# Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

**Website: www.ourladyandstjohns.org.uk**
**Email: admin@stjohnrc.hounslow.sch.uk**
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**Volume 7 Issue 4**

**3rd February 2025**

Dear Parents,

A busy week again at OLSJ, culminating in our fantastic 'Number day', organised by the school council in aid of the NSPCC. More details below.

The Mini-Vinnies led a whole school assembly to launch the Jubilee year, which Pope Francis has given the theme of 'hope'. Hope is very important as it helps us to not give up. Pope Francis asks us to be signs of hope for others. The assembly marks the beginning of our year of hope and we will be celebrating it in lots of different ways over the year.

## Parents' evenings

Next week we have our mid-year parents' evenings. Thank you for signing up for a slot – please remember that we are unable to provide childcare and please organise care for your child/ children either at home or with friends/other parents.

Have a lovely weekend,

**Mrs. Cunningham**

## Stars of the Week

**3rd February 2025**

**Rec : Fatima & Nora**
**Yr1: Gloria & Franek**
**Yr2: Oliver & Naod**
**Yr3: Hunter & Elikya**
**Yr4 Amelia H. & Matilda**
**Yr5: Annie & Theo**
**Yr6: Matthew & Francis Joseph**



**We are a PEANUT & NUT FREE SCHOOL**

**Due to severe allergies of some pupils and staff, please ensure no nut or peanut products are brought into school.**




## Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount Importance to all staff.
Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's designated safeguarding officer:
Mrs Cunningham or in her absence the deputy safeguarding
officer Mrs Sheehan. In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with their line manager, Mrs Cunningham to seek further advice.

**Congratulations to the children in St. George's who received the most house points over the last week.**

**The children in St. George's will receive 15 minutes of extra play in Key stage 1.**

**The children in St. George's in Key stage 2 will receive a Homework pass for this weeks' homework.**

## House point winners for this week

| HOUSES | Score |
|---|---|
| St Patrick | 160 |
| St Andrew | 188 |
| St George | 221 |
| St David | 140 |
| St John | 172 |
| Overall Winner | St George's |




## Punctuality & Attendance

| POSITION | YEAR | % | Lates |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st | Rec | 100 | 2 |
| 2nd | 4 | 99 | 1 |
| 3rd | 6 | 98.6 | 1 |
| 4th | 2 | 98.1 | 1 |
| 5th | 3 | 97.3 | 4 |
| 6th | 1 | 97.2 | 2 |
| 7th | Nr | 96.3 | 1 |
| 8th | 5 | 96 | 3 |







**Congratulations to Reception on their 100% attendance!**




## Important Dates February

**Monday 10th February**
3:30-6:30 Parents evening

**Tuesday 11th February**
- Young voices concert—Y6 choir
- Y3/4 netball competition

**Wednesday 12th February**
3:30-6:30 Parents evening
- Nursery & Reception cake sale

**Thursday 13th February**
- KS1 Sportshall competition

**Friday 14th February**
3:00 End of term

## Writer of the month January

**Rec : Viksha**
**Yr1: Anna N.**
**Yr2: To be announced next week**
**Yr3: Max**
**Yr4 Albert**
**Yr5: Nathan**
**Yr6: Sheena**



# Best Football Competition

On Friday 31st January, we took part in the year 5 and 6 borough football competition, there were at least 43 teams there attempting to become Hounslow champions.
After a brief but focussed warm up our games started almost immediately with our A team playing some unbelievable football resulting in a 6-0 win! The performances became a little more nervy in the following fixtures where we managed a 2-1 win, 0-0 draw and a 1-0 loss. This angered our team and their last group game saw them play against the team top of our group. The focus and teamwork were back and we dominated a great 2-0 win.

Our B team were not as fortunate as they were placed in a stronger group. They didn't manage any wins but had a few hard fought matches where some of the tackling and long shots were fantastic. We saw some great goalkeeping saves and a very high level of tenacity from some of the players, eager to get the results they deserved.

The B team was put into a different group after where they began scoring and the confidence grew massively, it was a fantastic second half of the competition from them.

The A team progressed to a couple of knock out rounds, the first of which was our best performance when they accumulated a 7-0 win!! We even were able to put our goal keeper James up front and he scored 2! Unfortunately our next knockout game finished 1-1 and the same story for the third year in a row, a penalty shootout defeat.

Well done to everyone, we played some great football!! A big thank you to the parents that assisted with support and travel.







What an amazing Number Day we had today.

A huge thank you to all the children and parents for making such amazing efforts with number day costumes—the children looked superb!

A huge shout out to all the teachers for preparing such engaging activities for the children. There will be some very tired children this evening!

Please log onto Google classroom to see more photos.

The school council would like to thank everyone for their contributions on our Just Giving page, so far we have raised **£159** thank you.
If you would still like to contribute to our Just Giving page, please copy and paste the link below




https://www.justgiving.com/page/our-lady-st-john-primary-school-10?





## Number day cake sale

A big thank you to everyone who brought cakes in to sell at the NSPCC cake sale. Your generosity never ceases to amaze us. The children have managed to raise £ 300 so far. Thank you to everyone who also brought in money to spend.











Total raised so far for the NSPCC is

**£459**

# Number Day winners

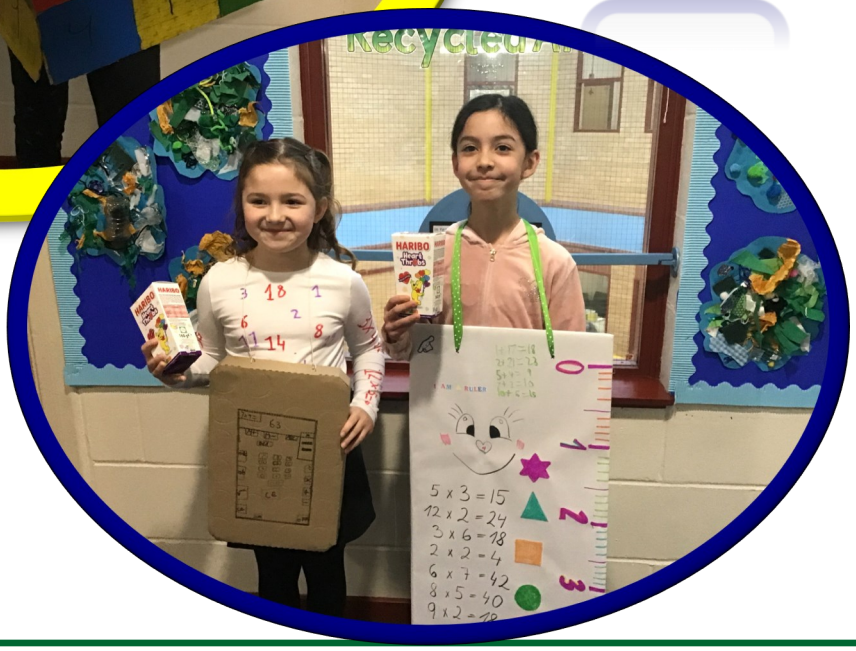










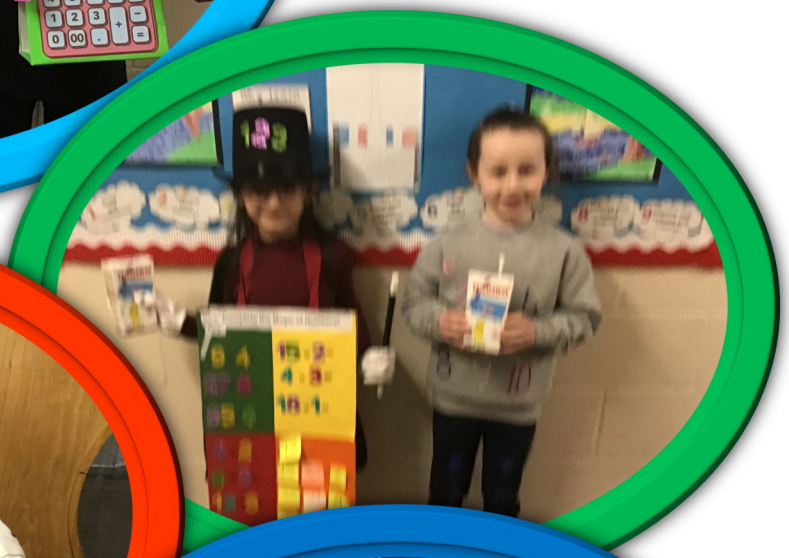



More on the next page

# Number day winners cont.d














To all our parents,
grandparents and carers.

We really need your help.

With the increasing demands on the curriculum, we are finding it more and more difficult to provide 1-1 reading for our children.

Although this is not an expectation of the curriculum, it is something that we have always valued in the hope that it provides children with a love of reading from an early age.

So, if you can spare an hour or two every week (or more) to hear children read, please let me know, we would be eternally grateful.

This support is invaluable to both the teachers and the children.

Thank you in advance
Mrs Sheehan

# Homework club

Mrs. Sheehan & the School council will be running a homework club for the juniors in the ICT suite.

## Monday & Tuesdays

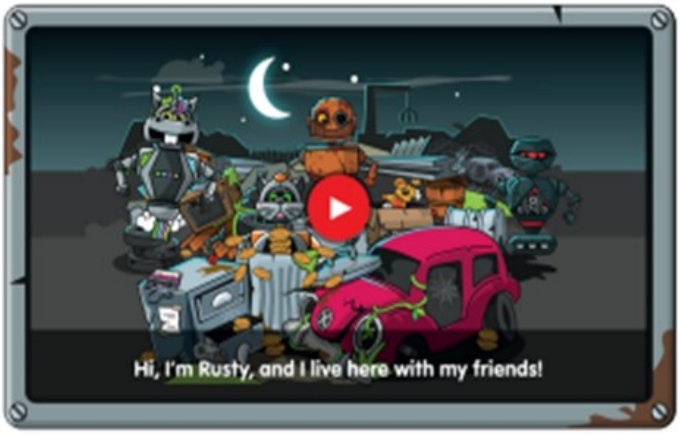
## 12:15-1:00

# HOW THE GAME WORKS

**Numbots**

## BEFORE THE GAME

Children are welcomed to the game with an opening video, where they are introduced to the central character, "Rusty". In the video, Rusty asks for help in his quest to find new parts to upgrade him to a diamond robot, so he can "shine inside and out, like a Diamond". Next, the child will be able to choose a bot name they will play under, as well as their own robot character.




## PLAYING THE GAME: STORY MODE

The game starts in 'Story Mode'. There are 18 stages - from Rust to Diamond - and each stage is made up of a number of levels. Players start at Rust level 1 and, to unlock the next level, they need to earn at least 2 out of 3 stars.

To earn the 2 or 3 stars required to pass the level, children must demonstrate a level of fluency when answering the questions. This means they must be accurate and timely with their answers; if children get 0 or 1 stars they need to answer more quickly. The game ensures that learners don't move on to the next level until they show they are prepared for it.

Story Mode starts with very basic maths (subitising numbers) and progresses steadily and rigorously to addition and subtraction of double-digit numbers.




## PLAYING THE GAME: CHALLENGE MODE

When players complete Stage 3 (Tin): Level 35 in Story Mode, they will unlock Challenge Mode. Here they can race the clock to test themselves on how many questions they can answer correctly in one minute. There are 20 different challenges to choose from; each challenge testing a different skill, for example number bonds to 10, adding single digits or subtracting double digits.



# HOW THE GAME WORKS

**Numbots**

## THE CUSTOM SHACK

For every maths question answered correctly, the child will receive coins to spend in the Custom Shack. Here, they are able to purchase new parts to upgrade and personalise their own robot character. As well as earning coins, children are kept motivated throughout their NumBots journey by collecting badges and winning trophies to reward their achievements.




## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

We recommend children get 3 minutes a day four or five times a week. There will be times when they need your help understanding what to do (to help with that, there is an info slide before each level begins) or even with typing in the answers. They may need encouragement from time to time and they may benefit from being reminded that making mistakes is something perfectly natural.

They could also reach a point in the maths that is beyond their reach for now; if it feels like they've reached a blocker, we'd recommended returning to earlier levels and trying to complete them with 3 stars. If they are regularly struggling to achieve 2 stars, it may be worth speaking to their teacher abour possible strategies and asking them to change the Story Controls for your child, which will give them longer to pass each level.

