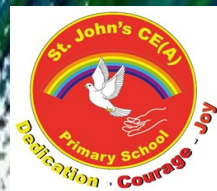


The Early Bird



Issue 5: Friday 24th November 2023

Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught and you will overflow with thankfulness. Colossians 2:7

From the Headteacher.....

Dear parents/carers,

We are getting to that festive time of the year so please check the diary dates on the next page for Christmas activities.

Myself and Mr Farrell were very grateful of a visit to Gladstone Primary Academy to understand more about their practices in relation to nurture. The new headteacher of

Gladstone is also making a visit to St. John's next week, to take a look at how we teach phonics. It is lovely to share good practices with other schools and have the opportunity to show what our children and staff do well.

Can I strongly remind parents to have open conversations with your children about mobile phone and internet use, and staying safe. Monitor your child's phones and support your child by checking age ratings for certain apps and games too.

Finally a huge thank you to you as parents for the feedback in our October parents evening questionnaire. We have added feedback in the newsletter. *On average 94% of our parents agreed we have high expectations.* It is also incredibly helpful where parents have added their names and we are already having conversation with any parents who disagree so we understand any concerns in more detail to resolve anything where possible. It is an exceptional quality that we can have transparent and constructive conversations to strengthen even further the community of St. John's.

Enjoy the weekend when it is here and looking forward to another hard working week next week.

Mrs SM Bowyer

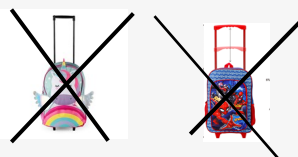
Headteacher

PS: I hope some families can join me at Keele University. See the [Christmas Lectures 2023 newsletter page](#) and get a [free ticket](#).

Please see the next page for important dates for your diary.

Can we please ask that bags on wheels are not brought into school. Due to limited space in the

cloakrooms we only have room for the school reading bags.



A reminder that school finishes at 3pm, so we ask that you will be on time to collect your children. We know that at times traffic may cause you to be delayed so, we ask that if you think you will be picking up late that you call school to let us know, because it can be upsetting for your child. At 3.10pm gates are closed so please collect your child from the reception.

Please remember to call school if your child is absent due to illness. If we have not heard why your child is not in school, the safeguarding team with do a house visit.



Year 5/6 prayer

Dear Lord, school prayer
Thank you for looking after our school.
Thank you that you love each and everyone
of us too.
Help us to learn, play and share together,
so that the wonderful world you have
made, *
Becomes even more beautiful every day
Amen



Dedication - Courage - Joy

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 27th November: Family Learning - Winter Crafts
City Songbird Christmas Concert - 6.45pm at
The Victoria Hall
- 28th November : Phonics work shop[EYFS parents (after
school)
- 30th November: St Andrew's Day (Blue Team)
- 14th December : Lower Key Stage 2 Christmas Service
(morning)
Upper Key Stage 2 Christmas Service
(afternoon)
- 15th December: Early Years Foundation Stage Christmas
Service (morning)
Key Stage 1 Christmas Service (afternoon)
- 19th December: Whole School Visit to the New Vic Theatre -
The Nutcracker
- 21st December: Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Lunch
- 22nd December: Christmas Party Day - Last Day of Term
- 25th December to 5th January : Christmas Holidays
- 8th January 2024: Staff Training Day
school is NOT open to pupils
- 9th January 2024 : First Day of Term

October Parents Evening Questionnaires

Thank you to all, for your views on the **expectations** that you would like for your children.

On average 94% of our parents agreed we have high expectations.

Please see our results and comments below.

Questions	Total agree or strongly agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
The school sets high expectations for behaviour in class.	93%	46%	47%	3%	1%	3%
The school sets high expectations for behaviour at breaktimes and lunchtimes.	91%	41%	50%	3%	1%	6%
There are high expectations for uniform in school.	95%	43%	52%	3%	1%	1%
The school has high academic expectations for my child.	93%	47%	46%	4%	1%	2%
The school has high expectations for home learning (e.g. reading, spellings, times tables).	96%	46%	50%	2%	2%	2%
The school expects pupils to demonstrate the values of dedica-	97%	54%	43%		1%	3%
The school has high expectations for the wider extra-curricular areas in school.	93%	41%	52%	4%	1%	3%

We are really pleased that most of our parents agreed we have high expectations across the different areas.

Although we received a range of answers, the main areas where you expected high expectations related to:

- Academic—English, maths and reading
- Develop the whole child with morals and values.

Some of the areas you would like developed further related to:

- Extra curricular clubs
- Communication—paper communication
- Communication about e curriculum
- Uniform
- Home work
- After school care club

We will work to further strengthen these areas and keep you updated on our developments.

October Parents Evening Questionnaires Cont....

We had so many positive comments but here are a few to share:

It is a pleasure to keep moving forward as a community!!

The St. John's team

I am truly grateful for the warm and supportive atmosphere at school. It's a place where children blossom into curious confident learners.

Thank you so much for the work you do. I am so proud to have my child at St. John's Primary school.

Safety, support, education, happiness

We think you are doing a wonderful job and we have a very happy girl.

Putting the children's interests first in what they do.

I am very happy with how the school has improved during recent years. It is a lovely community to be part of.

CHRISTMAS Special

Roast Turkey
with **Stuffing and Gravy**
or **Veggie Wellington**
or **Quorn Roast**
*served with Mashed Potato,
Roast Potatoes, Baton Carrots,
Sprouts or Peas and Gravy*

Ice Cream Pot
with a **Christmas Chocolate**
or **Christmas Pudding**
served with Custard

Choice of Drink

Served on:
21st December



CHRISTMAS Party



Selection of Sandwiches

Cheese Whirl

Cocktail Sausages

Crisps

Carrot and Cucumber Sticks

Christmas Shortbread
or Krispmas Pudding

Choice of Drink

Served on:
22nd December

Christmas Lectures 2023

School have secured 6 free tickets for 3 x upper key stage 2 (year 5 and 6) children and a parent to attend.

-See Mrs Bowyer or Miss Holland for details.

The Royal Institute Christmas Lectures 2023:

An offer to you, near you for your children and their families.

REAL SCIENCE ENTHUSIASTS: For those children that talk about the science they know or have seen or read about beyond their classes. The children that would be perfect nominees for the scientist of the year (SPOTY) there is a new offer and opportunity to attend a prestigious lecture at Keele University in the inspiring Westminster Theatre.

SINCE 1825! The Ri (Royal Institution) CHRISTMAS LECTURES invite a guest scientist to explain and present the latest new scientific ideas to young people. The target audience is **upper Key Stage 2** and Key Stage 3, and their families.

The lectures have been a feature of the BBC Christmas television schedule since 1966 and watching them as a family, for many, is a tradition, a tradition that families at your school have the chance to start for themselves.

NEW THIS YEAR! The chance to watch the live stream of the lecture being filmed in London. Children and families across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are invited to listen and watch **Professor Mike Wooldridge** as he reveals the truth about **Artificial Intelligence** in the 2023 CHRISTMAS LECTURE from the Royal Institution.

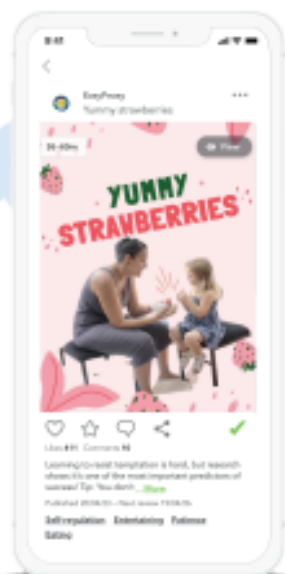
For the Diary: 14th December 2023, 6pm-8pm, Westminster Lecture,
Keele University



easypeasy

Support your child's development for FREE

get unlimited access by scanning the QR code*



Parenting advice and activity ideas birth to five shared by our community and experts. Available for parents and carers in Stoke-on-Trent.



easypeasyapp.com/stoke



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

*For full terms and conditions, please visit easypeasyapp.com/terms

Sports Clubs



Ministry4sport presents...

CASTLE TOTZ

JOIN US
5:30-6:30PM
EVERY MONDAY
@ ROE LANE
ST5 3PH

- LEARN TO PLAY!
- CHALLENGES
- MATCHES
- COMPETITIONS

FOR ALL CHILDREN
AGED 4/5

£7 A SESSION OR PAY MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION

[HTTPS://MINISTRY4SPORT.ORG.UK/PRODUCT/CASTLETOTZ-FOOTBALL-ANNUAL-SUBSCRIPTION/](https://ministry4sport.org.uk/product/castletotz-football-annual-subscription/)

NEWCASTLE TOWN
SUPER SIXES
(FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN YEAR 1)

 **VENUE: ROE LANE PLAYING FIELDS ST5 3PH**
TRAINING EVERY MONDAY
5:30-6:30PM ON THE 3G
GAME DAY SATURDAY MORNINGS
FIRST SESSION FREE!



£7 A SESSION OR £45 A MONTH OVER 10 MONTHS
CONTACT EMAIL:
ANDREW.WALKLATE@MINISTRY4SPORT.ORG.UK

