



Nurture · Inspire · Flourish · Pray



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Newsletter 17 December 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Our first term in the *new* St John's is almost drawing to a close and as I type this I am looking out onto the 'digger' as it weaves its way in through the staffroom window of the old building; what a journey it has been to get us here and how fortunate we are in having made the transition to our new home. As with all new homes it has not been plain sailing and we still have a 'snagging' list, but the positives of the new environment have been overwhelming: the light and space are at top of the list. For me, I find that there are many more places to stop and have a chat with pupils informally and on occasions this has meant that issues can be resolved before escalation. Mostly however, the chats usually revolve around the top six of the SPFL!! My new year's resolution is to stop and chat with parents more often too, so if you see me skulking around the playground before school please do say hello.

In the meantime, can I please *wish you all a very peaceful and joyful Christmas and wonderful New Year.* ([Pupils return Wed 9th Jan](#))



Spotlight on Improvement Growth Mindset and Kindness

A pupil with a growth mindset is keen to take on new challenges and overcome any obstacle in their way, with a bit of hard work and determination!

As a school, we will encourage this mindset by having high expectations for all of our learners! Pupils will learn that, in order to achieve and overcome challenges, some learners need more help and support than others. There is a formula that continually delivers results:

Nurturing Environment + Challenging Work + High Expectations = Growth



During Advent, we have challenged ourselves to be kind, through word and action. This is evident in the food we have collected for the North East Foodbank, by P4's acts of kindness, they have collected over 100 and by ways in which we greet each other and interact on a daily basis. This won't end, when Santa (hopefully!) delivers on Christmas day, so please talk to your child about ways they can demonstrate kindness and ways in which kindness has been shown to them in school. This is a vital part of their learning and development in a world which doesn't always value kindness as much as we would hope.





ACHIEVEMENTS: ACHIEVEMENTS: ACHIEVEMENTS:



Teighan in P3 won a Blue Peter badge for achievement in Tennis.



Primary 6 have completed their 'Agents for Change' work, supported by a team from the Jack Kane, they covered a range of topics such as *Cyber Bullying*, *Internet Safety*, *Stereotyping* and were commended for engaging so well.



Champions League

Isabella from P3 and Bertie from P6 were both selected to be mascots at the recent Champions League match between Liverpool and Napoli, Isabella led out Jordan Henderson and Bertie walked with Jose Callejon from Napoli.

Bertie said the best thing about the whole experience was the atmosphere when the Liverpool fans were singing 'You'll never walk alone' and Isabella said it was great because she got to see an Italian team play as well as Liverpool.



Football Update: Coach Gordon's Message

It has been brilliant to hear about how well all 4 teams are doing week to week and that so many kids are having the chance to play for the school. The new astro pitch has been a fantastic addition this season and the kids all love playing on it.

A big thanks to all the people who help out with the organisation and coaching of the teams throughout the season and also to our cluster secondary school

Holy Rood High for helping us out with floodlit training facilities since October.



The NSPCC were here with Saskia from the Voice to promote their 'Speak Out Stay Safe' programme which supports children in a number of ways. We had a special assembly for P1-3 and P4-7, then pupils in P6&7 engaged in workshops specific to their age and stage.

Please do continue to share achievements with us to include in future newsletters, no achievement is too small...

Nativity: The Curious Sheep



The school and parents, grandparents and friends were all treated to a fantastic performance by P1 last Wednesday who retold the story of Jesus' birth in a vibrant and enchanting way. Well done staff and pupils of P1 – we loved it!

We also say Au revoir to Mrs Reilly, Arrivederci Mrs Fraser, we will all miss you and GOOD LUCK Mrs Williamson on your maternity leave...