



26 January 2024



St John's Catholic Junior School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I would like to thank all of the parents who took part in our Homework Survey. We appreciate how busy you are and value your input enormously on this issue. Over the next few weeks, we will be analysing this data, reading the comments and making some decisions on the future of homework provision at St John's. Watch this space!

This week's news

After our Gospel assembly on Monday, our year 4 children took part in some Friendship workshops with a member of the CAMHS team (Child and Mental Health Services). The workshops were well received by the children and staff! Next week it will be the turn of year 3!

Many thanks to all of the parents and carers who attended the Sacramental Preparation meeting; it was very well attended and promises to be another wonderful year as we witness our year 3 pupils grow on their faith journey. I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday 28th January at 9.30am Mass as the children are formally enrolled onto the Sacramental programme.

Next week

Next Tuesday, we will be having an author visit. Gillian Seale will be talking to all children in assemblies during the day and some children will be selected to attend her creative writing and illustrator workshops in the afternoon. Please see attached for details of books available to purchase. If you wish to order a book, please send the cash in a named envelope to the school office.

WhatsApp

May I take this opportunity to remind all parents that WhatsApp has an age restriction of 16+. Many of our children appear to be using this app. If this is the case with your child, please monitor their messages as we have had a number of inappropriate messages being exchanged between pupils since our return from the Christmas break. When this type of incident occurs, it takes up valuable teaching time to sort and can be quite upsetting for children involved. Please refer to [WhatsApp NSPCC](#) and [National College Guides/whatsapp-2023](#) for further guidance.

Term Dates

Term dates for the academic year 2024/2025 are now available on the website for anyone wanting to plan their holidays! <https://www.stjohns-junior.wirral.sch.uk/term-dates>

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Mullins

Key Information

Sunday 28 January

2024 - 9.30am

**St John's Parish
Church**

Year 3 Enrolment Mass

30 January 2024

Gillian Seale—author
visit

2 February 2024 -

9am

3Pe Class Assembly

13 February 2024

Y3 to attend mass with
Y1

14 February 2024

Lent begins

16 February 2024

Close for half term

26 February 2024

Inset Day

27 February 2024

School re-opens

Class Weekly

Attendance:

3PA: 98.3%
3PE: 96.4%
4A: 95.3%
4T: 93.9%
5J: 96.9%
5V: 96.9%
6O: 94.8%
6T: 94.3%

Attendance

Every Child: Every Day!

Whole School Attendance

8th — 12th January 2024

95.85%

Congratulations to

3PA

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

Certificate Winners

Congratulations to the following children, who have all achieved certificates this week for using their Thinking & Learning Powers!

3PA: **Jaxon H & Frankie J**

3PE: **Evie F & Ella J**

4A: **Liam O'R & Mason W**

4T: **James B & Connie W**

5J: **Bobby M & Isla P**

5V: **Frankie K & Fleur S-C**

6O: **Tiger-Lily C & Theodore R**

6T: **Anthony N, Isabelle T & Alice Y**

Times Table Rock Stars!

School Averages:

Average Speed:
5.36s

Active Pupils:
40%

Average Minutes:
44s

School Accuracy:
93%



Coins earned by each class

3PA: 842 3PE: 708

4A: 700 4T: 1,924

5J: 2,349 5V: 469

6O: 2,245 6T: 747

Congratulations to:

St Thomas' class in Lower Key Stage 2 & St Josephine Bakhita's class in Upper Key Stage 2 on earning the most coins this week.

Gospel

This Sunday's Gospel – Teacher

Mark -1:21-28

In this Gospel, we hear about Jesus as a teacher

Thought for the Week from Pope Francis

“Let us thank all those who teach in Catholic schools. Educating is an act of love; it is like giving life.”

Mass Times

Mass times at St John's Saturday 5pm & Sunday 9.30am.

Children's liturgy is always available at Sunday 9.30am Mass.

Wednesday Word

Each week Wednesday Word for families 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>

#WakeUp Wednesday - This week's online safety guide

"The #1 teen dating website in the world." That's the claim of MyLOL, which offers 13 to 19-year-olds the chance to rate each other's pics, send private messages and contact strangers online. If that sets your alarm bells ringing, you're far from alone: law enforcement agencies and schools in several countries have seen fit to issue warnings about the platform.

Among the main issues is the fact that MyLOL doesn't have a reliable age verification method – meaning there's no foolproof way to stop anyone outside the platform's intended 13–19 audience signing up for an account under a false age. Our **#WakeUpWednesday** guide also highlights potential concerns around in-app purchases and the use of geolocation for sinister reasons.

This Week's Reading Top Tip

Why not enjoy some poetry this weekend?
<https://poetry4kids.com/>



School lunches

Next week, we will be following **WEEK 1** 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.

Sports News

Tuesday 23 January

Well done to our Year 4 footballers who played in a competition at Activity 4 All. They were very resilient in some tough games and scored some very good goals.

Alfie-John A, Teddy C, Oliver H, Bobby K, Mikkell M, Liam O, Tobias P and Max T

Wednesday 24th January

Very well done to our Year 5 Tag Rugby team who played in a competition at Christchurch. They played amazingly, scoring many tries and tagging lots of the opposition!

Leighton C, Jessica F, Cody M, Alexander M, Archie M-M, Matthew N, Isla P, Indigo R and Isabella T

Recycling initiatives in School

School already recycles used batteries. We are also now recycling inkjet cartridges. Please drop these items off at the school office.