



*Believing in the worth of every individual, we are a nurturing, Christian sanctuary of learning, where all can flourish. We aspire for everyone to achieve heights of success, to deepen courage and to experience breadth of creativity, knowing the joy of God's love.*

## LIVING OUR VISION

Summer 1 2023

Dear Parents,

We are really happy to share the news that Mr Martin is our new Deputy Headteacher. He has already started his new role from 1st May. Having been an assistant headteacher at John Keble since 2018, he is already familiar to our families and children. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating him and wishing him well with his new position.

It has been a busy half term at school. Our Junior Leaders organised a climate action week to raise awareness of the issue of climate change. As well as leading an assembly, the leaders arranged for vegan and vegetarian food to be served at lunchtime and in after school clubs for the week, and to have 'tech and lights off hours' to reduce our carbon footprint. Teachers also taught a bespoke lesson about climate change and children in each year group took part in litter awareness and upcycling activities.

In assemblies this half term, we have thought about the season of Easter, and Jesus's appearances to his disciples. We celebrated Pentecost in both assembly and Mass this week. Father Adam will run First Holy Communion classes in the upcoming autumn term. Letters to sign up for this will be sent out to the current Years 3-5 shortly.

We are finalising our places for reception and nursery for the 2023/2024 academic year. If you know anyone who has a child who is due to attend reception in September, (born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019), please encourage them to come on a tour and to apply to John Keble School.

John Keble Nursery will offer **full time** nursery places in September. This means that we are able to offer wrap-around care for nursery age children. Additional hours beyond the 15 statutory hours will be charged at £9 an hour (unless you have a government 30 hour code). A full time place will cost £135 a week. There will be additional costs for breakfast club, lunches and after school hours.

We are also in the process of arranging our music provision for the upcoming new academic year. If you have a child in Year 3 or above, we can provide the opportunity for them to learn the keyboard in a small group and from year 4 upwards also offer small group guitar tuition. Our very popular choir will also continue in September, but in a slightly tweaked format. Mrs Goddard will lead a senior and a junior choir to ensure that we can continue to include as many children as possible. Children will also have the chance to join Brent Music Services' Ensemble and sing with other local schools.

Finally, we are very sad to be saying goodbye to our much-loved site manager, Mr Kenny, as he moves back to Scotland today to be near his family. Many of you I am sure will want to wish him well as he takes up a new role as a site manager for a school in Aberdeen. We shall certainly miss him.

I wish you all a happy half term, enjoying the sunshine.

Catherine Allard



## In Nursery



Exploring the outdoor classroom – We looked for signs of spring in the outdoor classroom, comparing the environment to how it looked when we went in autumn. This was during Climate Awareness Week so we also used the experience to talk about how we can care for the natural world and the small steps we can take every day to make a difference.

Balloon painting – We engaged our creative minds to blow up balloons and create some balloon process art. We learnt about colour mixing and experimented with different techniques like bouncing the balloon on the paper to generate images and patterns.



Bill the Snake – We have been learning about how to care for animals. Ms Wright bought her snake in and the class discovered that he is 11 and eats mice. The children were fascinated by his weight and the texture of his skin. It was a great opportunity for talk



## In Reception

We have been learning about people who help us and have written about many different professions. For Climate Action Week, we conducted a science experiment to look at the effect of melting ice caps. We also learnt about how we can help to care for the world by reusing materials to make new things. In maths, we have been doubling and halving, and applying our knowledge to solve problems.



## In Year 1



We have been learning about the Gruffalo in our writing lessons after he broke into our classrooms and created a huge mess! He ripped up The Gruffalo book so we had to rewrite the story. However, in our innovative versions we use our imaginations to change the main characters.

In science we have been learning about materials and their properties. One of our activities was to build a boat and test whether it would float on water. We are now able to identify that not all materials are waterproof! To help us with our understanding, we visited the science museum. In maths, we have learnt how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s; how to draw arrays; make equal groups, determine doubles and halves; and how to share numbers into equal groups.





## In Year 2



This half term we have been getting creative. In Art and Design, we created a printing block which we used to transfer images onto t-shirts. In DT we then experimented with different stitches to adorn our t-shirts with buttons and ribbons.



In writing, we have been writing persuasive letters to explain why the school would benefit from a pet dragon and whether or not children in Year 2 should have to sit exams. We used our experiences of sitting the recent KS1 SATs to inform this writing. All of the adults at the school want to let the children of Year 2 know how incredibly proud of them we are for all of their hard work. They tried their best with their examination papers and have performed incredibly well.

## In Year 3

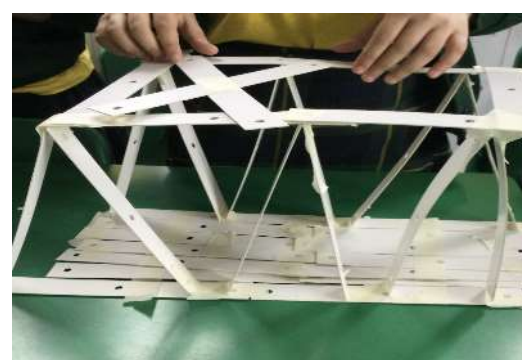
We enjoyed a fantastic Money Day where we used money in maths in the morning and then made money bags in the afternoon as the culmination of our textiles project. The following day, we used our money bags to "buy" items on our tables and ensure we got the correct change.



We have also enjoyed learning about the Persians and the Greeks, particularly the Greek gods and goddesses. In reading and writing, we have been looking at the science fiction text *Welcome to Alien Inn* and have produced some excellent writing on this. Science has been great fun, learning about animal adaptations in hot climates, cold climates and marine environments!

## In Year 4

We have built on our prior design and technology learning to employ different techniques to make different kinds of bridges. In mathematics, we have continued to develop our understanding of fractions, learning to find fractions of amounts as well as better understand equivalent and improper fractions. In science we have learnt about ecosystems, focussing on food chains and food webs.





## In Year 5

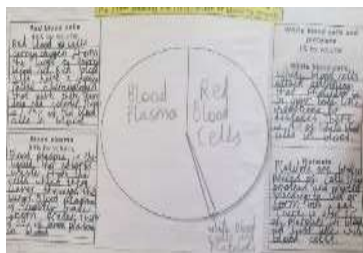


This half-term we have researched, designed and cooked a dish to share using seasonal ingredients.

In science, we have explored the solar system and learned to represent the size of the planets and their distance from the sun to scale. We also used a model to help understand how we see different phases of the moon as it orbits around earth.

In art, we used watercolours to create artworks inspired by two different artists, Van Gogh and Edvard Munch. We explored how colours, tones and tints can enhance the mood of our pieces.

## In Year 6



Over the last term, Year 6 have been working exceptionally hard in order to be ready for the Key Stage Two SATs. They all lived out our school values and vision by showing their worth and all will reach heights of their own success. Throughout the week, they worked hard, remained calm and focused and we couldn't be more proud of them. Aside from the SATs, the children have been exploring the circulatory system in science and why it is fundamental to living. In R.E, the children have looked at how the message of Christ has spread over time and how the Fruits of the Spirit can help guide Christians in their daily life.



School starts again on Monday 5th June 2023 at 8.30am

We have a school Twitter account. The handle is [@JohnKebleBrent](https://twitter.com/JohnKebleBrent) We tweet at least once a week. Follow us to keep up to date with everything that is happening at school. Our website is updated regularly too. [www.johnkeble.com](http://www.johnkeble.com)



## Term Dates 2022-2023

Summer Term 2023 ( 62 days + 2 INSET)	
Half term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2nd June 2023
Term ends	Wednesday 19th July 2023 at 1.30pm
Inset Day	Thursday 20th July and Friday 21st July 2023

**Please do not request leave in term time. It will not be granted. Please ensure that your child/ren are back in London ready to start school on Monday 5th June 2023. Action, including fines, will be taken by Brent Council against families whose children are not back in school. There is a clear correlation between children’s attendance at school and their academic performance.**

### Children with the best attendance have the best results.

**It is well researched that a pupil’s attainment is linked to attendance. ‘If a school can improve attendance by 1%, they will see a 5-6% improvement in attainment’ (Department for Education)**

We have published our term dates for 2023-2024 below to help you ensure that all travel is booked outside term times.

## Term Dates 2023-2024

Autumn Term 2023 (72 days + 2 INSET)	
Inset Day	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 and Tuesday 5th September 2023
Term starts	Wednesday 6th September 2023
Half term	Monday 23rd October – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Term ends	Thursday 21st December 2023 at 1.30pm
Spring Term 2024 ( 53 days + 1 INSET)	
Inset Day	Monday 8th January 2024
Term starts	Tuesday 9th January 2024
Half term	Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2024
Term ends	Thursday 28th March 2024 at 1.30pm
Summer Term 2024 ( 65 days + 2 INSET)	
Term starts	Monday 15th April 2024
Bank holiday	Monday 6th May 2024
Half term	Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2024
Term ends	Monday 22nd July 2024 at 1.30pm
Inset Day	Tuesday 23rd July and Wednesday 24th July 2024