



St Ippolyts CE (Aided) Primary School

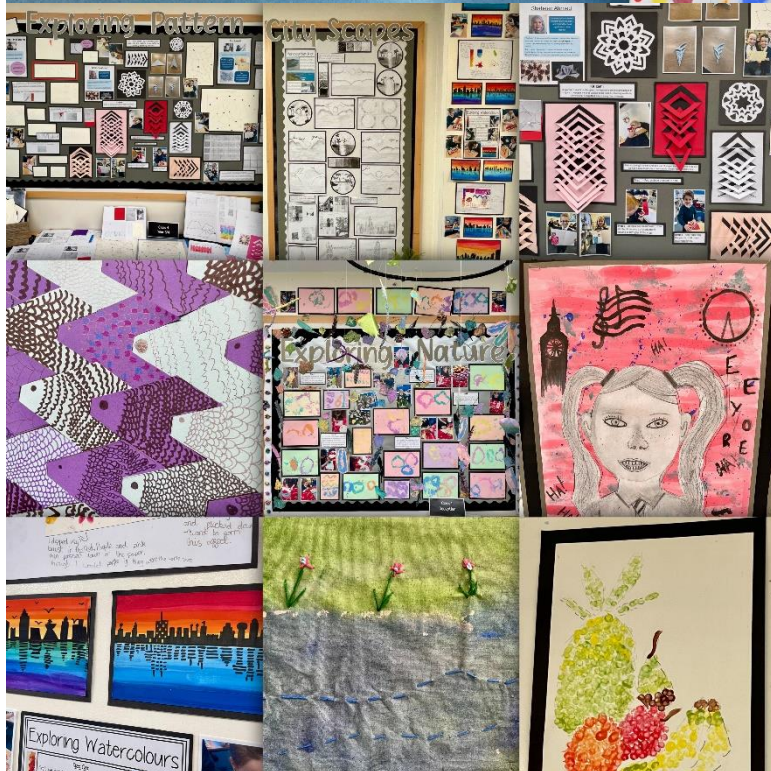
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NEWSLETTER



Issue 18: Thursday 25th January 2024

All the children's work from last week's Arts Days is now displayed in the main entrance - it looks amazing! Remember to pop along during Open Session to see for yourself!





Good Luck Choir!

On Monday, our school choir will be travelling to London to take part in the Young Voices concert at The O2 Arena. They will be part of a massed choir of over 5000 children and have been working hard since the autumn to learn all the music and songs. I know it will be an incredible experience for them all and I am sure all the families going along to watch will also make some very special memories.

An enormous thank you goes to Mrs Stewart for leading the choir and providing this wonderful opportunity, and also to Mrs Thain and Mr Jefferies for accompanying the children on Monday. Good luck, choir; you'll be amazing as always!

Open Session ~ Monday 5th February 3.30–5.30pm

We do hope you can come along to the next Open Session and that you will enjoy seeing your child's classroom, their books and teacher. A reminder that these are informal 'drop ins' and you do not need a set appointment.

Classes 3, 5, and 6: Use the Class 5/6 doors

Classes 1, 2 and 4: Use the main entrance

Please be aware that buggies and prams cannot be brought into the building.

Class 4 Assembly Friday 9th February 9.15am in church

Class 4 parents are warmly invited to come and watch the Class 4 assembly on Friday 3rd February. The assembly will start at 9.15am in St Ippolyts Church. If you have babies or pre-schoolers, they are very welcome to attend, all we ask is that you take them out if they are unsettled or making noise. **Please also note that we do not permit photographs or videos at class assemblies.**

**Class 5 Assembly TOMORROW 9.15am in church for
Class 5 parents to attend 😊**

Important: emails

If you have any messages regarding your child's illness, absence, or pick-up arrangements, please make sure that you send these through to the office on admin@stipps.herts.sch.uk because this email is monitored throughout the day and will be seen. By all means, copy the class teacher in as well, but the teachers do not check emails during the day as they are busy teaching, and if your message is important, it may not be seen until the end of the day.

Class teachers will always endeavour to get back to you in a timely manner, but their priority is teaching and being with the children, so it won't be an instant reply. If your query needs more immediate attention, it is always best to go through the office email.

Here is a reminder of the email addresses you need: **(Please do not use the gmail addresses as these are only used for Google Classroom)**

Office: admin@stipps.herts.sch.uk



Class 1: class1@stipps.herts.sch.uk

Class 2: class2@stipps.herts.sch.uk

Class 3: class3@stipps.herts.sch.uk

Class 4: class4@stipps.herts.sch.uk

Class 5: class5@stipps.herts.sch.uk

Class 6: class6@stipps.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Stewart: senco@stipps.herts.sch.uk

Mr Jefferies: sport@stipps.herts.sch.uk



WORLD BOOK DAY

Advance notice for costume planning purposes!

World Book Day is one of the highlights of the school year at St Ippolyts and this year takes place on **Thursday 7th March**.

Everyone in school dresses up as a story character and the children take part in a fancy dress parade in the morning with prizes for the most inventive or original costumes. We spend the whole day on book-related activities, and it is always lots of fun.

Class 4 Cake Day next week

Friday 2nd February

Cakes on sale at breaktime 25p each (leftovers will be sold at the main doors after school). Thank you to Class 4 for supplying the treats!



YEAR 6 PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Wednesday 14th February 2024 9.15am – 5.00pm

Bookings will shortly open on Arbor for Year 6 parent and child meetings with Miss Walker. They are taking place across the whole day and there will be a mix of face to face or online meetings. The idea is that parents and children attend together, so if you select an online meeting, we will bring your child out of class to join remotely alongside Miss Walker.

Please be aware that Miss Walker will only be offering meetings on this day and alternative dates will not be available. Many thanks.

Goodbye Mrs Niven!

Yesterday we said a fond farewell to Mrs Niven as she leaves us to move house with her family to Cambridgeshire. We are SO grateful for all Mrs Niven has done for our school over the last year, covering Miss Ingle's maternity leave so brilliantly.

A reminder that up until half term, Mrs Niven's usual days (Mon, Tues, Weds) will be covered by Mrs Keech, one of our stand-in teachers who knows our school very well. After half term, Miss Ingle will be returning, and the job share days will be as follows:

Miss Ingle: Mon/Thurs/Fri

Mrs Hoar: Tues/Weds

Good luck for the house move, Mrs Niven ~ we will miss you very much!

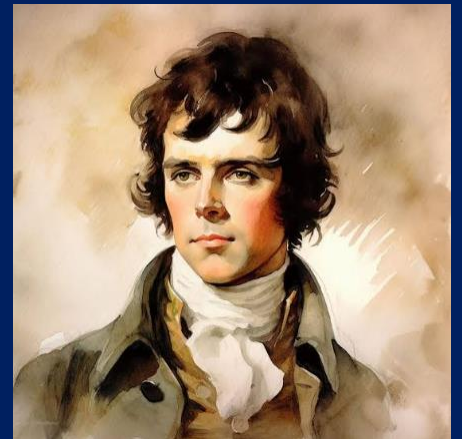


This week's article from our talented Pupil Journalists Amelie and Barney

Art week was fantastic with every class creating their own individual art pieces. If you find yourself in school you may have a look as they are displayed in the corridor outside the office.

Burns Night

This week celebrates the Scottish event of Burns night. It is in recognition of the Scottish poet Robert Burns. He lived from 1759 to 1796 and was famous for his poems and songs. One of those being 'Auld Lang Syne' that we sing to bring in the new year. It's a poem that celebrates friends and happy things that happened throughout the year. People sing it all over the world! Today, people celebrate Burns Night by reading his poems, singing Scottish songs and sharing whisky. This tradition happens on the 25th of January every year since 1801.



Reminders:

- Class four cake day on the 2nd of February
- Storm Isha and storm Jocelyn have passed but still beware of strong winds and fallen trees.

Quote of the week

'The best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft a-gley'

—Robert Burns

Which means that no matter how much you plan or prepare in life, things can still go wrong!

SPORTS



By our Sports
Reporter, Libby in
Year 5

Year 5 and 6 Football Matches

Two days ago, a selection of year 5 and 6 children went to William Ransom to play some football matches. Instead of there being one big match, it was separated into a girls match and a boys match.

The girls' match result was 3/2 to us and our goals were scored by Alba in year 5 (2 goals) and Megan in year 6 (1 goal). The captain of the girls' team was Felicity in year 6. We spoke to her and this is what she said: "I am very proud of my team, especially because we were the first team to come back to school knowing that we won."

The boys match result was 1/1 - a draw -. Our goal was scored by Rufus in year 6 who was also the captain of the boys team. This is what he said to us: "We played brilliantly and we drew which we are happy with!"

Well done boys and girls! The whole school is deeply proud of you! Brilliant work!

Year 3 and 4 Football Tournament

Last Tuesday, some children from year 3 and 4 went to Baldock Arena to take part in a football tournament. Our captain of the team was Dexter in year 4 and this is what he said: "We did well even though we did not get any trophies. We all put a lot of effort in."

We got to the semi finals and we all had so much fun! Well done! Great effort!

Year 2 Sport Festival

Last week, some year 2s went to Barnwell School to take part in a sports festival. There were many fun activities such as chest push, balancing race and Running events. All children were awarded certificates and they had a lovely time!



Year 5 and 6 Trampolining

Last week, some of the year 5 and 6 pupils were selected to take part in a trampolining competition in Birmingham. Many other schools took part and St Ipps came 2nd place which was great and came home with silver medals. We also managed to get through to the next round which was even better.

The Captain was Megan in year 6 and this is what she had to say: "We did really well to come 2nd and get through to the next round and I am really proud of all of us!"

Well done all of you! Great achievement!

PLAY NETBALL



WELCOMING YEAR 3 IN SUMMER 2024

Introduce your child to the world of netball,
make new friends and have lots of fun!

● Training will be on Tuesdays 5-6pm (term time) at The Priory School, Hitchin



BOOK ONTO OUR FREE TASTER SESSION 16TH APRIL

Visit: www.hitchinnetballclub.co.uk/registration

Email: contact@hitchinnetballclub.co.uk



Big Garden Birdwatch

Taking part is as easy as 1, 2, 3






- Count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park for one hour between 26 and 28 January 2024.**
 Use the tally boxes on the next page to count and record the birds you spot. Transfer your count to the results form. This chart shows some birds you might see. You may see others, if so record those on the results form too. Where we don't show male and female birds, the sexes look similar, but are not always identical.
- Following these simple rules makes it easy to count the birds you see.**
 Only include birds that land, not those flying over. Count the highest number of each species you see at any one time, otherwise you could count the same bird twice. For example, if you saw a group of eight Starlings but then towards the end of your hour you saw six together, record '8' as your final Starling count.
- Go online and tell us what you saw at www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch**
 Submitting online is quick and easy and it means we can spend more on saving nature as it reduces our costs. Whatever you saw – even if nothing at all – please tell us. The more results we have, the better the picture we will be of how garden birds are faring.
 If you are unable to submit your results online, please complete and send us the print-from-home form.

What is Big Garden Birdwatch?

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.



Most spotted in 2023

1	 House Sparrow 1,401,338	↑
2	 Blue Tit 904,637	↑
3	 Starling 904,079	↑
4	 Woodpigeon 750,251	↑
5	 Blackbird 716,734	↓

Every Birdwatch counts

Across the UK, over half a million people took part in Big Garden Birdwatch 2023, counting a whopping 9.1 million birds! House Sparrows took the top spot, but counts of these chirpy birds are down by 57% compared to the first Birdwatch in 1979. In fact, we've lost 38 million birds from UK skies in the last 60 years. With birds facing so many challenges, it's more important than ever to get involved in the Birdwatch. Every bird you do – or don't – count will give us a valuable insight into how garden birds are faring.



Choose an hour between
26 and 28 January



Only record the birds that
land in your patch



Record the highest number
of each bird species you
see at any one time