of ‘more’ and less’ and compared sets of objects based on how many we can count. Our learning moved on to comparing the height of objects, using the language ‘tall’ and ‘short.’ We have started our Phase 2 phonics sessions now, starting with our single letter sounds. We will send home more information regarding phonics on Tapestry this coming week so keep an eye out.

We had a lot of fun baking apple crumble on Wednesday; we hope you all enjoyed the final result!

**News from Class 2**

This week, in English, we have created speech bubbles for each character from the story ‘The Journey Home.’ We have created a story map and planned our own version of the story. In maths, Year 1 have been working on one more and one less, and Year 2 have been working with part whole models to 50. In IPC, we have looked at the seven life processes, MRS GREN, and sorted living and non-living things. We have also researched how to care for a pet and had a visit from a greyhound. We have written a list of questions and found out the answers in preparation to create a non-fiction poster about caring for a pet.

**News from Class 3**

We have continued our topic of ‘Scavengers and Settlers.’ Children have created a timeline of key events in the Stone Age and used teamwork to create a map of the Fertile Crescent. In English, we have started a new book, ‘The Tear Thief.’ The children have practised justifying their opinion using sentences that include ‘because’ and ‘as’. In maths, we have converted Roman numerals. In our myHappymind session this week, children have looked at how different parts of the brain work together like a team.

**News from Class 4**

This week, in maths, we have continued our place value unit by exploring negative numbers and Roman numerals. In English, we have continued our work on 'The Man Who Walked Between the Towers' by Mordicai Gerstein. We have been writing newspaper reports and have started writing a biography about Philippe Petit. In IPC, in our topic 'What Price Progress?', we have been learning about cam mechanisms, and we have started designing toys for our learning buddies in Reception.

**Sports News**

Class 1 – This week, the children played pirate games where they focused on following instructions, balancing on beams and ropes and jumping safely. The children also learnt how to balance beanbags on different parts of their body and travel in lots of different ways.

Class 2 – This week, the class have worked in teams to move around a circuit, practised jumping over hurdles and worked on throwing at targets. They also focussed on balancing skills.

Class 3 – This week, in circuit training the children worked on agility, balance and endurance. In dodgeball, they played throwing and catching games.

Class 4 – This week, we did circuit training with apparatus and equipment. We ended the session with Just Dance fitness.

**Star Performers**

Class 1: Gruff

Class 2: James and Arthur

Class 3: Dylan and Talia

Class 4: Airon and Scarlet S