

16th December 2024



St John's News

S4

S4 have made 3 'Christmas in a Box' boxes for families this Christmas. We learnt about what charity is and learnt to sign 'help'.

Pupils made posters asking for donations and put them up around the school. In our careers lessons we worked on office based skills, such as wrapping the boxes, making tags and labelling the boxes. Pupils followed the packing list to pack the boxes.

We would like to thank staff and families for their kind donations towards this charity event.



P1

P1 are well and truly in the Christmas spirit. Have a look at our stunning 'stained glass' ornaments for the St. John's Christmas tree in the main hall. These were made with tissue paper and sticky back plastic, in the true Blue Peter style!

We also made some really cool Gingerbread men after we had finished learning about our facial features and where we can find them on our bodies. The children did their best to make sure that the eyes and mouth were in the correct places on their gingerbread template.

The children have also had great fun with decorating our class Christmas tree – who knew tinsel could be so much fun to play with?

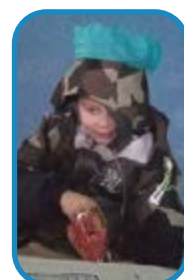
The P1 staff would like to wish our families, and those across the school as a whole, a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.



P3

Pupils in P3 really enjoyed our lovely Christmas dinner on Wednesday.

Thank you to all the kitchen staff for their hard work with this!



P6

P6 have been taking part in the sensory story 'Can you Find Santa's Pants?'.

As we searched, we explored icing sugar, ginger biscuits, snow, glitter and snow balls!

Pupils eventually found Santa's pants! Phew!



S7

S7 Have been exploring through their senses:

We explored different items and express if we like it or not.





Sports Award Evening

In October, St. John's School took part in their first inter-school sports competition since before Covid. A team of five pupils represented the school, playing Boccia – a sport similar to boule. In an amazing display of co-operation and sportsmanship, our team worked together to help each other to play their best and win the competition in their

category, beating some mainstream schools in the process.

As a result of this success, the team and some of the outstanding individuals from it were nominated for Bedford Borough Sports awards. The ceremony happened on Monday 9th December at the Corn Exchange in Bedford town centre, in a wonderful celebration of all things sporting within our local schools, clubs and groups. In amongst the large crowd in the auditorium, were several members of St. John's sports staff, teachers and leadership, all of whom could not stop beaming with pride just at being nominated.

While our individuals and team did not come home with their respective awards, just to have been nominated in several categories was an amazing achievement for our pupils and the school as a whole. The team work, compassion, sportsmanship and dedication of our pupils to win the competition in October started our school year off so successfully and we are so proud of those pupils and all others that have represented the school at other sporting events this year.



FE1

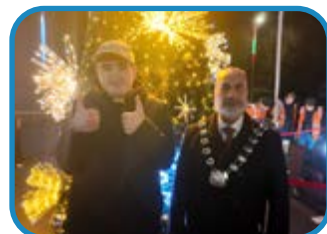
FE1 have been working hard on their Christmas enterprise. As a Christmas treat, they went to Pizza Hut.

Some of the Enterprise money was used to pay for the food.



All the pupils enjoyed the food, which included pizza, pasta, salad bowl and chips. Then for pudding they created their own ice cream. It was so good to get out and it was clear that the pupils enjoyed themselves.

Merry Christmas from all in FE.



The festive spirit was in full swing in Kempston last weekend as the town's annual Christmas Light Switch-On event lit up the community. Adding a truly special touch to the evening's festivities was the choir from St John's School, a local special needs school, whose enchanting performance delighted the crowd.

The choir captivated the audience with their renditions "Jingle Bells" and a beautiful song called "Harmony," creating a magical atmosphere that truly set the tone for the holiday season. Their energy and joy were infectious, getting the crowd clapping and singing along.

In a heartwarming highlight of the evening, Bedford & Kempston's MP, Mohammad Yasin, joined the St John's choir on stage. Singing alongside the talented pupils, Mr. Yasin brought an extra layer of festive cheer, much to the delight of the audience.

The event was made even more memorable for lucky St John's pupil, Will, who had the honour of

St John's Choir

switching on the Christmas lights alongside the Mayor of Kempston. The dazzling display of lights brought cheers and applause from the gathered crowd as Kempston officially began its countdown to Christmas.

Shannon Poulter, Headteacher, expressed her pride in the choir's performance and the school's involvement in the community event. **"Our choir did a fantastic job of spreading Christmas cheer through their music. As a special needs school, we're incredibly proud of how our pupils rise to every occasion. Will had such a special moment turning on the lights with the Mayor. This is what the season is all about – community, joy, and celebration."**

The evening brought families and friends together in celebration, filled with music, lights, and the shared joy of the festive season. St John's were really pleased with the turnout and had a fabulous time, making it a night to remember for everyone involved.



Morrisons Donations

A huge thank you to Morrisons, who kindly donated some toys to our school.

On Tuesday some of our pupils went to receive this kind donation and pose for a photo. The pupils have enjoyed playing with these new toy sets. Thank you again to Morrisons for donating these to us.



S2

S2 have had a wonderful 2024 and have achieved so much. They have made lots of friendships, learned lots of independence skills and particularly enjoyed the fundays and dressing up days including Halloween, Yellow day, Children in need day and Christmas jumper day. They are looking forward to their adventures in 2025.

CT says "I have mostly enjoyed orchestra and swimming".

JM says "I love being happy at St Johns".

OD says "The most exciting thing I have discovered is the snowman film".

P2

In Science P2 have been making snow using cornflour and hair conditioner.



In Maths pupils are learning about shapes.

We used shapes to create a Christmas tree and other Christmas decorations including a snowman.



Fundraising

Thank you for your kind donations we raised £88.09 for Children in Need and £65.10 on Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children.

Other Notices

Monday Morning Carers Drop-in

16 December @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm



SOCIAL

DETAILS

Date:

16 December

Time:

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

VENUE

Carers in Bedfordshire

Suite D1 Emerald Court,

Pilgrim Centre

Bedford, MK417PZ United

Kingdom + Google Map

Carers Choir 2025

17 December @ 9:45 am - 11:00 pm



DETAILS

Date:

17 December

Time:

9:45 am - 11:00 pm

VENUE

Priory Methodist Church

63 Newnham Avenue

Bedford, MK41 9QJ United

Kingdom + Google Map

Diary Dates

Wednesday 18th December 2024 - Last Day of Term
Thursday 19th December 2024 to Friday
3rd January 2025 - Christmas Holidays
Monday 6th January 2025 - Training Day (no pupils)