Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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Volume 7 Issue 2

27th January 2025

Dear Parents,

The online booking for parents evening is now open – please remember to book a slot for your child/children. At this meeting you will get an opportunity to speak with your child's teacher and look through their work. Please remember we have no child care facilities except for those who are usually at after-school club, so please arrange child care for your children with either a family member or another parent.

This week Year 2 had their class celebration service, all about the 'rosary'. They were extremely confident with their speaking and singing and it was a beautiful service, especially the song, 'Hail Mary.' Thank you to Mrs. Chalker -Hayes, Mrs. Harb, Mrs. Nutley and Mrs. O'Connor for preparing the children and to Father Gerard for his help with the service. A huge 'congratulations' to Year 2 for such a lovely prayerful service.

Nursery Applications for September 2025

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, they can start in the nursery class in September 2025. To apply for a place please download an application form from the school website. The form should then be posted or emailed to the school office. We have both 15 hour and 30 places. We have an open morning on **Tuesday 4th February 2025 at 9.00am.** Please tell all your friends and relations about our wonderful school nursery!

Please note that the closing date for Nursery applications is **7th March 2025.**

Have a lovely weekend,

Stars of the Week
27th January 2025

Rec : Nardos & Tom
Yr1: Vespyr & Modupeola
Yr2: Ralph & Maks
Yr3: Finlay & Leo
Yr4 Sophie & Vivien
Yr5: Fred & Emmanuel
Yr6: Giovanni & Alex



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. Patrick's who received the most house points over the last week.

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

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

House point winners for this week

HOUSES	Score
St Patrick	289
St Andrew	168
St George	208
St David	204
St John	243
Overall Winner	St Patrick's



Punctuality & Attendance

POSITION	YEAR	%	Lates
1st	2	99.6	2
2nd	6	99	0
3rd	3	98.6	0
4th	Rec	98.3	2
5th	5	95	3
6th	4	90.6	2
7th	Nur	89.7	0
8th	1	89.6	2







Congratulations to Year 2 on their 99.6% attendance!

They will receive 10 minutes extra play

Important Dates February

Tuesday 4th February
- Open morning for prospective Nursery parents

Wednesday 5th February
- School council cake sale for Number day

Friday 7th February
- Number day

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

Number day



A huge thank you to the School council for launching our Number day assembly today.

We will be holding a cake sale on **Wednesday** and we ask if you can bring in cakes for us to sell, to raise money for the NSPCC.

Thank you

Number Day

Friday 7th February







On **Friday 7th February** the School Council have organised for us to take part in Number day.

We will be supporting the NSPCC .

We are asking everyone to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!), or get even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme.

There will be a prize for the most imaginative outfit.

We would love everyone in the school to take part in this special event, for such a special cause.

The children will be taking part in lots of fun maths activities on the day

If you would like to donate please go to our **Just Giving page**, the link is below and has also been sent on Google classroom and Parentmail.



https://www.justgiving.com/page/our-lady-st-john-primary-school-10?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Thank you very much
The School Council





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

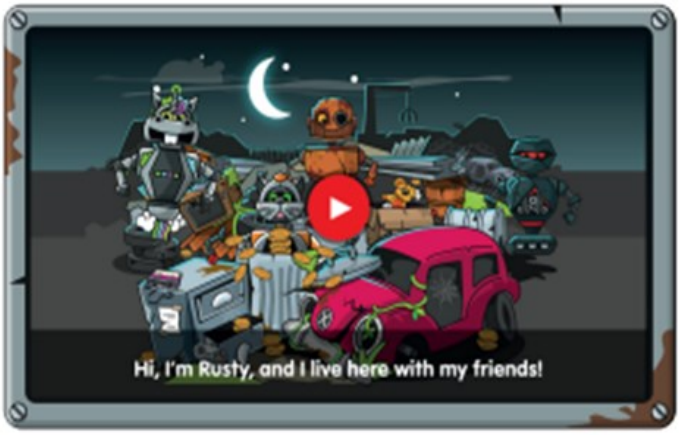
12:15-1:00

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.

