



# St John's Primary School and Nursery - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019 -

Aiming high; proud to learn together.

[www.st-johns.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-johns.warwickshire.sch.uk)

 @stjohnsprimken

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohnsprimarykenilworth/>



## Week Commencing 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

The joy of technology is that I am able to communicate to you from afar! I am sorry I have been unwell and suffering from a painful prolapsed disc in my lower back. I'm slowly getting better each day and hoping to be back at school soon. I must extend my huge thanks to the team at St John's for coping so well, as they always do. The sign of a good unit is that it functions well (if not better) when I am absent. Mrs Baker and Mrs Eastham have had some tricky situations to deal with and they have coped admirably. As have the rest of the team who have all stepped up and kept our school high functioning and a model of good practice. A huge thank you to them all.

Another issue is the return of the Children's Centre to the school on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. Please see the statement below.

Have a good weekend.

Best Wishes,

**Mr D Barrow**  
Head Teacher

## Children's Centre

The contract for the revised Children and Family Centres which replaces the current Children's Centres is currently out to tender and the new service will start from September 2019 – we will inform you of the outcome of this once it is known.

As part of the current transition, St John's Children's Centre building is due to come back under school management from the 1<sup>st</sup> April. Barnardo's have committed that the current programme of service delivery will continue until July, with a summer programme in place.

The school is committed to working with whichever provider is successful in the tender outcome. This will mean the building will be used primarily for Children and Family Centre services wherever possible. This will be managed by the school and on limited resources. However, to ensure longer term planning and sustainability the school is exploring avenues for funding sources. We are keen to utilise the building to its full potential to serve the Kenilworth community.

## What We've Been Learning This Week

### Early Years Foundation Stage

In Nursery, we have been reading the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. In literacy, we have been sequencing the story using picture cards and looking at the lifecycle of a butterfly. In maths, we have been using cubes to measure caterpillars and counting how many cubes long our caterpillars are. We have also been creating wonderful observational paintings of butterflies and caterpillars on the creative table, building cocoons in the construction area outdoors and threading leaves.



In Reception, we have been looking at the nursery rhyme 'Miss Polly had a Dolly'. In literacy, the children have been filling in the missing words from the sentence and reading it back to check it makes sense. In maths, we have been working in the doctors role-play area and measuring different parts of our body using rulers. We have also created super X-ray pictures using straws on black paper and made a plaster cast for Dolly.

### Key Stage 1

In 1C, the children have started their learning all about Superheroes. They have really enjoyed completing some writing based on their text 'Elliott Jones the Midnight Superhero' which inspired them to design their own superhero capes. The children can't wait to make them!

In 2T, the children have been learning all about shapes in maths. They carefully followed instructions to draw 2D shapes, decorated them and have used them to create some castle artwork. Year 2 have also been focusing on fairy tales. They have rewritten the ending for Rapunzel and described characters such as the genie from Aladdin. The children are working hard on their personal challenges in PE ready for the personal challenge event they will be attending later this half term.

## Key Stage 2

This week in year 3, we have been learning about Greek Gods and their different roles. We had a go at creating our own Greek Gods. We looked closely at Greek Pots and used clay to make coil clay pots. We have used the Italian book Pezzettino to help us understand tenths as both fractions and decimals.



Over the last couple of weeks, Year 4 have been looking at setting descriptions in English and, in particular, focusing on identifying and using adventurous, descriptive vocabulary. We have also been listening to Peter and the Wolf in music and considering why the different instruments were chosen to represent the different characters. In addition, we have been studying old cattle drive trails through North America, as this links to our year group text, "The Wolves of Currumpaw".



Year 5 have been looking at the solar system and at our galaxy, the Milky Way. To begin, we went outside and created our own moving solar system, where children took on the roles of the different planets, to get an idea of the distance between the planets. We have also looked at the history of space travel; we had a class debate about whether or not animals should have been sent into space, and then wrote balanced arguments contrasting the two views. The highlight of our week has been our fabulous trip to the space centre on Tuesday, which we thoroughly enjoyed.



Year 6 have continued to enjoy learning about WWII and had a WWII walk around Kenilworth, which showed them how the war had affected the Kenilworth we know today. We have also been drawing using different perspective and creating some optical illusions in art.



## World Book Day

Last week at St John's, we really enjoyed celebrating World Book Day. As well as dressing up as their favourite book characters, children across the school delved into the extraordinary pages of a book about an underwater camera that takes pictures of mysterious scenes called 'Flotsam'. Discussions about the book, wonderful writing and mesmerising artwork was produced by all year groups and the children enjoyed rummaging through flotsam. Remember to purchase a book with the book day token that you received on Thursday!

### Headlice

Unfortunately, we have had several cases of headlice at school this week. Please could you check your child's hair and treat them if necessary. We would also ask that **all** long hair is tied up for school at all times. This worked well to combat the outbreak last time. Children will be given hairbands in school if required.

### School Staff Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor to work with the children at lunch break between 12.00pm and 1.15pm each day. If you are interested, please contact the School Office.

### Diary Dates

Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	4.00pm: Football match vs Priors Field
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12.30pm: Parent sharing lunch – 3TH
Thu 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	4.00pm: Primary Girls' Football Festival
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.00am: Nursery Mother's Day morning am: Year 4 Art trip to Abbey Fields
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr	am: Year 2 trip to Kenilworth Castle
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> Apr	am: Year 6 trip to St John's Church (Easter Experience) pm: KDPSA swimming gala (Years 4-6)
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Apr	9.00am: 3TH class assembly
Thu 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	4.00pm: PTA Easter Disco
<b>Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>3.15pm: Break up for Easter</b>
<b>Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>Back to school</b>

### Class Assemblies

<b>3TH</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>5S</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> June
		<b>RK</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>1C</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>6E/6L</b>	Leavers' Assembly: Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July

## Term Dates

### **EASTER HOLIDAY**

School closes at 3.15 pm	- Fri	12	April	2019
BANK HOLIDAY GOOD FRIDAY	- Fri	19	April	2019
BANK HOLIDAY EASTER MONDAY	- Mon	22	April	2019

### **SUMMER TERM**

School opens at 8.45 am	- Mon	29	April	2019
BANK HOLIDAY CLOSURE	- Mon	6	May	2019

### **Half-Term**

School closes at 3.15 pm	- Fri	24	May	2019
School opens at 8.45 am	- Mon	3	June	2019
INSET DAY CLOSURE	- Fri	21	June	2019

### **SUMMER HOLIDAY**

School closes at 3.15 pm	- Fri	19	July	2019
INSET DAY CLOSURE	- Mon	22	July	2019

## Kenilworth Lido

The Campaign to save outdoor swimming in Kenilworth and Restore Kenilworth Lido needs the help and support of the young people in Kenilworth.

After Warwick District Council's decision on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019, to close the outdoor pool from September 2019, the group, Restore Kenilworth Lido have launched a campaign to overturn this decision and ensure that this fabulous outdoor facility remains available to young people in Kenilworth.

The Restore Kenilworth Lido Group is made up of people in Kenilworth who want to retain facilities for outdoor swimming, replacing the current fun-shaped outdoor pool with a 25m rectangular heated pool with lido facilities.

### **We would love young people to get creative with their designs!**

It would make a great difference if the young people of Kenilworth could support us by completing our colourful campaign postcard and telling Warwick District Council why they would like to restore the Lido and keep Kenilworth's unique outdoor swimming facility.

You can pop into Kenilworth Book Shop or Treehouse Books, to collect the postcards for the campaign.

This is the Lido as it was, and as one of our supporters has said:



***"This is the dream..... kids' swimming Gala in the outdoor pool".***

## Baginton Village Bus



The local authority has stopped the free bus for any child starting school next September to Priors Field Primary (the catchment school). The cost of a vacant seat is approximately £780 a year. Free transport is only available to your closest school with space, which is likely to be either Ryton, Binley Woods, St Nicholas or Thorns. Unfortunately, there is no actual choice as you will be allocated the closest school that has a place (sadly as we are not in the catchment, we are at the bottom of each admissions list). Children will be dotted outside the village and a high possibility at the age of 4 years old travelling in a taxi alone. In some cases, siblings will be separated as the older child already attends Priors Field.

This is a national decision, but we need to fight and show the local authority that this rule does not work for our village. Although it will be hard, we need to try and turn this policy around and allow the free bus to continue. The bus currently has lots of empty seats, meaning there is no financial gain by having extra transport travelling in the opposite direction, this will only add pollution and congestion to our roads as well as wasting taxpayer's money.

The most important part of this however is the children, they are the heart of this village. Fears for social isolation, lack of friendships forming in the village, splitting up siblings and their worries about travelling alone are all huge factors that must be considered. Starting school is a huge transition for a child and something the Government stresses they are very passionate about, ensuring children are supported, eliminating any worries and building their self-esteem so they are school ready. This is not going to be the case for the children of Baginton. Some small children may not even be able to comprehend the change. They may feel they have done something wrong to be separated from the rest of the village children.

We must fight for these children and make ourselves be heard. There are many changes to the village, but this surely has got to be the most serious as yet? We are talking about young children being the victim of financial greed. We need as many people as possible to email Councillor Wallace Redford and object to this new policy as well as speaking for the future generation of Baginton village- [wallaceredford@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:wallaceredford@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Thank you in advance for your help and for taking the time to read this.



Do you and your family enjoy  
**WALKING, JOGGING OR RUNNING?**  
Come and Try

# ORIENTEERING

at

**ABBAY FIELDS, KENILWORTH**  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2pm – 4pm**

**In Aid of Carl Smith Fundraising\***

Three courses: 1-2km (Yellow), 2-3km (Orange) and 3-4km (Green).

*Help and advice for beginners, especially families  
Learn how to navigate from point to point around  
the Park using a map – a bit like a treasure hunt.  
Bring a compass if you have one.*

**Cost: Juniors £1, Adults £5, includes timer hire**

**\*Fundraising event continues after the orienteering at the Royal Oak Pub,  
New Street, Kenilworth, 5 mins walk away, with a Barbecue and a Raffle.  
Prizes for winners in various classes (novices included) in the Orienteering  
to be presented at the Royal Oak afterwards. All welcome!**

Orienteering is an Outdoor fun adventure navigation sport for all ages,  
5 – 85 years, and abilities.

**Contact John Bowman 07792 225284 for more information**

*Parking at Abbey Fields is free for 2 hours then pay and display, £1 after 6pm.*

*See Coventry and Warwickshire Orienteering Club – website for full details  
[www.octavian-droobers.org](http://www.octavian-droobers.org)*