

Friday 20th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

My highlight this week had to be the West Berkshire cross country championship, where we took a group of over 40 Year 4, 5 and 6 children to join with over 1000 children from across West Berkshire and North Hampshire. The children's behaviour was exemplary and every child participated with enthusiasm and cheered on the others. Our children performed extremely well and were a credit to the school.

Church Services

Next week, our Easter services take place on Wednesday 25th March. The St John's service takes place at 9am. All children, including nursery, should be dropped at St John's church at 8.50am when we will take them into the church. Parents wishing to stay and watch the service should wait outside until just before 9am when we will let you in after registering the children. The service will take between 30 and 45 minutes and we will walk the children back to school afterwards. **We are in need of walkers to safely walk the children back to school. If you are able to help, please follow the link below:**

<https://forms.office.com/e/30n83s5NkN>

The St Nic's service is at 2pm on the same day. During the service, our Year 5 children will be performing. Parents are welcome to join us in the service, which is likely to take between 45 minutes and an hour. If you are joining the service, and would like to take your child with you afterwards, please let us know via Parent Pay. Otherwise, all children will be walked back to school for normal pick-up time (3.30pm).

Bikes and Scooters at St John's

It is lovely to see so many children riding their bikes and scooters to school at St John's. Can I please remind parents that children should not be riding their bikes or scooters in the car park, as vehicles can come in and out of school even during drop off and pick up times.

Can all bikes and scooters please be stored near Beech class between the grit bin and the office wall. Please do not leave them near the gate, as this might impede access.

St Nicolas Winners

Well done to the red team, who have won the team points trophy for this term. They will have a non-school uniform day on Thursday next week.

Also, congratulations go to 6N for winning the Doodle trophy for this term. They will have a non-school uniform day on Tuesday next week.

End of Term

Next Friday, 27th March is the last day of term. On the last day of term, St John's school finishes at 1.30pm and St Nicolas at 1.45pm. (St John's After School Club finishes 4.30pm and St Nic's at 4.15pm).

Attendance

Congratulations to Oak Class at St John's with 97.5% attendance and 6N at St Nic's with a fantastic 100% attendance. Both classes have won our attendance aardvarks for this week.

Attendance at each school last week was as follows:

- St John's: 89% - this reflects the amount of illness at St John's currently.
- St Nic's 94.6%

Attendance has been a little lower this week, due to an increase in illnesses. Every day in school is important and we are keen to boost our attendance. If your child is well enough to attend, please do ensure they are in school. Across the two schools, there were 21 late marks last week. Every minute that a child is late can impact on their learning. Please ensure your child is in school, on time, each day.

Writer of the Week

Congratulations to this week's writer of the week: Aarna (Year 4). The writer of the week inspiration for next week is below:

Max's ordinary walk home was transformed when he stumbled upon a pair of headphones in the middle of the road. Curiosity piqued, he placed them over his ears and music burst out, filling him with a strange, wonderful feeling he had never felt before.

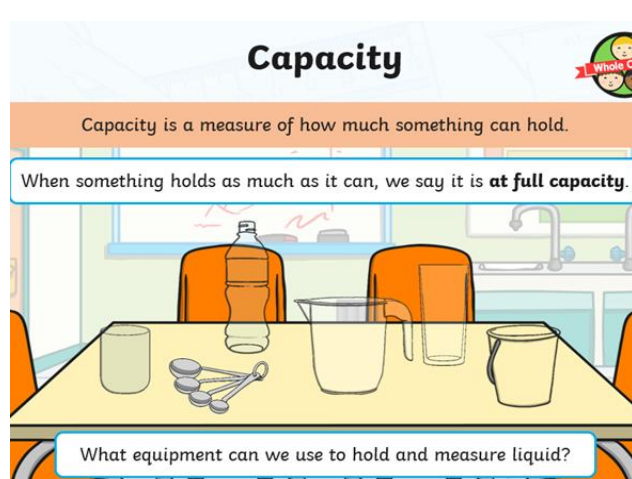
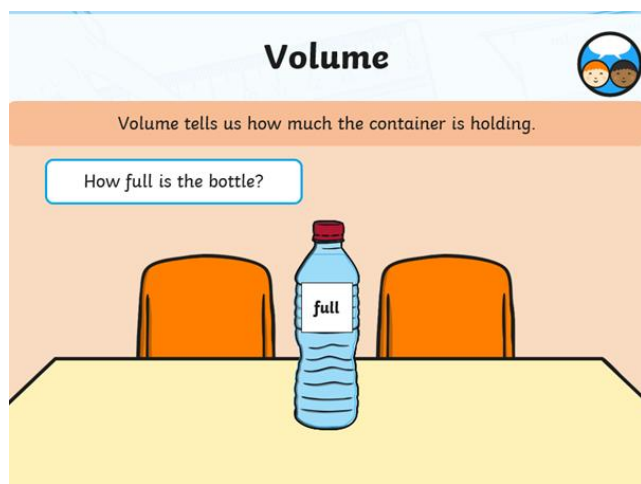


Year 2 Homework

Marvellous Maths Year 2

This week we are looking at measuring liquids using litres and millilitres.

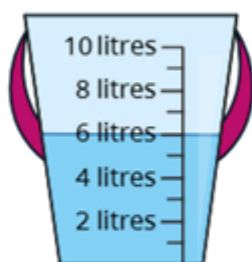
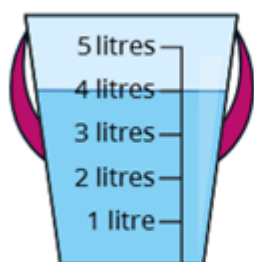
What do you mean by Volume & Capacity?



<https://www.mathsisfun.com/games/jugs-puzzle.html>

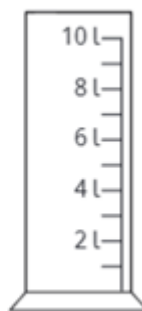
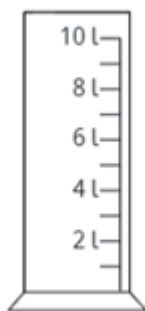
<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/88/itp-measuring-cylinder>

- How much water is there in each bucket?



- The liquid from each bottle is emptied into a container.

Draw on the containers to show how much liquid they contain.



In spellings this week

Week 4 Compare: /se/ /c/ /ce/

eye

Homophones: piece/peace

City

Purse

Nurse

Circle

Face

Mice

Trace

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated wet play time toys.

Phonics Books for the Week

Reception:

https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S19_Jam_Tarts_in_the_Dark&d=Jam%20Tarts%20in%20the%20Dark

<https://vimeo.com/692003477/22cec1edd1>

Year 1: https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S54_Brock_Makes_Art&d=Brock%20Makes%20Art
<https://vimeo.com/731076527/d993e3459f>

Year 2:

https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=An_Invitation_to_a_Party&d=An%20Invitation%20to%20a%20Party

Drawing Club

Drawing Club is a way of igniting joy and a love of stories with the early years and follows Greg Bottrell's beliefs and passions. Your child will be using their imagination to create new characters, settings, and events for this story. They will be adding marks, codes, labels, and messages to their work and realising that they are writers! Each week we will choose a different story or an animation, this week our animation is: The Gingerbread Man.



They will also be learning some exciting new vocabulary with actions. This week's vocabulary list is:

Leap

Accelerate

Pursue

Block

Cunning

Soggy

Mocking

Disappointed

See if they can teach you the actions!

Upcoming Dates

Monday 23rd March:

Wednesday 25th March:

Wednesday 25th March:

Thursday 26th March:

Friday 27th March:

Year 5 Bikeability

St John's Easter Service 9am

St Nic's Easter Service 2pm

Celebration worship 10.10am

End of term 1.30pm St John's; 1.45pm St Nic's

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey

Executive Headteacher