

St. John the Evangelist Church School

NEWSLETTER



Term 2.2 Thursday 12th November 2020

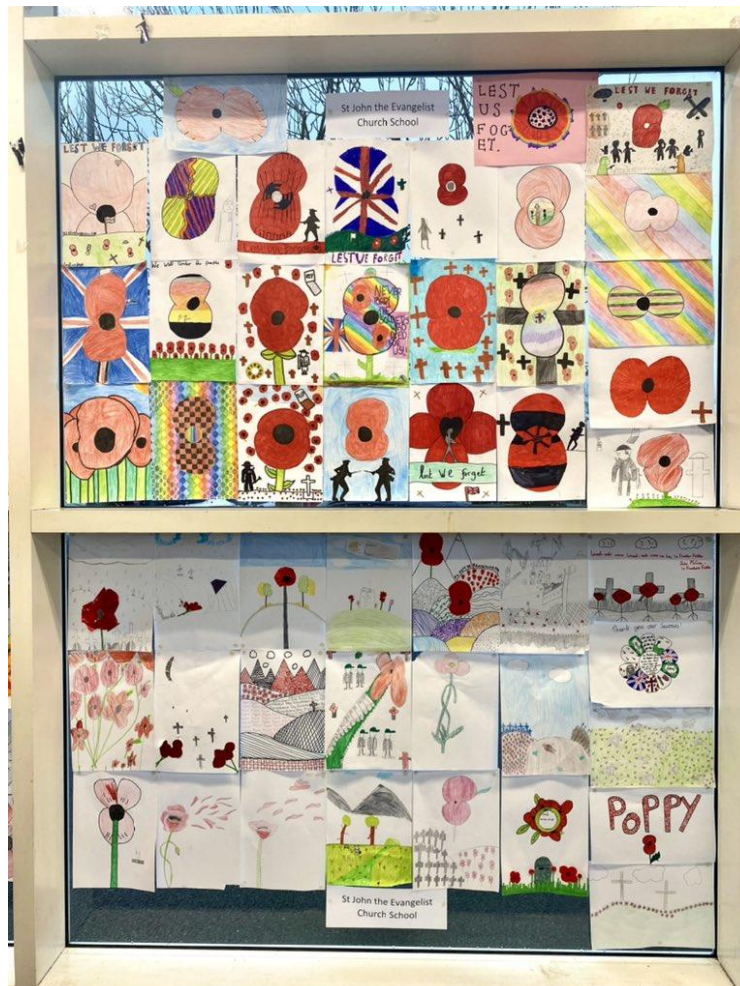


Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this week's newsletter finds you safe and well. It has been another busy week and there has been some super work done by children across the school.

It was a privilege to lead yesterday's Remembrance Service, which was different this year with everyone linking up remotely, as we now do at least twice a week for worship. The children are well used to this and responded really well.

All classes have been involved in producing poppy pictures, which were given to Tesco's in Clevedon to contribute to a display in the entrance of the store – you may have seen it.



Children have also been busy designing Christmas cards; some will be selected to be sent to the BWMAT for them to use as their Christmas Card design this year. Children have also started learning songs for what we hope will be a whole school virtual carol service – more information on that to follow.

Thank you also to everyone who has participated in our virtual Parent Consultations. Again, a very different approach to our usual routine. However, it seems to have gone well so far. If you have not made an appointment to speak with your child's class teacher, or were unable to attend this week, please contact the school office to make arrangements for an alternative appointment if you would like one. We look forward to our second evening of consultations tonight.

COVID updates

We are now through the first week of the new lockdown and I hope it is treating you kindly. It seems that COVID has begun to affect more residents in the town and surrounding area, which was to be expected. So far in school, we have been fortunate, although some staff have needed to self isolate this week due to members of their households being unwell. This has meant the rest of the staff, and the children, have had to pull together to support each other as we work with lower numbers of staff to provide cover.

Thank you for your patience as I appreciate this has affected Parent Consultations this week and does change the dynamic of classrooms and some children's enjoyment of their school day. This seems to be a common theme across many schools at the moment but we hope things will continue to be manageable and will start to improve. In the meantime, we will continue to work within our risk assessment and keep a robust approach to cleanliness and social distancing.

The part you play in this is vital, and your efforts at drop off and pick up times have been greatly appreciated by us all. This will need to continue in the coming weeks and I will keep you up to date with any changes or further initiatives as and when they arise. The temporary road restrictions in Fosseyway continues to support social distancing at the start and end of the school day. As the weather becomes more reflective of the season I would ask that we all maintain our efforts to park away from the school and walk. Please do not be tempted to drop children outside of the school or park within the cordoned off areas.

An updated version of what parents and carers need to know is available to reflect the new national restrictions. The link is below:

[Most recent Government COVID guidance for Parents and Carers](#)

WOW – Living Streets Walk to School Initiative

On Monday next week we launch our WOW Living Street initiative which encourages all children to walk to school, or to walk as much of their journey as they can. Children who manage to walk everyday for a month will receive a series of collectable badges, and staff will be keeping a record of the children's success on a special interactive tracker in class.

I have published a letter below which gives you full details and more information about the work of Living Streets and the walk to school initiative. Your support of the school is always amazing and I am sure you will all get behind this and encourage your children to take part.

Flu Vaccination

A reminder to those who completed the form and returned it by 04.11.20 – Flu jabs take place next week in school on 18.11.20 and will be administered under strict COVID conditions.

Children in Need

[@STJEClevedon](#)



As you may have seen from our Twitter page the children have been engaged in a range of physical activities to mark Children in Need this week. We have even been retweeted by the Body Coach, Joe Wicks, himself. Tomorrow is the big day, and we are encouraging children to come to school in PE kit/sports kit customized with spots. Please note that this does not need to be school PE kit tomorrow. I appreciate that for many, times are tough now. If you could spare a donation of £1 to support this great cause, then please do so using the option on Parent pay. (We ask that cash and coins are NOT brought into school at this time.) Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Hallow

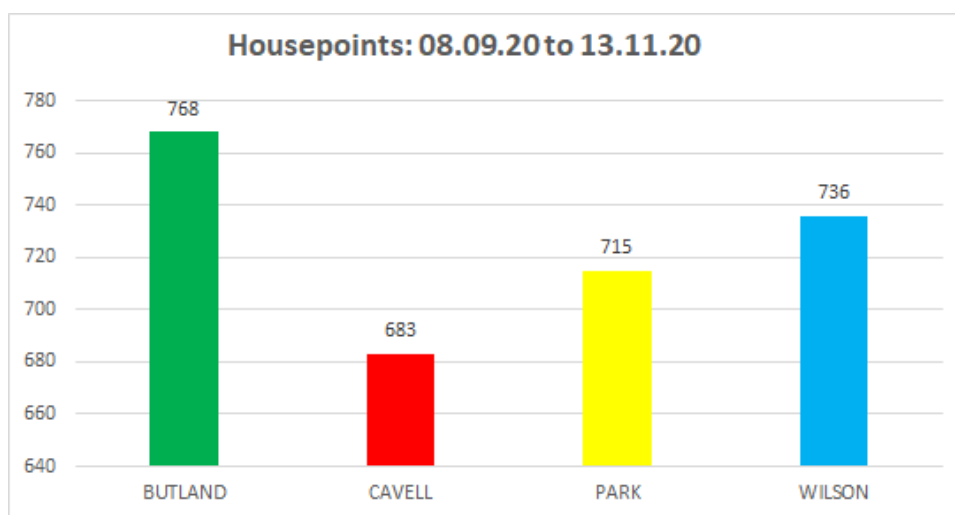
It is with great sadness that I had to write to the parents/carers of Eagles 1 this week to let them know that Mrs Hallow (Eagles 1 teacher) will be leaving us at the end of this current term. She has decided to start a new adventure and will be joining the Civil Service from January 2021. She will be very much missed by everyone here at St John's. We are currently in the process of recruiting for her replacement. I would ask for your thoughts and prayers, both for Mrs Hallow as she starts her new journey, and for the school as we seek a successful appointment.

Attendance

Our weekly school attendance continues to be above the national expectation, even in these tricky times. Last week was a very pleasing 97.8%. Well done everyone, and thank you!

House Points

We are now able to begin reporting housepoints again and I have included the up to date graph below.



School Calendar

The school calendar has been updated. Please see the school website for further details.

www.stjohnevangelistbwmat.org/about-us/calendar/

With every best wish

Ian Doswell

Headteacher

E-Safety



[Link to Parent Zone for weekly updates >](#)

Please be reminded that general safeguarding information can be found on our school website under the policies section. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for our school is Mrs Nicola Short, or Mr Doswell in her absence. If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of any child in our community please do not hesitate to contact them.

NEW WOW SCHOOL



Dear parent/carer

Your child's school has chosen to be part of an exciting nationwide challenge to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. **WOW – the year-round walk to school challenge** is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school.

WOW is a pupil-led initiative where children self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel sustainably (walk, cycle or scoot) once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that easy!

What are the benefits of walking to school? Walking to school helps children feel happier and healthier and they arrive refreshed, fit and ready to learn. More families walking means fewer cars on the road during the school run, helping to reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates.

What if you can't walk to school? If you live too far away or don't have time to walk the whole way to school, you can Park and Stride to help your child earn their WOW badge. Park or hop off public transport **at least ten minutes away** from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Is walking to school safe at this time? Walking to school remains an effective way to reduce congestion and improve road safety at the school gates, while increasing physical activity and benefitting pupil wellbeing. The government is actively working with schools and local authorities to encourage families to walk to school whenever they can during this time. However, it is important that measures in place to protect everyone's health are always observed. Living Streets understands that schools face unique challenges at present, which create uncertainty for staff, pupils and families. We are committed to helping schools adapt to changing circumstances, ensuring that everyone involved in our walk to school initiative stays safe.

Did you know? The WOW badges are made using excess yoghurt-pot material previously destined for landfill and are produced in the UK, minimising our carbon footprint. The packaging we use is 100% biodegradable. Living Streets is proud to have found a brilliant use for landfill material.

Thousands of schools and around one million pupils are enjoying the benefits of walking to school across the UK. Will you join us?

If you have any questions about the programme, please contact,
or for more information visit livingstreets.org.uk/WOW

Let's swap those school runs for school walks.

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