

15th December 2023



St John's Catholic Junior School Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

I trust that you are all enjoying the festive season and taking some time to look after yourselves and your loved ones during this very busy period!

Throughout the whole week, the children have worked so hard on their piece for the Christmas Showcase and I am sure that you will agree that they performed with such energy and enthusiasm! Well done to all of our children and many thanks to all of our families who were able to join us!

On Wednesday, year 5 visited Liverpool Museum and learned about the geography and history of Liverpool. Many thanks to our volunteers who gave up their time to support the trip. Without their support, these trips would not be possible.

On Thursday, Year 3 and 4 enjoyed a day with Hi-Impact where they visited London (year 3) and Antarctica (year 4) using Virtual Reality technology. The children just loved this and we are grateful to Hi-Impact for the use of their equipment!

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to three members of staff at the end of this term.

Miss Oates

Many of you will know that Miss Oates was our much loved Deputy for 25 years working with both the former Headteacher – Mr Sharp and myself in the latter years. After retiring from this post, she became a formidable SENDco in our school supporting many children and families in this new role. We thank her for her tireless effort, commitment and dedication to St John's Juniors during her time here. At the end of this term, she will be retiring completely from St John's and we all wish her the very best of health and much happiness in her retired life.

Mrs Hoey

Mrs Hoey has been our school business manager for 28 years also working with both myself and Mr Sharp. She too has supported many children and families over the years and will too be retiring. We thank her for her many years of service and we wish her much happiness in her retired life as she spends more time with her grandchildren.

Mrs Collins

Mrs Collins has been with us for a short period in comparison working as an administration assistant in the school office. She will be moving onto pastures new in January and we thank her for her hard work, laughter and support over the last two years.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Mullins

Key Information

New dates added!

Christmas Party—See details

Wednesday 20th December

Whole school Pantomime trip

Thursday 21st December

Open Classroom from 2.30pm Celebrate Topic 2

Thursday 21st December

School closes for children

School re-opens

8th January 2024

Class Weekly Attendance:

3PA: 95.7%
3PE: 92.9%
4A: 97.2%
4T: 91.9%
5J: 94.7%
5V: 98.1%
6O: 94.1%

Attendance

Every Child: Every Day!
Whole School Attendance
4th—8th December 2023

98.1%

Congratulations to
5V

If your child is absent from school, please remember to report their absence, either via ParentMail or the school office.

Certificate Winners

This week every child is "Our Star of the Week" for their amazing and fabulous performances through out the week. Well done everyone.

3PA 3PE

4A 4T

5J 5V

6O 6T

Times Table Rock Stars!

School Averages:

Average Speed:
5.29s

Active Pupils:
28%

Average Minutes:
15s

School Accuracy:
93%



Coins earned by each class

3PA: 847 3PE: 645
4A: 2059 4T: 1101
5J: 864 V: 1747
6O: 772 6T: 525

Congratulations to:
St Anne in Lower Key Stage 2 & St Vincent De

Gospel

This Sunday's Gospel

Advent – Week 3 Joy
John 1:6-8, 19-28

"John delivers the joyful news of God's arrival into our world in the person of Jesus – he recognised Jesus as the Christ. Be assured that Jesus is always with us, waiting to fill us with joy."

Thoughts for the Week

"How can we spread joy during this Christmas season?"

Mass Times

Mass times at St John's Saturday 5pm & Sunday 9.30am.
Children's liturgy is always available at Sunday 9.30am Mass

Each week Wednesday Word is uploaded onto the school website to help you to reflect on this week's Gospel
Please follow this link <https://www.stjohns-junior.wirral.sch.uk/parish-newsletter-1>

Christmas Crib Service at St John's will be on Saturday 23rd December

2pm.

Details of Christmas Masses to follow

#WakeUpWednesday

There's no disputing how integral the digital world has become to modern life. It can prove difficult for many young people to stay off smart phones, tablets and other devices for a single day – even one as special as Christmas. In fact, according to a survey by e-commerce platform Groupon, almost 80% of parents and carers would prefer a festive period that's free from technology.

Going online, of course, is useful for checking in with friends and relations who we can't be with, or for arranging celebrations – but if we allow gadgets to dominate our Yuletide break, that precious time could pass in a flash. This **#WakeUpWednesday**, we've got suggestions for keeping a handle on device use over the holidays, so your family can be truly together this Christmas.

School Choir

On Thursday, our Year 5/6 choir walked to Tesco and performed some Christmas songs to raise money for CAFOD. The children loved the experience and were made to feel very welcome by everyone at Tesco. They raised an amazing £80.87 after just half an hour of singing. In the new year, the choir will be moving to an after-school club and will be open to all children.

This Week's Reading Top Tip

This Week's Reading Top Tip
Visit the local library over the Christmas period!



Well Done!

Max T in 4T who gained his 200 metres swimming badge this week

Evie P 5J achieved her Yellow Band in Martial Arts

Patrick O 3PE achieved Level 2 Certificate in swimming.

8th December

Well done to our girl footballers who competed in a competition hosted by Everton in the community. They played brilliantly in a very competitive competition, winning 2 and drawing 2 out of 5 games!

Lexi B, Shamelia B, Millie B, Evie F, Georgina H-T, Matilda L, Sofia R, Elsie T

13th December

Well do to our year 6 Athletics squad who competed in many different field events and running races. They were amazing, resilient and improved throughout!

Bella C, Destiny I, Mason R, Sofia S, Harry W

14th December

Well done to our year 6 footballers who played in a match against Prenton Primary winning 4-3!
Alessandro B, Shamelia B, Leighton C, Malachy C, James C, Jamie G, Joel H, Zak H, Jacob S, Luca S, Lucas T, Jack W

School lunches

Next week, we will be following **WEEK 3** menu. Please visit: <https://www.stjohns-junior.wirral.sch.uk/school-meals> for more details. At this current time there are no changes to the coming menu.

Please ensure that you top up your accounts for the week ahead to avoid a build up of outstanding monies. **As stated on our website, if your child has an outstanding dinner debt, they must bring a packed lunch until the debt is cleared.** If you are struggling or need support from school, please email the school office.

Debating Society

The debating society came in on Thursday and the whole class were very articulate in presenting their arguments!

Violet T won debater of the day.

Family Toolbox - Tips and tools for family life in Wirral Copy and paste this title into your web browser

Wirral family toolbox for support/guidance/advice for families, it will be useful for any parents/carers struggling over the Xmas break.

Christmas Party Day - Tuesday 19th December 2023

We will be having a Christmas Party Day on Tuesday 19 December. Children may come to school in their own clothes/Christmas t-shirts or jumpers (sensible footwear please).

Each year Group will have a disco session with Andy in the hall, kindly supported by the PTFA – times as below:

Year 3: 9am – 10.15am

Year 4: 10.30am - 11.45am

Years 5 & 6: 1.30pm – 2.45pm

Pantomime Trip – Wednesday 20th December 2023

Due to the timings for the pantomime, there will only be deli available and no hot lunches/jacket potatoes on Wednesday.

The PTFA have kindly provided snacks for the pantomime trip.

Christmas Jumper Day raised £159.87 for Save the Children.