Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

Website: www.ourladyandstjohns.org.uk
Email: admin@stjohnrc.hounslow.sch.uk
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Volume 6 Issue 4

30th September 2024

Dear Parents,

Year 2 celebrated our first class celebration service of the term. They all spoke so clearly re-telling the story of creation from Genesis and singing their songs so confidently – it was a beautiful service. Thank you to Mrs. Chalker-Hayes, Mrs. Nutley and Mrs. Harb for preparing the children and to Fr. Gerard and Mrs. O'Connor. Year 2, you were all 'superstars'!

The booking system for parents evening is now 'live'. Please ensure you sign up for parents evening which is the week after next.

Next week the Friends are organizing a 'Halloween' disco on Friday 18th October. This will start at 5.15pm and finish at 7.15pm. All children must be accompanied by a parent.

Uniform

The children can still wear the summer or winter uniform until half term, although with the colder weather most are now in winter uniform. All children should be wearing a school coat – please can you make sure all items of uniform have their names on.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Cunningham

Stars of the Week
7th October 2024

Rec :	**Nicole & Tom**
Yr1:	**Alexander & Bianca**
Yr2:	**Mikolaj & Eleanor**
Yr3:	**Rafaella & Katia**
Yr4:	**Emma & Laura**
Yr5:	**Nathan & Bella**
Yr6:	**Victoria & Francis**



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 '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	233
St Andrew	200
St George	297
St David	236
St John	257
Overall Winner	St George'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	3	100	2
1st	6	100	0
2nd	1	97.6	3
3rd	Rec	96.6	1
4th	5	94.4	0
5th	4	93.8	2
6th	2	92.4	2
7th	Nur	92	1

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!

Yr5&6 Girls football festival

On Monday 7th October, we took part in a girls football festival that was comprised of 4 different events. This competition was aimed at children who enjoy football but haven't had as much opportunity to play. Our girls have been making tremendous progress in P.E. as well as in their lunch time football slots, so we were very keen to get going.

We competed against 7 other schools in a netball game, a capture the flag game, then 3 vs 3 football matches and 5 vs 5 football matches. Our first contest was a netball game where we had to throw the ball into the goal. It couldn't got off to a better start with us scoring 3 in the first 2 minutes! We managed 2 wins and a draw in our netball games scoring over 10 goals in 3 games. Spirits were high!

Unfortunately our next round was 3 vs 3 matches where we came across a school who had 3 girls that played for Brentford. We battled well in these games scoring a few goals, making some great tackles and in one of the games we beat the Brentford players!

Some amazing effort and teamwork in the capture the flag matches and the 5 vs 5 as our team was winning tackles, scoring goals and proving to be a nightmare for other schools to get through.

Overall it was a very good afternoon and hopefully the girls will keep progressing and play in more competitions in the next few years. Well done to everyone, and thank you to Julia and Reina's mums for walking us there and supporting throughout the games.
Mr. Bovington



Poetry by heart

During assembly this week we 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.

School council

This week in our school council meeting we allocated specific roles to our school councillors. Congratulations to:

Alys, Joseph & Franky who will share the **Chair/Vice Chair role**—they will run the meetings and be in charge of the agenda.

Arabella & Naana who will be our **Public Liaison Officers** - they will be keeping everyone, including parents informed of what the School Council are doing.

Bella, Joseph & Libby who will be sharing the role of **Secretary.** They will be taking the minutes in our meetings.

James, JC & Alexa who will be our **Treasurers** and will be responsible for counting money and keeping us all updated with how much money we have to spend

Sophie & Amelia who will be our **Alerting Team** and will let everyone know when the meetings are happening.

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

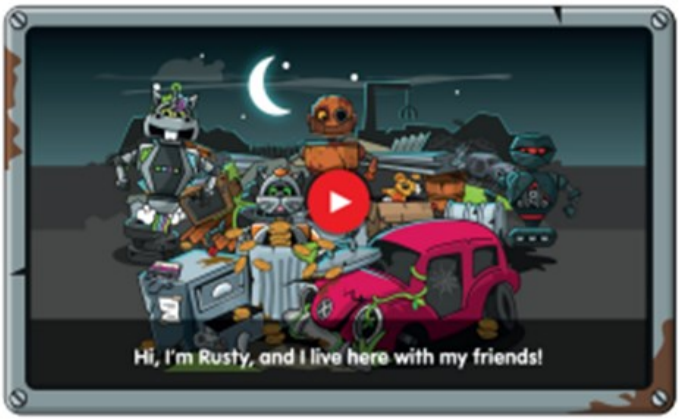
12:15-1:00

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.

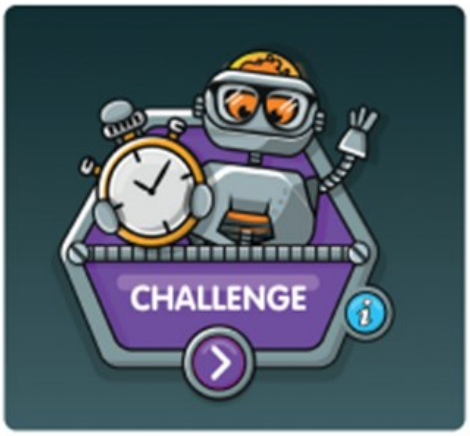
To earn the 2 or 3 stars required to pass the level, children must demonstrate a level of fluency when answering the questions. This means they must be accurate and timely with their answers; if children get 0 or 1 stars they need to answer more quickly. The game ensures that learners don't move on to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

