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7th October 2022

Although it has been a sad week for our school community, we have pulled together and supported one another as we do best. Thank you to those of you who have offered condolences to the staff team, it has meant a lot.

We have kept things as normal as we can for the pupils and allowed them time to discuss their feelings too. They have been very excited about the install of trim trail, which should near its conclusion during next week.

Here's the latest in other St John's news:

Harvest donations

Wow! What a collection we have had again this year! Thank you so much for your Harvest donations. They are now swiftly on their way to Netherfield foodbank. Brilliant!



Class 4 Mandir visit

On Wednesday 5th October we went to a Hindu temple called a Mandir. We went on a public bus. When we arrived we had to take our shoes off and wash our hands. We put our hands together and said "Namastai". We learned about how Hindus worship and what they believe. They say prayers to their favourite gods. They only believe in one god, but they think that the god is represented in lots of different ways through the other gods. They ring the bell to wake the god up and let the god know that they have arrived. They offer their gods fruit and milk as an offering.

For the last 9-10 days they have been praying for girls to have power and on October 24th, they will be celebrating Diwali. It was very pretty and there was a nice smell in the mandir because of the things which they burn. They had candles made from melted butter. There were lots of statues of their gods which we went and walked round. They put the fruit in front of the statues. It was amazing and we learned lots.

by Georgie and Hannah Year 4

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Shoebox appeal

Next week, Mrs Stevenson will be launching the annual Shoebox appeal so please look out for the leaflet coming home, one per family. For those of you that are unfamiliar with it, we are asking for donations of shoeboxes full of Christmas goodies for children in poorer parts of the world (the leaflet will give all of the details). This will be given as a Christmas present to a child via the charity T4U. If you would like to take part, please bring your filled shoeboxes to school no later than Wednesday 30th November for Mrs Stevenson to pass on to the charity. We have had lots of support for this over the years, with over 50 boxes collected by the school on average. I hope that you can help with this and share the Christmas love.

PTFA Christmas Cards

Today your child will have brought home a leaflet and order form detailing how they can produce their own high quality Christmas cards to send to friends and family. Designs are to be completed at home and should be returned to school, along with the booking form, no later than Wednesday 2nd November. Artwork that is bright, colourful and that fills the A4 piece of paper produce the best results in paint, felt tip, crayon or coloured pencils and any text should be bold, legible and kept away from the edges of the paper. Glitter should not be used as it tends to fall off but glitter glue is fine. For every item that is ordered, £1 goes back to the school PTFA. More details can also be found at www.xmas4schools.co.uk

Christmas Card competition

Whilst we are on the theme of Christmas, I have received this from Tom Randall MP:

Each year, I send out a Christmas card to various Gedling residents, businesses and community organisations.

With Christmas on the (not too distant) horizon, I am inviting Gedling school children to take part in my Christmas card design competition as a way of showcasing their artistic talent. I am writing to ask whether the children at your school would like to take part again this year? The winner will win tickets to a local pantomime. Entries close on 24th October.

As the entries need to be scanned and emailed please bring any entries to me and I will ensure they reach Tom. The entry should have the child's name, age and school on the back.



Self-Discipline Challenge



Awards

Attendance week beginning 26th Sept - C3
week beginning 3rd Oct - C4

Platinum awards week beginning 26th Sept –
FS Isla, Josh, Jessica, Grayson,
C1 - Adam, Josh,
C3 - Angel, Fletcher,
C5 - Abdullah, Molly, Amirah, Mollie,
C6 - Layla, Cole, Abdullah, Connor, Jack, Amelia, Xander

Platinum awards week beginning 3rd Oct –
C3- Noah, Ella
C6- Jayden

Diary Dates

Monday 10th October - Mental Health awareness day - wear a yellow item of clothing
Tuesday 11th October – FS Bible presentation at the Church at 2.30pm
Thursday 13th October - Mental health support parents meeting on Teams 5pm
Monday 17th October - School closed for half term break (2 weeks)
Monday 31st October/Tuesday 1st November - INSET days school closed to pupils
Thursday 3rd November - PTFA AGM meeting 3.45pm
Week beginning 7th November - Year 6 residential at Rock UK
Tuesday 8th November - Y2 trip to Leicester museum
Week beginning 14th November - Anti-bullying week anti-racism theme
Wednesday 16th November - After School Church (please email afterschoolchurch@yahoo.com to book a place)
Wednesday 30th November - Flu immunisations for pupils
Thursday 8th December - Y1 trip to Brackenhurst
Monday 12th December - Y6 DART graduation
Wednesday 12th December - After School Church (please email afterschoolchurch@yahoo.com to book a place)
Tuesday 13th/Wednesday 14th/Thursday 15th December - FS/KS1 Nativity 9.30am
Monday 19th December - KS2 Carol Service at Carlton church 5pm
Thursday 22nd December - School closed for the Christmas holidays (2 weeks)
Wednesday 4th January - INSET day school closed to pupils
Thursday 5th January - pupils return for the spring term



Self- Discipline Challenge

Rachel Ireland
Headteacher

