

# Newsletter

St John's C.E.V.A First School Frome



"Learning together... aiming high"

Website: [stjohnsfrome.co.uk](http://stjohnsfrome.co.uk)

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Issue 20

Friday 7th February 2020

## HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS



Natalie (Ash) Ashley (Oak)  
Beatrice (Hawthorn) Axel (Poplar)  
Mila (Beech) Eva, Patrick & Joe (Fir)  
Ruby (Rowan) Tia (Willow)  
Daisy (Maple)



## FROM LEO

It was my birthday this week - I was 2. I came in to school wearing my birthday bandana and had lots of fuss and attention from the children all day. I know all about our school values of kindness and friendship,

and I want to say a very big thank you to children in Acorns for the birthday cards they so kindly made for me, and for the gifts my friend Tella gave me.

I had a wonderful day!



## A Child's Voice

On Wednesday, Michelle Horden came to visit us. She came to tell all of Year Four about Humanists. It was so INTERESTING! **Mair**

Having Michelle to our school made me think being a Humanist was lots of fun because she talked all about making the right decisions. It was so cool having a Humanist in school. **Daisy G**

Michelle said she likes being a Humanist because she does not have to follow any rules, but she knows right from wrong and that she can do whatever she wants to do in life. **Lola**

Michelle told us about the Humanist golden rule which was - don't treat others the way you would not want to be treated. I think she inspired lots of people to be like her. **Daisy B**

Michelle told us when Humanism began which was 2,500 years ago, and the fastest growing Humanist organisation which is in Uganda and Nigeria. Also the biggest Humanist organisations which are in Norway and India. **Anish**

We learnt all about the golden rule. It was about don't treat other people how you don't want to be treated. At the start I thought Humanists were all atheists but they're not. **Rosie**

I think the most interesting fact was when she showed us some Humanist celebrations, and also told us a few as well. For example Albert Einstein and Rowan Atkinson. **Jamie**

She told us that you aren't born a Humanist but you can choose when you are one. It really made me think differently because I didn't know it was more about freedom and happiness. **Phoebe**

## WINTER WEATHER

It's that time of year when we need to make sure all parents know our school closure procedures, should we have any "snow days" or other weather warnings. If the decision is ever taken to close the school, it will be posted immediately on the website, as in previous years, but everyone will also be notified by email.

Please make sure we always have your current email and mobile phone number, and please update office staff if ever you change them, so we can always contact everyone quickly and easily.

## VALENTINE'S TREATS



Heart-shaped shortbread biscuits made by Mrs Fear will be on sale from the front desk next week for £1 per packet. All proceeds will be going to Dorothy House Hospice Care.



## FROM MICHELLE HORDEN

"You should be very proud of your Year 4 group. I really enjoyed this morning and I thought the children were all very well behaved and really engaged."

### CHESS NEWS

Well done to all St John's chess players who took part in the fourth Somerset Junior Chess Grand Prix of the season, held as it is every year here at the school. The Year 3s, and some of the Year 4s, were taking part in their first ever tournament, so have had their first taste of the competitive nature of junior chess across the county. Taking part were (Y4): Kavin, Esmée-Rose, George, Charley, Sam, Frank and Anish and (Y3): Ruben, Billy, Jay and Xaffi. Several just missed out on a medal, but Esmée-Rose scored an impressive 4 out of 6 and won a medal. Congratulations to her, and also to Xaffi and Billy who won some excellent games against tough opponents and scored 3 out of 6; a fantastic achievement in their first event.

Sam was picked in January to represent the county Under 9 team in the West of England jamboree, where the team beat the other counties into first place. There is another county match coming up in March, for which we wish him luck. A big thank you also to Sam and Frank's mum Dora for organising and running the refreshments all day, providing much needed cake (kindly donated by chess parents), snacks and drinks for tired parents and children - it raised £123 for the school.



### THE NEST

SMSC - Children will draw, then label, each person in their family.

Art - Children will make a simple family tree.

Recap - Children will take turns talking to Mrs McCarthy about their family, and our activities of the week.



### OUR LEARNING NEXT WEEK

Our Values are Aspiration and Hope

#### Reception

Maths - Addition.  
English - Writing about our mixed-up animals.  
Phonics - Letter sounds. CVCC CCVC words.

#### Year 1

Maths - Place value to 50.  
English - Proper nouns. Continuing our stories for the Skeleton Dog from 'Funnybones'.

#### Year 2

Maths - Describing properties of 3D Shapes.  
English - Using suffixes (est; ly; ed; ing) to describe Zog and other Julia Donaldson characters.

#### Year 3

Maths - Bus stop division.  
English - Making fact files about gladiators.

#### Year 4

Maths - Problem solving using division.  
English - Exciting writing, comprehension and SPAG.

### FSCI CHRISTMAS BOX APPEAL 2019

We were delighted to support the FSCI Christmas Box Appeal last term. Thank you to all those families who gave their time and money to contribute a box. Thousands of children and families in institutions, kindergartens and schools in poor rural and urban areas, senior citizens' homes, Roma communities, protected homes and refugee centres throughout Bulgaria received Christmas presents as a result of the generosity of those taking part in the appeal, with a total of 9,985 boxes distributed.

*"With the Christmas boxes, we show people who live on the periphery of society, often forgotten and overlooked, that we think of them and believe in them".*

Teodora Koleva, Director of FSCI Bulgaria.

Thank you again for helping St John's to be part of this. You can see boxes being distributed [here](#)

### DIARY DATES

Weds 12 Feb	Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30pm
Thurs 13 Feb	Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30pm
Fri 14 Feb	Author Visit at Cheese & Grain - Year 4
Feb 17 - 21	Half Term
Feb 28 - March 2	Frome Window Wanderland
Weds 4 March	Wells Pilgrimage - Year 4
Thurs 5 March	World Book Day
Fri 6 March	Family Story Time 2.45 - 3.15pm
March 18, 19, 20	Liddington Residential - Year 4
Fri 3 April	Last day of term
6-17 April	Easter Holiday
28, 29, 30 April	Life Bus in school
Fri 8 May	May Bank Holiday
25-29 May	Half Term
w/c Mon 1 June	Sports Week - details TBC
Tues 2 June	Class Photos
16 - 22 June	Book Fair in School
Fri 17 July	Last day of term
Mon 20 July	Inset Day

### VALENTINE GAS LAMP LIGHTING CELEBRATION

The famous Valentine Gas Lamp is one of the town's most romantic landmarks - set amidst heart-shaped cobblestones with a 'love seat' under the glow of the gas lamp, looking down Catherine Hill. The annual Valentine Gas Lamp Lighting Ceremony has been celebrated for over 25 years. Please go along on Valentine's Day and witness this unique event. Come rain or shine, at **5.30pm** a firework will be let off summoning romantic souls to the lamp. All will gather to await the arrival of the lamplighter, dressed in period costume, to conduct the lighting ceremony at **6pm**. There will be mulled wine for adults and fresh fruit for the children.

### 'LOVE YOUR PLANET' EVENT

This Saturday 8 Feb from 11am - 3pm, Extinction Rebellion will be running a series of fun free activities on stalls in the Frome Market, all associated with loving our planet ahead of Valentine's Day.

There will be block printing, interactive boards about the planet, and environment, and an opportunity to help create a Valentine's themed poem with Crysse Morrison (Frome's own resident poet). Photos will be taken for the local press, and the poem will be published too. Yvonne McQuillan-Mills 07792557421