

The St John's Journal



Issue No: 06

Friday 24TH June 2022

'Together we have the roots to grow and the wings to fly!'

ENVIRONMENT WEEK



At the start of this half term, we had a whole school 'Environment Week'. Each class took part in different activities, including upcycling plastic bottles and tin cans to make 'bee hotels', pencil cases, bird feeders and plant pots, rock painting, planting seeds, crafting bees, and junk modelling.

Children in Years 3 and 4 also went to the woods behind the Cheese and Grain with Jo and Helen from Frome Town Council as part of the 'Wild About Frome' project. They made pictures of trees using natural materials - collecting different colours by rubbing leaves and flowers onto a paper artist's pallet, then they did a bug hunt and used the app 'Seek' to identify what they found.

They also took time simply to stand in silence, listening to the sounds of nature all around them.



HAPPINESS HUNT

Children in Year 4 went on a really special trip to Rowden House - the residential home we are linked with as part of 'The Happiness Hunt' project - finally meeting the residents who Maple class have been writing to, and making things for, over the last year. Happiness Hunt organisers had arranged a garden party at Rowden House, during which residents and children sang songs and read poems for each other, chatted, did a craft activity and shared this amazing cake!



END OF YEAR REPORT

Teachers are busy writing end of year reports for your children. This is a major, but very important task for teachers during this term, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work in this. For your information, they will be sent out electronically through ParentMail, so please make sure we have your correct email addresses. They will only be sent to the main email address for each child, unless parents are separated, and then we will send the report to both parents. We are aiming to send these out to you during the penultimate week of term to allow you the final full week of term to speak to staff about the report if you feel you need to. It is highly likely that we will send the reports out across the week, one year group each day, but we will confirm this nearer the time.

STAFFING UPDATE

On Monday 20th June, we had a very busy but successful day interviewing teachers, and I am delighted to announce that we have recruited three amazing new teachers to our team. Welcome to St John's Mrs Millie O'Toole, Miss Rachel Murtagh and Miss Tamsin Birkett! I am delighted to let you know that all three will be in school for transfer day on 6th July to meet their new classes. In the table below you can see which class they will be teaching.

CLASSES NEXT YEAR

Current Year Group	Current Class	New Class	Teacher
Pre-school		Seedlings	Mrs Budd (Mon – Thur) / Mrs Scruby (Fri)
Reception	Ash and Oak	Poplar	Mrs Dayman-Johns (Mon – Wed) / Miss Murtagh (Thur & Fri)
Reception	Ash and Oak	Hawthorn	Mrs Llewellyn
Year 1	Hawthorn	Beech	Mrs Jackson
Year 1	Poplar	Fir	Mrs O'Toole (Mon – Wed) / Mr Jackson (Thur & Fri)
Year 2	Fir	Willow	Mr Coombs
Year 2	Beech	Rowan	Miss Birkett
Year 3	Willow	Sycamore	Mr Bowman (Mon – Thur) / Mrs Moss (Fri)
Year 3	Rowan	Maple	Mrs Simenton

As previously explained, current Ash and Oak classes have been taught very much as a whole cohort, so that we could get to know them really well before placing them in classes in Year 1. Current Ash and Oak class parents will receive a separate email telling them which Year 1 class their child will be in next year.

Mixing all reception children together throughout the whole year has been really successful, and as such we will continue to do the same next year. To avoid confusion, we have decided to 'rebrand' reception and call them 'Seedlings'.

Mrs Scruby will be leading our new Outdoor Learning provision in September on days when she is not teaching in Seedlings.

TRANSFER DAYS – FRIDAY 1ST AND WEDNESDAY 6TH JULY

We are having two transition days to give children two opportunities to spend full days with their new teachers. The first will just be happening at St John's, the second happens across Frome and Year 4 will spend the day at their new school. The arrangements for each day are as follows:

Friday 1st July

All children need to come into school through their usual doors and go to their current classrooms for registration. We will then have Headteacher Awards and classes will leave with their new teachers who will take them to their new classrooms. At the end of the day children will be dismissed from the location for their new class (see below). Current year 4 will be dismissed for this day only from the front playground from the gate by the activity tables.

Wednesday 6th July

All children will arrive and depart from the location for their new year group and class.

- New Reception – Play to Learn arrangements have been sent separately
- New Poplar and Fir classes – Front Playground through year 1 area left hand gate
- New Hawthorn and Beech classes – Front Playground through year 1 area right hand gate
- New Willow, Rowan, Maple and Sycamore classes – Back Playground

SPORTS DAY

Sports Day will take place on Friday 8th July (Reception only) and Monday 11th July (Years 1-4) at the following times in the school playgrounds. Parents are invited to come and watch.

Friday 8th July

- 2.15 – 3.00pm Reception

Monday 11th July

- 9.00 – 9.45am Year 4
- 10.00 – 10.45am Year 1
- 11.00 – 11.45 Year 2
- 1.30 – 2.15pm Year 3

SCHOOLS SINGING FESTIVAL

The School Choir will be taking part in the Schools Singing Festival as part of the Frome Festival, organised by Jackdaws Music Education Trust. Friends and family are warmly invited to watch the performance at 11.00am on Friday 8th July. Tickets cost £3 (children under 5 free) and will be on sale from June 27th from the Cheese and Grain box office and on the door.

DIARY DATES

We have a busy few weeks ahead as we build up to the end of this academic year. Here is a summary of upcoming events. More detail about individual events will be sent out over the next couple of weeks.

27th June	New Parents' Evening
27-29th June	Frome Olympic Event – IG Sports
29th June	Y3 Meeting – Kilve 2023
1 st July	Transfer Day
4th July Y4	Earth Science Centre Trip – Sycamore
5th July Y4	Earth Science Centre Trip – Maple
6th July	Transfer Day
8th July	Choir Singing Festival at Cheese & Grain 10am-12pm Sports Day Year R
11th July	Sports Day Years 1-4
12th July	Vision Testing – Reception
19th July	'Rocksteady' Concert – 2pm
20th July	Y3 Mendip Activity Centre Trip
21st July	Y4 Leavers' Play 2pm and 6pm
22nd July	End of Year Parties Y1 & Y3 Y2 Longleat Trip
25th July	Y1 Weston-super-Mare Trip Choir/Music Concert – 2pm Y4 BBQ 3.30-5pm
26th July	Y4 Leavers' Service – 9-10.30am End of Year Parties Y2 & Y4