

15th July 2025



St John's News

Tower of London Visit



On Wednesday 2nd July 22 pupils and 11 adults made their way to the Tower of London for an award ceremony and visit. Pupils were smiling from the moment they got on the bus, until the time they got back off to their parents.

After a very long drive to the Tower, we met our trip escort at the welcome centre. After this we walked around to the East gate. Pupils were amazed by everything we saw, DG pointed to the tower, the bridge, the river, the boats and more with excitement!

We went to our award ceremony first where we listened to a talk from the Chief Yeoman Warder, Yeoman Gaoler and the Yeoman Warder Ravenmaster. We received our school ceremonial plaque, Raven feather and gift bags from the Tower.

After lunch, we walked around the outside

of the White tower. We were all impressed by the poppy display. We then went to The Jewel House and walked through the crown jewels display. We were impressed with the gold, crowns and sparkly jewels!

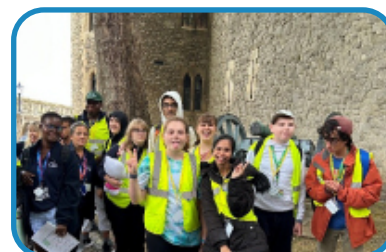
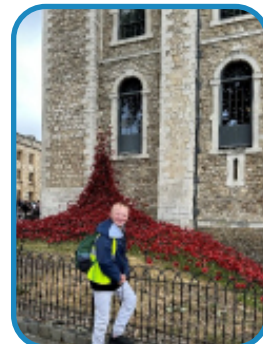
We then walked over to see the Raven cages.

AW said "I saw raven, crown and guards. I felt excited. My favourite thing was the coach, lunch and my gift bag."

KR said "I loved the coach trip. I saw lorries. I felt happy. My favourite thing was the coach."

OD said "I loved the coach trip. I saw gems. My favourite thing was the ravens. I felt happy."

CT said "I loved the coach trip. I saw ravens, raven cage, a crown and The White Tower. I felt EXCITED! My favourite thing was the crown jewels, lunch, the coach and my gift bag."



P8

P8 have been very busy this summer term. We have been learning to make different snacks from around the world, including coconut ice, scones, quesadillas.

L: Quesadillas was my favourite! Very cheesy!

Some of P8 have been accessing the local community, going to the shop and the park each week.

K has been learning to identify if it is safe to cross the road and is starting to notice car indicators.

O: I like digging in the sand at the park.

E: My favourite thing at the park is the swing.

In Science we have been exploring all about our teeth. We have been learning what we need to do to look after them and how to brush them so they are clean and minty fresh!



FE1



This term FE1 have been working hard on their athletic skills. We have been learning how to run properly, making sure we use

our arms as well as our legs. Knowing how important it is to keep our head up and looking forward. Every pupil made progress with their running this term and this showed in the running events at the Bedford Games at Bedford Athletic Stadium on Tuesday 1st July. Our pupils won three gold medals in the 100m sprint, a bronze in the 100m, bronze in the 50m sprint and gold in the 24m sprint and finally silver and bronze in the 200m. The pupils were so proud of themselves. It was great to see the pupils celebrating and cheering for each other.

We also entered some field events, javelin and discus. The pupils practiced the skills in lessons then transferred them to the event. Again, we got several medals including Gold for the boys' and girls' events.

Two of the pupils are very fast sprinters and there is good competition between them. They both train hard and want to win. They were in different 100m sprints and both won gold. But what was so

amazing was how they celebrated each other's achievements. In the 200m another young man from a different setting won the gold with St John's getting silver and Bronze. They were so mature shaking hands.



LS: last year he got silver in the javelin but when we walked over to collect his medal this year, he was very surprised when I told him he won gold, he could not believe it. He said, '**Really, you mean I got first.**' This meant he got gold in the javelin, 100m and bronze in the 200m.

LF: Won Gold in the 100m sprint and silver in the 200m. Lamin said he felt proud.

LA: Won gold in the 25, sprint, discus and javelin. She was very proud of her achievements.

KLK: Ran a great race in the 100m sprint finishing 3rd.

RU: Won a bronze medal in the 50m sprint

KBP: Got bronze in the discus.

WOC: Got silver in the 100m

Although not everyone received a Medal, they all tried their best and were amazing. Well-done FE.

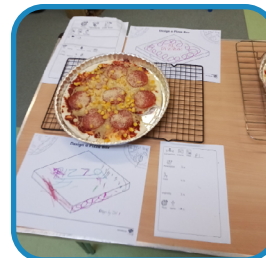


Pizza Competition

Just before the Easter break, St John's held its first annual pizza competition. The competition is part of the careers curriculum and was run as a class enterprise project over 6 weeks whereby each class had to learn employability of market research, costs, production and promotion for their pizza ideas, before being judged.

Shannon (Headteacher) had the arduous task of judging a very competitive field of entries and commented on all of the hard work and effort that each class had put into their ideas. It really was fantastic to see the school coming together and coming up with some fantastic pizza ideas.

The winning entries for this year came from P4 in Primary and S6 in Secondary.



S9

Hydrotherapy

Pupils in S9 have been working on developing their physical skills during Hydrotherapy.

L's muscles relax in the warm water which enables her to move her body with more freedom and make excellent attempts at controlled splashing!

I has progressed onto using a rolling pin float to hold as he pushes to standing, with reduced support.

H has developed his skills to move his arms and legs when he is using the floats. He is gaining greater independence in the pool!

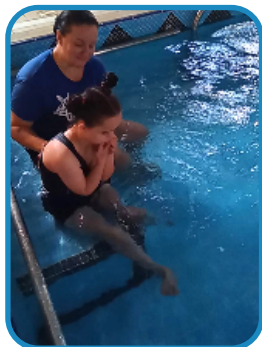
B & L love being in the pool and have developed their water confidence.

S is regaining her skills in standing holding the bar and maintaining her balance when sitting on the plinth.

A massive well done to all!

New chimes thanks to our Wish-list donation!

L has been exploring our new musical chimes. She is working hard on her EHCP target. She was uncertain at first but persisted and re-engaged with the chimes, exploring them and creating beautiful music!



S6

S6 have really enjoyed getting creative and have been making bits for the school Eco-Garden. They have been making a CD wind spinner. We stuck down gems, stickers, glitter and sequins so they will glisten when the sun shines on it. Thinking of how important bees are for our environment, we are gathering the supplies for us to make a bee watering station that will help keep the bees that

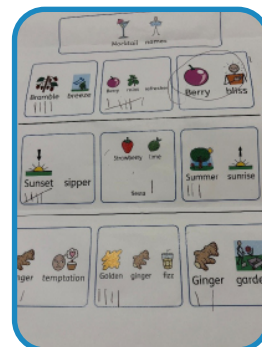
visit our garden alive and healthy.

Keeping things creative, S6 also got thinking about what stall they wanted to create for the school's summer fayre in careers. We brainstormed some ideas together on what we thought would be a good stall idea, and eventually we had a class vote on what we thought was the best idea, and mocktails won!

Through the weeks, we did some research on flavours and fruits that we thought would taste nice together and as a class we produced three mocktails that we wanted to make and serve. They had even created names for them and selected which name should go with which drink! After all the important bits had been finished, it was time to get artistic and make some mocktail salt paintings that we would display at our stall.

E enjoyed sprinkling the salt on the mocktail paintings and it made him laugh.

K liked the smiley face stickers we stuck on our CD wind spinners. He pointed at them and laughed.



P3

In P3 we have been learning lots about plants. First, we learnt about the different parts of a plant and worked together to label the roots, leaves, stem and flower. Then the class worked on putting the parts of a plant back together, as well as thinking about what a plant needs to grow.

When asked to choose which seed she wanted to plant, **SE** chose a calendula. **TG & CP** chose a sunflower, while **EDA** enjoyed exploring the soil and putting it in the cup.

CP said, "Ooh, I need lots of soil!"

TG said, "Will it grow quickly? I need to water it!"

We have now put the plants in the garden and look

forward to seeing how they grow!

We have also been working on measurements in Maths. When looking at heavy and light, it was very exciting trying to make the amounts equal on the balance scales. **EV** loved adding Lego blocks to each bucket and watching the scales move.

P3 also welcomed a new teacher called Jade. We have been getting to know each other and working hard on our learning!



P1



What a wonderful and engaging summer term we've had here in P1! It's been filled with exciting new experiences and valuable learning opportunities.

One of the most popular activities this term was our sensory jelly experience! The children absolutely loved exploring the different textures

and colours of the jelly. This activity provided a fantastic opportunity for Physical Development, as pupils used their fine motor skills to squish, prod, and scoop the jelly. It also promoted Understanding the World through exploration of materials and their properties, and Personal, Social and Emotional Development as pupils expressed their enjoyment and curiosity. The delightful stickiness and vibrant colours were a real hit!

With the warmer weather, we've been talking a lot with the children about the importance of keeping hydrated. To make this concept more engaging, we added slices of fresh lime to our water tray to mirror when we put fruit in our drinks at home or when



we are out. This simple addition provided a multi-sensory experience, encouraging children to explore the scent and feel of the limes while reinforcing the message about drinking water. This activity linked directly to Understanding the World by learning about healthy living, and also supported

Physical Development through water play and pouring – and the classroom smelt wonderful!

We were thrilled to introduce our new sandpit this term, and it's been an absolute hub of activity! The children have spent hours digging, building, and exploring in the sand. This open-ended play encourages so much learning across the curriculum. It significantly boosts Physical Development as children use large muscle groups for digging and lifting. It developed their Mathematics skills as they explored concepts of size, volume, and capacity through pouring and filling. We've seen some incredible imaginative play unfold here, too, which is fantastic for Expressive Arts and Design.

A truly delightful experience for many of the pupils was when we put on a video of someone horse riding. We then encouraged them to sit on our rocking horse and copy the movements from the screen. This activity was wonderful for developing Physical Development, particularly gross motor skills, balance, and coordination. It also sparked their Expressive Arts and Design as they engaged in imaginative play and mimicked the actions they saw. The joy on their faces as they "rode" along was truly heartwarming!

We're so proud of all the children's achievements and enthusiasm this summer term.



S2



The Summer term has been a really busy for S2 who have loved being able to get out of the classroom and learn in the sunshine.

For maths we have been learning about weights and measurements and the students particularly enjoyed measuring the lengths of some of the outside areas using metre rulers.

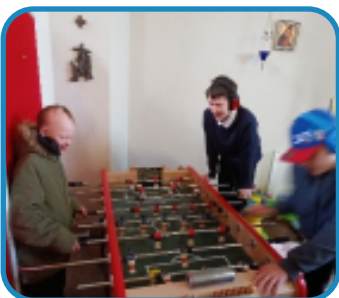
Some of S2 have loved the Friday afternoon football activity and made it onto the school Football team achieving very positive comments during the Ivel Valley inter-school football competition and many of the class winning player of the week.

Another activity that some of S2 have been enjoying is the Eco-club gardens project where they have been working as a team to create a school garden that is in full bloom with vegetables, insects and pondlife. They have gained so many job skill throughout this journey and some of the club members were awarded with a trip to the Tower of London for taking part.

TM says "I like digging and watering"

OD says "The garden is a fun job"

AK says "Eco club is my favourite"



S3



S3 have worked hard on their reading and word recognition. All pupils have engaged positively in reading, building and matching a variety of 4 letter words! In choose time pupils have been working on their puzzle building skills! Pupils have been building on their relationships and interaction skills. TC enjoys asking RBP to join in with his rhymes and word games!



sunglasses!

KR enjoyed testing out some new classroom

A favourite class activity, from earlier this year, was our school pizza competition! Pupils helped to choose their favourite pizza toppings. As many pupils in swan room prefer sweet to savoury, we went rogue and made a sweet treats pizza! It contained some class favourites including chocolate, cookies, sweets and apples! Everyone enjoyed tasting it. We were excited to find out that we won a prize for our ingenuity, and got a lovely flower shaped bubble machine.



S7

Pupils in S7 have had so much fun initiating what they enjoy doing and where they like to learn. Our theme of My Community this term, has enabled us to explore places such as the park and town where we have explored swings, duck ponds and café with crisps, biscuits and drinks.

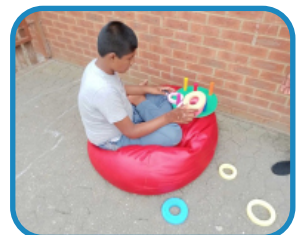


We have learnt to communicate our likes and dislikes along with things being busy and loud, calm and peaceful. We have enjoyed our learning and feel happy and proud as we hope you see in our photo's.



We are so proud of S7's progress over the year and the interaction they have developed and smiles and giggles of glee they give us.

Happy Summer holidays everyone and we look forward to seeing you in September.



P6



In P6 we have done lots of activities related to the theme our local community. Our sensory stories were about going to the park and town and going to the supermarket, we enjoyed listening to the sounds of the park and town, feeling the rain from our water spray, smelling some of the different soaps and foods from the supermarket and exploring lots of different textures such as leaves, sticks and bread.

We have done lots of art and got messy we liked making our tree pictures with real leaves and flowers, we used coffee and tea smelling paint to make spilt drink pictures, we used paint that smelt of herbs and spices and it was a strong smell, we have also used jelly to make pictures this felt very strange.

On Tuesday and Friday mornings we have really enjoyed our hydrotherapy sessions and would like to say thank you to Sarah for being our lifeguard, without her we would not be able to have our sessions. In Food Technology we made cake and enjoyed the smells and the different textures.



We had some visitors come from Dunbia and they were very kind and brought some of the items from our Amazon wish list.

We would like to thank them very much for the wonderful gifts and we are all enjoying using them.

We are looking forward to having another year filled with lots of different fun and engaging activities. Enjoy your summer holidays.



P4

P4 have been on a few trips this term! We have been to Kempston Library, Addison Park and Woburn Safari Park! Leading up to each trip, P4 have listened to stories made by Gemma about going to each place. They have also done a helpkidzlearn activity on the rules and what are good choices to make while on the trip.

Library

P4 took the bus to Kempston Library! They were able to explore all of the books and choose ones to read. They all sat around the carpet and listened to a story told by Gemma.

JKM asked for books on Canada and USA.

Park

P4 loved visiting Addison Park! We enjoyed exploring all of the play equipment, taking turns and having fun in the sun!

Zoo

P4 have been listening to a story and doing a helpkidzlearn activity to understand the rules and how to be safe at the zoo. We had so much fun seeing all of the animals, we drove around twice!

SD was asked what animal she is most excited to see, and she said 'rawr' - meaning lion.

JKM was also excited to see the lions and drew a picture of a lion! He also was able to say what countries different animals are from.

On the bus **AM** used an adult's finger to point to different animals on the safari map.



Music News

On Friday 27th June, St John's School Choir performed at Rivertree Free School as part of their 'Grand Opening'.

The sun was shining, spirits were high and the audience was wonderfully enthusiastic! After singing our third song, the crowd started to chant "One more song, one more song...", so we finished with our favourite song from this year, 'Wiggle Jiggle', which is about singing and playing in the sunshine – very fitting for the afternoon's celebrations!

We also enjoyed taking part in the other activities there – highlights included the bouncy castle, ice cream van and facepainting.

Huge thanks to Catherine, Clare and Urban for inviting our choir to perform; we had a fantastic afternoon!

O "I liked singing on the microphone."

L "My favourite part was the ice cream!"

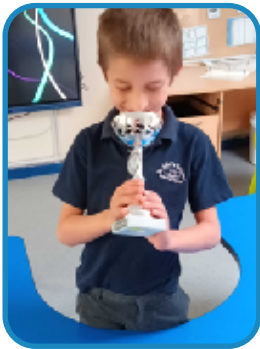
C "I really enjoyed myself. My favourite part was the bouncy castle."

M "I had love hearts painted on my face. I had so much fun!"

C "I loved the ice cream van. I had strawberry flavour."

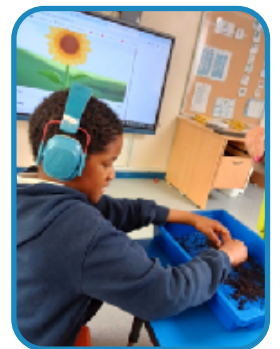


P5



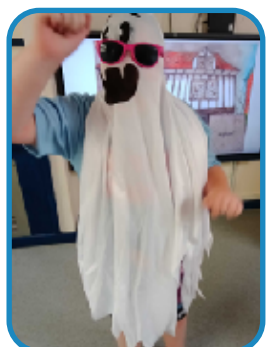
What a wonderful and busy half term it has been for P5! Our amazing class has been buzzing with excitement, creativity, and achievement over the past few weeks.

One of our favourite highlights was our sensory story- Who lives here. The children had a fantastic time dressing up as different characters from the story — from a brave knight to a spooky ghost! The interactive storytelling helped bring the adventure to life and encouraged great engagement and lots of smiles all round.



We're also incredibly proud to share that P5 came 2nd place in the Primary Sports Day! The children showed brilliant determination and enthusiasm in every event. Whether it was jumping on the trampoline to scoring hoops, or cheering each other on, every pupil gave their best- what a fantastic achievement!

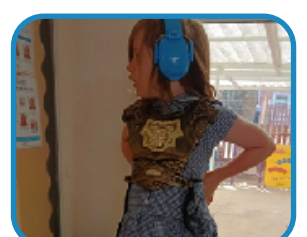
In Geography, we've been getting our hands dirty learning all about how plants grow. From planting seeds to observing the changes day by day, the children have developed a lovely understanding of nature. We've explored the parts of a plant, what they need to grow and incorporated maths by exploring which sunflower has grown the tallest and which is the smallest.



As always, we're so proud of each child in P5 for their hard work and progress this half term. We hope you all have a restful break and look forward to more adventures in September! When dressed as a Knight **F** Said, "I am the king!" **M** said "mirror" before using the display board reflection to look at herself.

Z said "Fantastic, yay!" when he knocked down all the pins during sports day.

A gained adults attention by vocalising, as he wanted to hold the trophy, he held it with a big smile on his face.



Summer Fayre

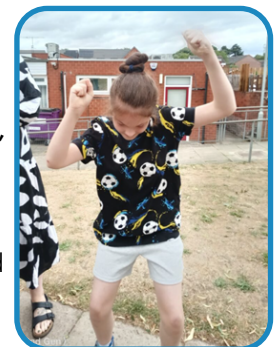


We held our St Johns Summer Fayre on the 5th July. The event was a massive success full of fun games, good food, a performance from Rapunzel and a great raffle with a 1st prize of £100 cash!

It was lovely to watch our amazing school community come together and enjoy a fun filled afternoon! We raised an amazing **£926.78!** We want to thank everyone for

coming down and supporting the school event and hope there will be more to follow!

If you are interested in joining our PTA and help support us to organise more events like these, contact the school office for more information!



Diary Dates

Friday 18th July 2025 - Last Day of Term
Monday 21st July and Tuesday 22nd July- Training Days
Pupils Return to School - Thursday 4th September 2025