Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

Website: www.ourladyandstjohns.org.uk
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Volume 6 Issue 13

2nd December 2024

Dear Parents,

As we approach the third Sunday in Advent we come to the end of another busy week in school. The hall has been busy with rehearsals for nativity plays and carol concerts.

The first performance took place this morning for Early Years parents. What a performance it was! Thank you to Mrs. Whitehouse, Mrs. Baranska, Mrs. Keogh-Smith, Mrs. Berwick and Ms. Sanchez for preparing the children so well, and a huge 'well done' to our stars in Reception and Nursery – you were all amazing.

Today we had our piano assembly– well done to all the pupils who played so confidently and treated us to such a wide range of music. A special thank you to Mrs. O'Connor for preparing the children so well.

We have a very busy last week in school, with lots of exciting events in the lead up to Christmas – look out for parentmail updates of events.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Cunningham

Stars of the Week
9th December 2024

Rec :	Faith & Szofia
Yr1:	Blen & Michal
Yr2:	Eleanor & Max
Yr3:	Arnisa & Ziva
Yr4:	Sophie & Frank
Yr5:	George & Julieta
Yr6:	Joseph & Libby



Piano assembly



Sports superstars
Congratulations to Yana & Wanda



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

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

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

House point winners for this week



HOUSES	Score
St Patrick	53
St Andrew	62
St George	58
St David	49
St John	48
Overall Winner	St Andrew's

Important Dates November/December

Monday 16th December
- Christmas parties & toy day

Tuesday 17th December
9:00 Y1/2 Christmas production
- Christmas lunch

Wednesday 18th December
9:00 Yr5/6 Junior carol service
9:45 Yr3/4 Junior carol service

Thursday 19th December
9:00 End of term mass—all parents welcome

Friday 20th December
1:00 End of term

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.



The calendar is updated on our website. Please take a look to note new dates and updates.

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.

A REMINDER THAT SCHOOL IS CLOSING AT 1:00PM ON FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2024

The School Council presents 'Disney on Ice'





A huge thank you to the School Council for promoting our next fundraiser at our whole school assembly on Wednesday morning - **'Disney on Ice.'**

As a result of a very generous donation from JC in Year 3, we are in a very fortunate position to raise funds for our school. There are 12 VIP tickets up for grabs to see Disney on Ice on **Sunday 5th January 2025**

You can purchase tickets after school from our school councillors or via parentmail.

We will be drawing the raffle for the next 3 Fridays.

We will announce the winners after our assembly each Friday

Tickets do not roll over to the following week.

This is an amazing opportunity for your child to see an amazing show

Good luck!

Please log onto Google classroom or Parentmail for more details of this event

Year 5/6 Football competition

On Monday 9th December we competed in a new borough football competition for years 5 and 6. This one was called the Pokémon cup and the Hounslow borough winners would go on to regional and even national tournaments.

We had both a girls and boys team for this. Our boys team got off to a great start with a 2-0 win that was kicked off by an amazing long shot from Franky. They passed and moved the ball around our first 2 opponents like it was a training session and were very rarely tested. Our third group game was a very tough 0-0 against the team that would go on to win the whole completion. We unfortunately lost in the quarter final stage to the runners up after a very intense game. Big shout out to James who saved us on so many occasions during the tournament, outstanding performances from him.

Our girls struggled to find their form in their opening matches drawing 2 and losing one. However our semi final match was against the team that had beaten us and they all raised their game. We battled really well and drew the game 1-1. On to penalties! Super Lily saving the day and getting us into the final! Another close game against some very talented players also finished 1-1. This time we did lose on penalties but had worked really hard before and should be very proud of our progress.

As the highest ranked small school there(1 form entry) we are moving on to the next round in a small school only competition. Well done to all!

Thanks to Arabella's dad, Victoria's mum, Theo's mum, James mum and Tymek's dad for helping with travel and support.





EYFS Nativity

On **Tuesday 10th December** EYFS had their dress rehearsal to the school. They then performed their Christmas play to their parents on the Wednesday. They sang beautifully and spoke so well telling the story about an angel who had no wings.



Disney on Ice winners

Congratulations to..

Diana, Vinnie & Nora



So far we have raised £1140. Thank you everyone for your support.

Our final raffle will be next Friday. Tickets will be on sale all of next week via parentmail or after school.

Children can also purchase tickets from their class councillors.

School councillors will also sell raffle tickets during the day to Reception, Yr1 & Yr2.

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

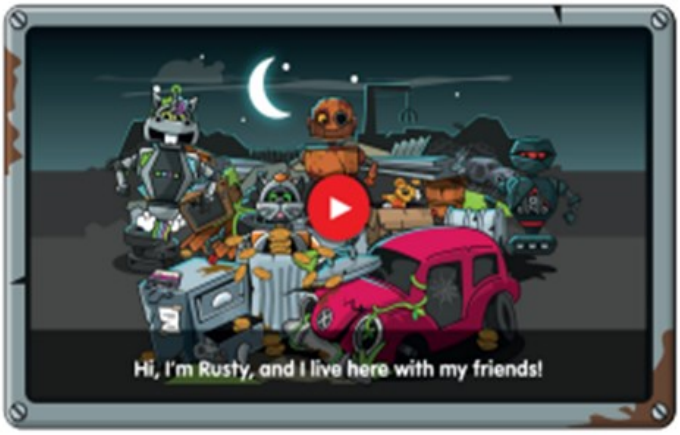
12:15-1:00

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.

