



Summer Term

Message from Mrs Bradbury

Psalm 16

I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for He is right beside me.

No wonder my heart is glad and I rejoice.

My body rests in safety.

You show me the way of life, granting me joy in your presence and the pleasures of living with your forever.



This half term has been particularly happy and busy for the whole school. Last July, our student surveys told us they wanted more school trips and activities and for school to return to the way it had been before Covid. Looking back over the year, we've certainly achieved that with a record breaking number of visits and enrichment opportunities.

We already have many plans for the autumn term and look forward to welcoming 18 new pupils.

Until then, our staff and students are looking forward to a well-deserved rest and we wish you and your families a relaxing summer holiday.

Mrs Bradbury
Head Teacher

Inside This Half Term's Bumper Newsletter

The blessing of our new stained glass window, leavers celebrations, school trips to Scarborough, Hemsworth Water Park, St Edwards Church, Yeadon, Ginetta Cars, Thicket Priory, Collingham beach, Thackery Museum, Sports day, Asdan Art Exhibition, Summer Music Concert, Boston Spa Scarecrow Trail and last but not least, our Chicken club. We hope you enjoy our newsletter, you can also find it on our website, or request a paper copy from Jackie.peacock@stjohns.org.uk



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Special Events in School

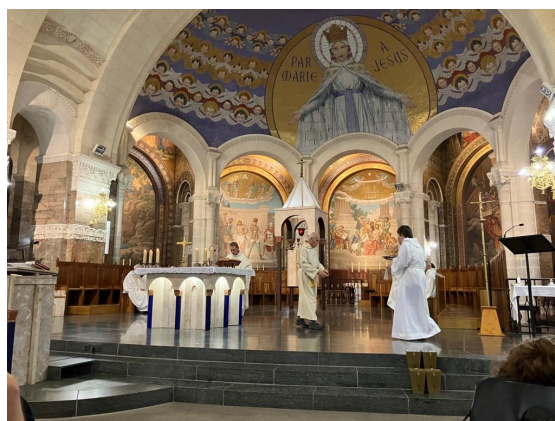
A Blessing of our new Stained Glass Window

Thank you to Father Sean Molloy and all the guests (mostly ex-members of staff and governors) who made the blessing of our stained glass window so special. The school community worked with artist Zoe Eady to create a unique stained glass window to celebrate the history and mission of our school. This was a lovely, celebratory event, thank you to Chef Paul and team for the delicious buffet afterwards too.



Joshua's Pilgrimage

Burnell class shared a very special assembly with the school to explain that Joshua is going on Pilgrimage to Lourdes. We wish Joshua a wonderful trip and we have enjoyed seeing photos of him at this most special place of pilgrimage.



Leavers Night in School

On the evening of Thursday 29th June, we had a lovely party for the pupils who will be leaving this year. There were the traditional speeches and leaving gifts, followed by delicious take-away pizza. Good luck to Scarlet, Lucy, Peter, Toby and Haider.

At this celebration we also acknowledged the Keller students, as they move from Year 11 to the 6th form, welcome.

Thank you to Mrs Pirie, Mr Lynch and all the staff who helped to make this such a memorable evening, we hope you enjoy the snapshots below.

There will be a special assembly for the pupils who are leaving from Harrop and Girma, Aiden, Iman and Lucy in the last week of term. We're missing you all already!



Seaside Trip to Scarborough

Donaldson, Burnell and Ellington Class Trip

Donaldson, Burnell and Ellington classes went on a coach to Scarborough. We visited the RNLI station where volunteers showed us around, told us all about the boats and shared some rescue stories with us. We walked around the harbour, and ate our picnic lunches in St Nicholas Gardens overlooking the sea. We then went to the beach, had a paddle and made sandcastles. Finally, we had ice-creams before getting back on the coach to come home. Thank you to Mrs Barber for organising the trip, to all the staff who helped and for the “eclectic” play list on the bus!



Trip to Hemsworth Water Park

Harrop and Girma Class Trip

Harrop and Girma enjoyed a lovely trip out to Hemsworth Water Park. We spent time on the beach; building sandcastles and relaxing together. We fed the ducks, enjoyed a picnic lunch and had lots of fun playing on the park. We finished by getting an ice cream from the ice cream van! It was a lovely way to celebrate getting towards the end of the school year!



Music in School

Keep Calm and March on

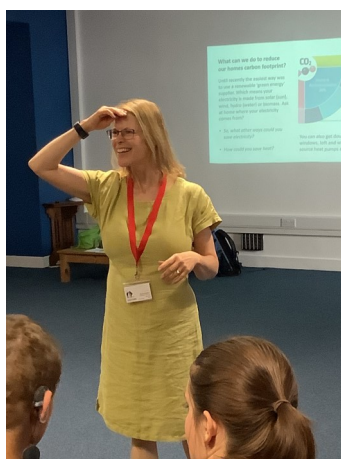
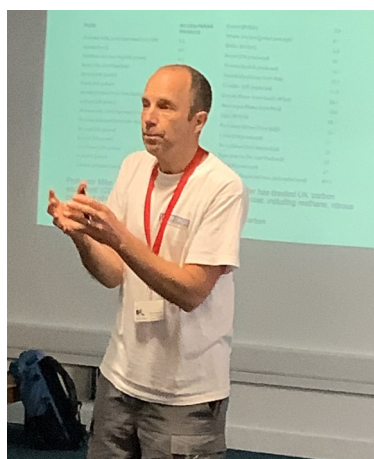


All the classes have been learning about March music this half term at varying levels. We've learnt about the drum major's commands; that all marches are in 2 time and Ellington even learned to play a "roll off" and some simple tunes to play whilst marching. Here they are leading the Harrop and Girma pupils on their World War 2 Evacuee Immersion Afternoon.

Some pupils enjoyed it so much, they have requested to take their brass instrument home for the half term.

Environmental Talk in School

On Tuesday 13th June there was a whole school environmental talk by the Boston Spa and Wetherby Community Green group. Our whole school focus is regarding the environment and the talk was about the climate crisis and how we can help. Thank you it was really interesting.



More School Trips

Classes Harrop, Girma and Keller Visit St Edwards Church

After learning about baptism Harrop and Girma visited St. Edward's church in Clifford to see the font. We also had time to explore the different features in the church by following an I-Spy trial around the church. Our visit ended with the classes singing and signing a hymn together and each student had the opportunity to make a prayer for their chosen intension.

Keller class also visited the church as part of their studies comparing places of worship. Keller ended their trip by having quiet time lighting a votive candle.



Sports Day at “Team St Johns”

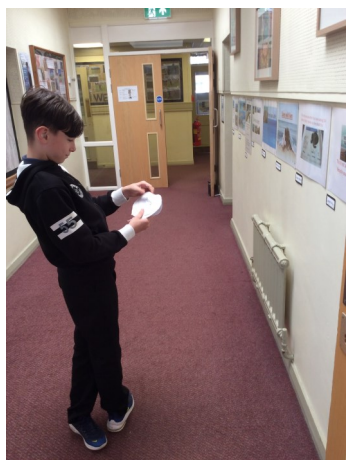
As always, we had a spectacular sports day, thanks to everyone for being superstars! Team St John's all pulled together, Mrs Pirie for organising it, the teachers/LSA's for their help and encouragement on the day, the admin team for support with communications, signing parents in and helping with the raffle. Rick and Bri for all the effort with the marking of the track. Paul, Lynn and Jane for the lovely refreshments. Miss Dyer and Miss Johnson (sorry if I missed anyone else with this) for selling raffle tickets, we made £320 which is fabulous! Nurse Kate for just being there...just in case! Miss Fox for being the photographer! Top Cat from LUFC all his participation. And last but not least, the pupils (who quite rightly) stole the show...unbelievable! It was brilliant!



School Art Exhibition

On Thursday 29th July 2023 pupils, staff and governors were invited to attend the annual Art and Design end of year exhibition. This was a display of work created by Arts Award groups as well as Art and Design classes and Design Technology lessons.

Thank you to Mrs Fowler, art teacher, to all those who supported this event and for pupils who took part. A special thanks go to Keller class and Mrs Lloyd for helping to prepare the display boards, set up on the day and to serve refreshments and welcome and chat to people.



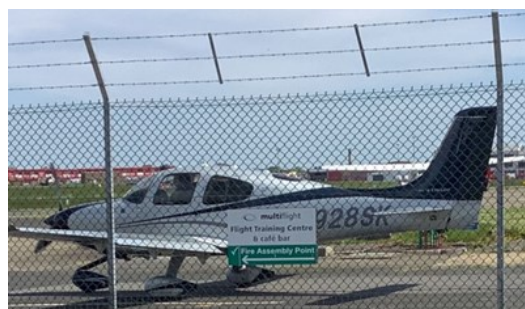
Burnell's Trip to Yeadon

Visit to St Peter and Paul's Church

Burnell class visited Fr. David's Church St. Peter and Paul in Yeadon. We looked at the three central features – the Pulpit, the Altar and the Tabernacle (PAT!) We lit a candle and said a prayer for our families.



After our visit to the church we went to the airport café for a drink and some plane spotting.



Magical Music

Summer Concert

In the penultimate week of term Donaldson, Burnell, Ellington and Harrop and Girma all performed in our Summer Concert, sharing some of the music that they have been working on recently. Some pupils have been taking their instruments home to practise and it really showed in their stunning performances.

At the end of the concert our guests from Jazz in the Spa gave us a cheque for £1000 to purchase some more instruments to add to our collection and help us on our mission to make sure that every single child has the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and take it home to practise whilst they are following the music curriculum at St John's. This is just the start of our journey so watch out next year for more fundraising opportunities to turn our dream into reality. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH.



St John's Chicken Club

Thank you to everyone who came to chicken club this term, it's been a hoot! All the chickens finally have names, Queen Bossy Bella, Goldie (Chicken Nugget), Luna, Pearl the Singer, Dora the Explorer, Lucky (as the vet fixed her scissor beak), Barry and King Solomon.

Thank you for tidying up the poly tunnel and the allotment, our gorgeous silkies love all the attention and pampering they get on Tuesday lunch times. Have a great holiday and see you next term.



Class Transition News—Edison and Sixth Form

Visit to Ginetta Manufacturer

As part of the diverse programme of enrichment activities P16 visited Ginetta Cars in Garforth for a guided tour with the director of sales, Jamie

Students were guided through the process of building a car from the very first component to the finished product. These cars really are 'made in Yorkshire' and to see the whole process is a fascinating experience.

Jamie also discussed careers in the industry from sales, engineers, CAD designers, to drivers and support staff. Ginetta employ a great team of local talent to build and drive cars all over the world.

Great thanks to Jamie for going out of his way to expand on the previous visit for the P16 group.



Sixth Form Picnic

Sixth form are having a two week Transition time where we welcome our new students and are off timetable doing fun and relaxing activities.

Today we prepared foods with Mrs Reade and then went on a picnic by the River Wharfe in Collingham. We skimmed stones, chilled on our blankets, walked by the river and ate our delicious foods.



Retreat to Thicket Priory

Students visited Thicket Priory for an end of year retreat. This gave us time to share in a reflective end to our school year. We listened to a religious sister talk about her daily life and we have the opportunity to ask questions. We also shared a short service together where we listened to a Bible passage and said prayers together. There was time to explore the beautiful grounds of Thicket Priory before we returned back to school.



Thank you from teachers Mrs Pirie and Mr Lynch

It's fair to say the transition fortnight has been a big success! We have welcomed new students in, who have made friends and got to know the school and it's been great to see some of our more familiar students, who have struggled over the last term, be rejoined with their peers. We just wanted to thank all of the 6th form staff for their motivation and enthusiasm, it's been very full-on, and Mr Lynch and I really appreciate your continued support with the pupils.

Thanks to the teachers who have taught the group, particularly Miss Fox and Miss Murray for organising trips. The Ginetta trip was a great way to start the transition experience and tomorrow's trip to Thicket Priory will be a fab way to end it! Thanks to Paul, Lynn and Jane for all of the refreshments and pack-ups! Thanks also to the brilliant CARE team for allowing students to start their residential journey early, you have made it extra special for them. It's great to see that all the pupils feel ready for next year and have no worries to carry through the summer holidays. Thanks again! Mrs Pirie and Mr Lynch

Out and About

Local Scarecrow Trail

Burnell class enjoyed following the scarecrow trail in Boston Spa. It was great following the map and looking at the different designs. We had a break for all the walking at the park where we enjoyed an ice lolly or a drink that we bought from the shop.



On Line Safety

It's the summer holidays and that may mean more screen time for our children. This can be fine but we still need to be vigilant with our children and their electronic devices. Some tips are:

When children want to check something, allow brief supervised use on an adult device.

When children want to play something, such as an internet based game, give as a reward after doing another activity. It doesn't have to be a reward for a chore it could be just playing a board game first with someone. Ask your child to show you what they are playing/watching and ensure that they are playing within easy reach of an adult

When children want to use social media, ensure they use it at specific times of the day and only for checking in, not just for frequent scrolling.

There is plenty information available about on line safety. Copies of on line safety newsletters and information are available from - René Lelong the school, CEOP (Child Online Exploitation Protection) Ambassador rene.lelong@stjohns.org.uk

More information about internet safety for children can be found here:

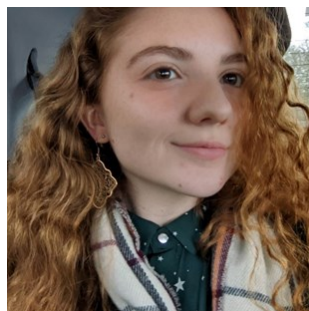
<https://www.internetmatters.org.uk> and/or www.thinkyouknow.co.uk



Play Therapy

My name is Maisie (Miss Keighley) and I have worked as an LSA at St. John's for two years. I am currently training to become a Play Therapist with PTUK and will be carrying out a clinical placement within school from September.

Play Therapy is an alternative and more accessible form of psychotherapy aimed at those who struggle to verbalise their thoughts, or those who find it hard to self-regulate through talking. By creating a safe and therapeutic environment, Play Therapy allows young people to explore their feelings in a way that is suited to their needs. I will be providing children with the opportunity to communicate and process their emotions through play. Our student's mental health is a top priority at St John's, we feel this form of therapy will support a wide range of our students with SEMH needs.



Summer News from the Residential Team

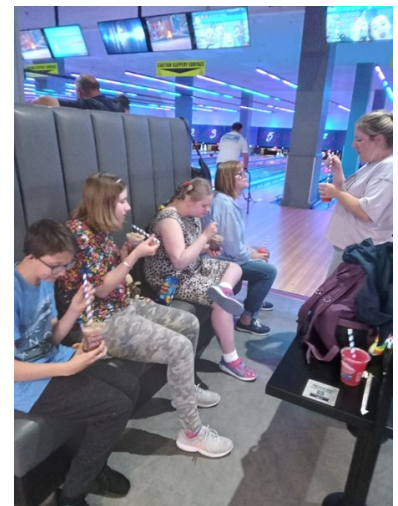
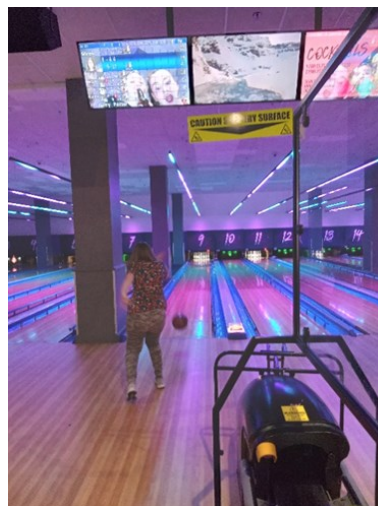
Oh I do Like to be Beside the Seaside!

Post 16 students have enjoyed transition week both in school and residential with lots of fun activities such as shopping, a BBQ and our annual trip to Scarborough!



It's a Strike!

Ripon Children enjoyed going to Xscape to do some bowling



Arts Award Trip

The Gruesome Thackery Medical Museum

As part of the Arts Award Nightingale were given the option to choose somewhere they would like to visit where they could take lots of interesting photos, and spend time together as a class. After much deliberation, they were down to 12 choices at one point; a trip to Thackery Medical Museum was arranged. The highlight was a workshop in the operating theatre – not for the fainthearted – where we were guided through surgery Victorian style. Everyone managed to stay for the duration, that was a feat! Luckily, we still wanted to eat our packed lunch afterwards. The museum is a fascinating place with so much to see and learn about.



Uniform Reminder

Over the summer holidays many of you will be buying new uniform, just to remind you our uniform code: - Navy Blue School polo and sweatshirt (available from the school office, priced from £12.50 depending on size) or plain navy cardigan. Smart navy, black or grey trousers (not jeans type) or skirt. Flat black shoes, not trainers.

Standard PE Kit (see below)—Pale blue polo shirts, short or long sleeved (can be bought from George at Asda or similar) Plain black or navy blue shorts, optional plain black or navy blue jogging bottoms.

Alternatively, school PE kit with school logo on can be ordered from the Office (prices from £15).

We have a small selection of pre-loved uniform too, just ask at the office. Thank you.



And Finally ...

Happy Holidays Everyone, Thank you & See You Next Year!

Thank you from all the staff, for all the kind words and generous end of term gifts we received, we hope you all have a lovely summer school holiday. Stay safe and we'll see you in September.



Dates for your diary

4th September	-School re-opens for 2023/2024 Academic Year for all pupils except Sixth Form
5th September	-School re-opens for 2023/2024 Academic Year for Sixth Form Pupils
6th October	-School closed for TRAINING DAY
27th October	-School closes for half term holiday
31st October	-School re-opens
24th November	-School closed for TRAINING DAY
25th November	-Possible Christmas Fair (TBC)
22nd December	-School closes for Christmas holidays
8th January	-School re-opens
26th January	-School closed for TRAINING DAY
9th February	-School closes for half term holiday
19th February	-School re-opens
22nd March	-School closes for Easter holidays
8th April	-School re-opens
6th May	-School closed for Bank holiday
24th May	-School closes for half term holiday
3rd June	-School re-opens
21st June	-School closed for TRAINING DAY
19th July	-School closes for Summer Holidays



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