



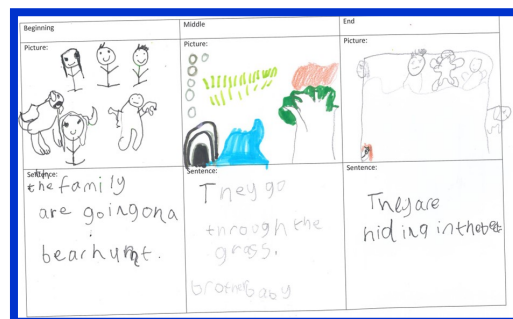
Welcome back to the first newsletter of 2023. St John's have had the exciting arrival of a new minibus which will provide further opportunities for students to get out and about in the community. Pupils have been accessing their new library and other classes have started their projects of Vikings and Australia. What a start to the spring term.



P6 Pupils have enjoyed accessing our new pupil library! We visit here weekly and get to choose a book we would like to read with a staff member, we also listen to a story as a class and answer questions about this. Ryan said 'My favourite book in Bathroom boogie I really love it! Eddie said 'my favourite is the Hungry caterpillar I like the fruit'. Adam said he likes 'Bumble bear!'

Some pupils in P5 have been developing their vision skills by exploring and interacting with images projected onto their trays from a projector.

P9 are learning to create a story map to help them retell the story. We have started with a three-part story map where we have identified the beginning, the middle and the end. Here we have an example which represents the familiar and much-loved story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Over time, we will use this technique to retell stories that are less familiar.



A white Bedford Inclusive Learning and Training Trust (BILTT) van is parked on a paved surface. The van has several logos on its side: Grange Academy (a blue tree logo), Grays Educational Centre (a blue star logo), John's School of Music (a logo with musical notes), and the BILTT logo (a colorful banner with the letters B, I, L, T, T). The text "Bedford Inclusive Learning and Training Trust" and "Achieving • Helping • Collaborating" are also visible. The website "www.biltt.org" is printed on the top right. A woman and two children are standing in front of the van. The woman is wearing a dark jacket and has her arm around the children. The children are wearing winter coats. The background shows some trees and a clear sky.

We were delighted to take delivery of a new wheelchair accessible minibus this term.

The new vehicle went in to use immediately allowing pupils to off-site access horse riding and Forest School activities.

Deputy Head Teacher Louisa Heritage commented: "Staff and pupils at John's School are very excited for the arrival of our new minibus – it will make such a huge difference to our pupils being able to access a range of educational visits, and get out into the community in preparation for adulthood."

A further new vehicle is due later this term and we would like to thank supplier Red-Kite for

providing our new bus in such a short timescale despite on-going vehicle supply issues across Europe.

P7



Pupils in P7 have been learning all about different countries that the Vikings invaded. We have been 'travelling' to a country each week with our passports, exploring their language, their music and their food. We explored

England first, and the fish and chips went down well!



S4

Hi all, I am Pearl Houghton the new class teacher for S4. We are all settling in and learning about each other after our Christmas break.

We are transitioning onto the topic of opposites in the class, with the children working towards independently choosing the correct opposite item of the ones shown. As well as doing this for literacy, we have been working on our number formations and money in maths.



FE1



The class of FE1 learnt about Australia this week as part of Topic where we have been exploring and finding out about countries from around the world. Students guessed where Australia is on world map, we then learned about the Capital Canberra, the currency, and its population. We also found out about Australian tourist attractions such as Sydney, the Great Barrier Reef, and Uluru.

Student took part in a guess the animal quiz..

We also learned some Australian slang words such as cobber, onkey-dorey and fair dinkum.

Students then focussed on learning about the Aborigines and they created some aboriginal art.

Students had a lot of fun talking Australian slang and attempting the accent and were amazed at how big Australia is compared with the UK. They were also scared, in a good way, about the dangerous animals that can be found there.



S9



In S9 we have been exploring our new theme of Opposites. We have been working on using both our left sides of our body and right sides of our body to explore different media. We have been working on our grasp grip to beat different drums and chunky mark making tools to create and effect.

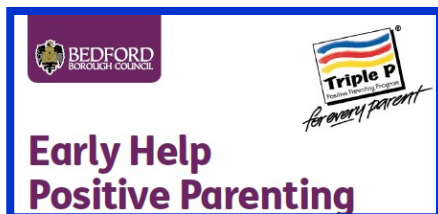
P8



Pupils in P8 have been exploring Viking cooking in Maths! Pupils have been weighing and measuring amounts to create porridge before engaging in explorative play! Pupils appear to enjoy exploring the porridge oats whilst listening to Viking music. Across the curriculum pupils have been exploring all aspects of Viking life through dance, music, explorative play, dressing up and food.



Other Notices



Bedford Borough Council are running Triple P discussion groups this spring term to help and empower parents develop skills, strategies and confidence to handle any parenting situation. Go to the school web site link <https://st-johns-school.co.uk/communication> here to see full details. You can book on to any FREE group or course via

triplep@bedford.gov.uk

DVD and Book Donations



As part of BILTT's commitment to charity work (and the amazing work we started with our partner schools in Ghana previously, we are joining forces across BILTT this term to ask our families to donate any unwanted DVDs and books suitable for nursery to secondary aged pupils for two schools in Nigeria. Bezai Nursery and Primary School (shown in our picture above) and Arigbajo High School will benefit from any donations you can give of;

- Good condition DVDs up to 15 certificate
- Good condition books suitable for nursery to secondary aged pupils

Please send in your donations to your school Office marked Nigeria Fundraising.

Safer Internet Day



Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.

Safer Internet Day will take place on the 7th of February 2023, in the UK we are putting children and young peoples voices at the heart of day and encouraging them to shape the online safety support that they receive. Across BILTT we will be asking parents, carers, teachers, and policy makers:

What issues really matter to children and young people?
What changes do they want to see?

How we can all work together to advocate for them

moving forward?

Nearer the date I will be sending out a Padlet link, on this interactive noticeboard you will be able to see the activities taking place at each school, read leaflets about staying safe online, watch videos and much more. With your help and involvement Safer Internet Day 2023 can be a catalyst for conversations that shape how we, as a Trust, talk about and respond to online issues, not just for one day, but throughout the whole year.

Thank you in advance for your support. Claudine Rowley, BILTT Digital Lead.

Donation for school



Generous shoppers and staff at Bedford's Gostwick Road Premier Convenience Store have been fundraising for St John's this Christmas and raised £122.50 which has been donated to our school.

Thanks go to colleague Kayleigh Rees who suggested St John's to Premier manager Sonya Ford. Kayleigh was previously employed at the store. We hope to use the funds raised to purchase additional sets of Food Technology equipment to allow pupils to have equal access to cookery lessons.

If you know of any business or individual that would like to help raise vital funds for our school please contact BILTT Communications Manager laura.sherwood-king@biltt.org

Diary Dates

NSPCC Number Day	Friday 3rd February 2023
National Storytelling week	w/c 30th January 2023
Internet Safety Day	Tuesday 7th February 2023
Half Term	13—17th February 2023
Pupils Return to School	Monday 20th February 2023