Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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Volume 6 Issue 7

18th October 2024

Dear Parents,

Y6 celebrated their class Mass today and it was a beautiful service. Our thanks to Fr. Gerard for all he does for us, and to Mrs. O'Connor for playing for us. Thank you to Y6 for all those who read so confidently, those who served and to all of you for your prayerful participation.

Year 3 celebrated their class celebration service. They all spoke so clearly about creation, and how we are called to look after our world. Thank you to Mrs. Ashton and Mrs. Bresciani for preparing the children. Year 3, you were all 'superstars'!

We have our parent evenings on Monday and Wednesday next week. Your child's work will be in the hall for you to see either before or after your appointment. Unfortunately, we cannot run a crèche for children as we also still have our after-school clubs running, so please arrange to leave your children with another parent whilst you come into school. We look forward to seeing you all over the two days.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Cunningham

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.

Stars of the Week

14th October 2024

Rec : Matteo & Viksha
Yr1: Anna & Sofia P
Yr2: Maks & Jackson
Yr3: Oscar & Alexa
Yr4: Chloe & Ethan M
Yr5: Maya & Annie
Yr6: Stafro & Gabi



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	334
St Andrew	268
St George	227
St David	258
St John	236
Overall Winner	St Patrick's



Important Dates October

Black History month

Monday 21st October
3:30-6:30 Nursery—Yr6 parents evening

Wednesday 23rd October
3:30-6:30 Nursery—Yr6 parents evening
- Yr6 Sky studios

Friday 25th October
- End of term—normal time finish

Punctuality & Attendance

Position	Year	%	Late
1st	6	100	1
1st	3	100	4
2nd	1	99	5
2nd	5	99	4
3rd	Rec	98.6	4
4th	4	98	2
5th	Nur	97.6	3
6th	2	96.5	5

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.









Congratulations to Year 3 & Year 6 on their 100% attendance!

They will receive 10 minutes extra play next week!

YEAR 3 AND 4 BADMINTON

On Monday 14th October we attended the first Hounslow badminton festival. As the event was a festival, it is considered non-competitive – however this didn't stop us from making every game into a contest!

The morning was broken up into 10 different challenges which we went round with just our 10 selected children. Some of the games were a little slow, like the first one where we had to balance a shuttle on a racket and carry it to a hoop. We decided to get into 2 teams and make to it a race where we frequently played boys vs girls across a lot of the other games as well.

Some of the more 'fun' games included a golf set up where we had to get the shuttle to the targets in as few shots as possible, a baseball game were we were able to smash the shuttle as hard and far as we could and an over the net game where one player would serve over the net to their team mates on the other side who would try to catch the shuttle before it hit the floor.

The team were all fantastic! They showed great attitude and technique, they supported their team mates and embraced the friendly competitive atmosphere the festival aimed at creating. We had a really great morning, even though there weren't any matches, but there will be plenty of time to play matches and have rallies at lunch time.

Well done to our team, a big thank you as well to JC and Vinnie's parents with helping with travel and staying to support us.



Pedestrian Skills

Yr4 Pedestrian Skills training

Year 4 took part in Pedestrian Skills Training provided by road safety specialists, For2Feet. The training took place in groups on the pavements and roads around the school. The children learnt essential road safety skills such as the 'Stop, Look and Listen' method, how to find a safe place to cross the road, how to use zebra/pelican/island crossings near the school and how to cross at junctions or between parked cars.

They also learnt how to spot other dangers such as cars reversing from driveways and getting distracted by music/mobile phones. Pedestrian skills will not only benefit the children on their journey to school, but will help them become safe and sensible pedestrians when out and about themselves especially as they become independent travellers.





Poetry by heart

We have launched the Poetry by Heart competition for Years 3 to 6. The children have the option to either learn either one poem from the Poetry by Heart website and enter the freestyle challenge to learn and perform a poem **or** to take up the 'classic' challenge of learning two poems (one has to be pre 1914). The website has a wide selection of poetry for the 7+ category which you can look at with you children and help them select and learn a poem/s to perform.

https://poetrybyheart.org.uk/

After half-term, all the children will be asked to tell their teacher whether they are going to take part in the freestyle event **or** the Classic competition. They will then have until February to learn and perfect their performances - tips to aid their performances are on the website. In February, they will all share their poems in front of their classes - the top three for classic and freestyle from each class will then perform to the school in a poetry assembly. We will then send videos of the top four performances for each category to Poetry by Heart who then judge them and might then ask them to perform at Shakespeare's Globe theatre on the Southbank.
The freestyle children, if picked, have the opportunity to celebrate poetry on the stage, whereas the children in the Classic category are entered into a competition competing with children all over the country in KS2 category.

We hope that you will encourage and support this opportunity with your children to develop their confidence in public speaking, as well as instill a love of poetry.

Children in Need Day
Friday
8th November 2024

We will be celebrating Children in Need on Friday 8th November



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Help us raise as much money as possible

Dear parents, the School Council are beginning to organise '**Children in Need'** day for this year.

We need your help.
We will be holding our own 'Children in Need' fete.

Do you have any unwanted gifts, books and toys that we could sell? Half term could be a good opportunity to have a clear out.

If you do, we ask that you bring them into school week beginning **4th November**.

We will also be inviting all the children to come into school dressed in **'Spots'** for a donation of **£1**—payable on Parentmail

Over the next few weeks the School Council will be sending out further details.

Please check your Google Classroom/Parentmail for further information about how we will be celebrating this day.

A huge thank you in advance for supporting this event, we always have so much fun.

Together, we can MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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



Dear parents,

At OLSJ we use a platform/app called Google classroom. This app, you can download on to your phone and/or a laptop/chrome book.

Teachers use Google classroom to send messages and to set homework. All children have a login for Google classroom - it will look something like this:

email: tfrmt671.313@gs.stjohnrc.hounslow.sch.uk
password: flower4

Children in Years 1-6 will have this login & password stuck into their reading record books. Children in Nursery & Reception will be given their login details from their class teacher.

We ask you to download this app so that you know what homework your child has and to keep up to date with messages from your child's class teacher.
All logins have been set up and activated.
If you are having problems logging into Google classroom or you are experiencing any problems please let me know or speak with your child's class teacher.

Regards
Mrs. Sheehan

Homework club

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

Monday & Tuesdays

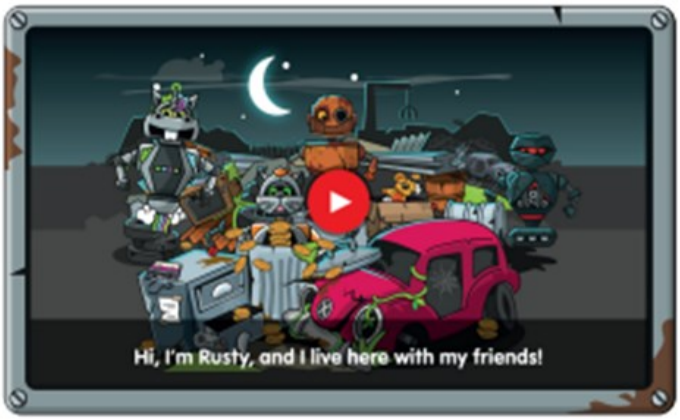
12:15-1:00

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.

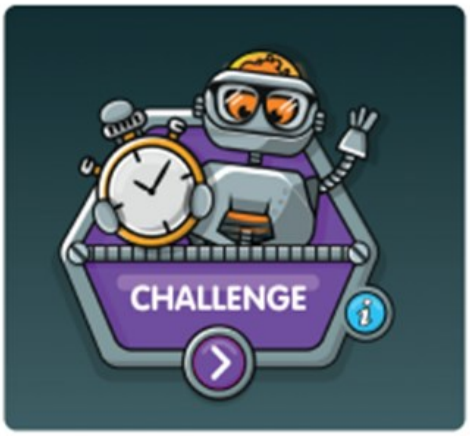
To earn the 2 or 3 stars required to pass the level, children must demonstrate a level of fluency when answering the questions. This means they must be accurate and timely with their answers; if children get 0 or 1 stars they need to answer more quickly. The game ensures that learners don't move on to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

