



NEWSLETTER



Issue 4: Thursday 26th September 2024

PSQM

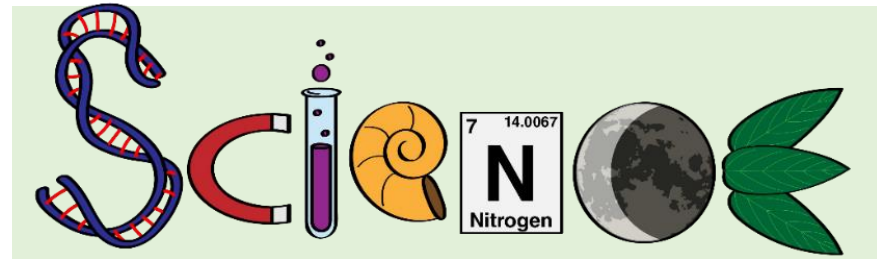
Primary Science Quality Mark

PSQM Gilt

Valid 2024 – 2027

Congratulations!

I am delighted to announce that we have been awarded **The Primary Science Quality Mark, Gilt level**. This is a fantastic achievement and recognises the high standard of science teaching and learning at St Ippolyts across all year groups. Miss Walker has been busy gathering evidence over the last year, working alongside teachers and support staff to ensure that our science teaching is always of excellent quality. Well done to all the children and staff!



Primary Science Quality Marks have been awarded to over 300 nursery, infant, junior, primary, middle, international and special schools this month to celebrate their commitment to excellence in science leadership, teaching and learning. So far, since its national launch in 2010, more than 5000 Primary Science Quality Marks (PSQM) have been awarded, creating a solid foundation of quality science education for over 1,000,000 children.

PSQM is a comprehensive evidence-based professional development programme that effectively develops science leadership, ensuring teachers have the knowledge, capability and support they need to transform science education and shape future generations.

The Primary Science Quality Mark is led by the University of Hertfordshire.

Helen Sizer, PSQM Co-Director said: *'By enabling effective science leadership, PSQM is powering the potential of all children to see the relevance and importance of science in their lives, now and in the future.'*

Schools that have achieved a Primary Science Quality Mark have demonstrated a significant commitment to science leadership, teaching and learning and the profile and quality of science in each accredited school is very high. Science subject leaders, their colleagues, headteachers, children, parents and governors should be very proud."

Final Questions – comment	It is great to read from your final reflective questions the impact you and your colleagues have had on continually improving science for your pupils. It is clear that the children at St Ippolyts CE Primary School have an excellent science provision, and this is enhanced by additional opportunities. It is great to know that the CPD opportunities have increased teachers' confidence when planning science lessons and the amount of engaging practical tasks which children are exposed to.
Additional Points	This is an exceptional submission where the impact was really clear.

Overall comment	<p>Congratulations to everyone at St Ippolyts CE Primary School. This submission is a real credit to the Subject Leader, Lucy and also to the wider school community, staff, pupils, and their parents. It is clear the school have worked hard on this submission and should be praised for the quality and difference they have made to science across the school. Their hard work and determination have enabled the school to make a difference to their pupils' enjoyment and learning in science.</p> <p>The Subject Leaders have clearly worked hard to continue the development of science across the school. The opportunities which children have engaged in have supported children's enjoyment in science. They have clearly articulated the deliberate actions they have made to improve science across the school and are able to demonstrate the impact this has had on the school and the teachers. They have also supported teachers and have increased their confidence in teaching and assessing science well. Teachers have benefited from the CPD sessions, network groups and timely feedback. The school are also continuing to develop children's science capital, and this remains a priority moving forward in their post PSQM plan. A huge well done to the Science Leader, Lucy, who has supported her staff through the process once again and her commitment to continually improving science should be commended.</p> <p>This has been an excellent submission to review- thank you.</p>
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Reviewer's signature

St Albans
Bishop's
Harvest
Appeal
2024



Sri Lanka is known for its beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife, and historical sites.

But right now, the country is facing the worst economic crisis in its history. Families are struggling with soaring prices. Food, fuel, and other essentials are in short supply. Three in ten households do not have enough food.

And life is even harder for families affected by leprosy.



Most needed donations

- Cereals
- Porridge oats sachets
- Crackers
- Microwavable pasta meals
- Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce
- Lentils, beans and pulses
- Tinned meat – for example curry, hot dog sausages, stew, Fray Bentos pies etc
- Tinned soup
- Baked beans
- Tea/coffee
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits
- UHT milk
- Long life fruit juice or squash
- Toiletries, sanitary products, nappies, toilet roll

Harvest FESTIVAL



On **Friday 4th October**, children and staff will be going to church for this year's Harvest Festival.

On this day we ask that children bring a contribution from the list to help support local families through the foodbank and Feed Up Warm Up. Your donations will be very gratefully received, especially with the current cost of living crisis and the winter months approaching which could be difficult for many.

We are also supporting **The Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal**, 'Thrive: Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture in Sri Lanka'. We have sent a leaflet home about the appeal, and we will be collecting monetary donations towards this at our harvest festival. You could send a food donation, a monetary donation in an envelope, or a combination of both if you feel able to.

The list is not exhaustive but gives you some ideas of what to donate. *Please make sure any donations are unopened and in date.*

Thank you so much in advance for your generosity.



Young Worship & choir visit to St Albans Cathedral

The children in Young Worship and choir have been invited to take part in the Diocesan Schools Harvest Celebration at St Albans Cathedral on **Tuesday 8th October**. Parents should have received a letter via email with all the necessary information.

PTA AGM - all welcome!

Wednesday 2nd October, 7 - 8pm in the hall

Please join us for the first PTA meeting of the year, all are welcome! (you can park on the playground).

We will be sharing fundraising ideas and making plans for the year ahead; we would love to have some new faces. It's a great way to get to know other parents whilst supporting the school too. Hope to see you there!



Open Session

Monday 7th October 3.30-5.30pm

For those parents and families new to the school, Open Session is when you are invited to come with your child to visit their classroom after school, meet the teacher, see your child's books and ask any questions you may have. It is an informal afternoon; you do not need an appointment and can 'drop-in' any time during the session and stay as long as you want. *It isn't a one-to-one discussion with the teacher about your child's progress* – these take place in Parent Consultation appointments later in the term.

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

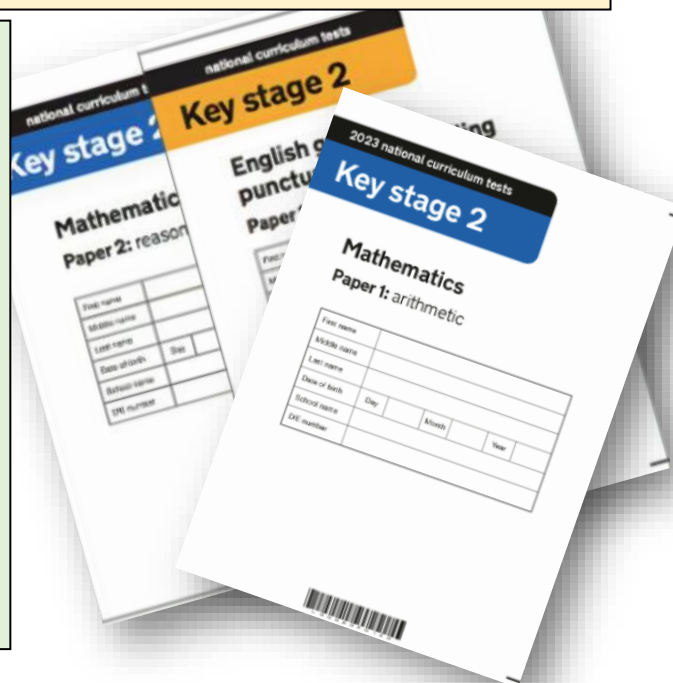
Classes 1, 2 and 4: Use the main entrance

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

We do hope you can come along and that you will enjoy seeing your child's new classroom, their books and teacher. You are welcome to bring grandparents/family members too, and please feel free to look around different parts of the school at displays etc.

Y6 Parents: SATs Evening

On **Wednesday 9th October at 6pm**, Miss Walker will be holding an information evening for Y6 parents and children about the 2025 Key Stage 2 assessments (SATs). You will be able to find out all about what the tests entail, look at past papers and find out how best you can support your child with their learning over the coming months. This session works best when Y6 children and parents attend together. You can park on the playground for this session, and it will last around an hour.





Class 6 Cake Day! Friday 18th October



Dear Class 6 parents,

The PTA are holding a cake sale on 18th October to raise funds for school. This time it is the turn of Class 6 to each supply small cakes or biscuits to sell on the day. Please make sure that any tins, plates or containers are clearly named.

We would be very grateful if you could **donate 15 cakes for cake day**, to ensure that we have enough to go around & the children are not left disappointed. These cakes /biscuits can be either homemade or bought. You may want to plan some kitchen time to make or decorate the cakes with your child! **PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL CAKES MUST BE NUT-FREE.** The cakes will be sold during the morning break to the whole of the school, any remaining cakes will be sold outside school at home time. Thank you! from The PTA



ST IPPOLYTS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

RECEPTION ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Applications open 1st November 2024

We are a vibrant, high achieving school where every child is celebrated as a unique individual. Located on the outskirts of Hitchin, in the beautiful village of St Ippolyts, we are proud of the warm, nurturing atmosphere in our school and the rich, stimulating primary curriculum that our pupils receive.

CONTACT US TO BOOK A TOUR

We look forward to meeting you!



TEL: 01462 432080

www.stipps.herts.sch.uk

admin@stipps.herts.sch.uk

This week's article by our pupil journalist Amy

You may have noticed that there are not as many insects this summer, but why?

Bugs like butterflies and beetles are in great danger of disappearing from Earth, and they are very important for our world. They help plants grow by carrying pollen from one flower to another, some even help break down old leaves and plants, making soil healthier. But many bugs are starting to disappear due to cities being placed directly on their habitats, cutting down trees and using harmful chemicals such as pesticides. If bugs disappear, it will make it harder for plants to grow and many of the animals that eat bugs may struggle. We can help bugs and insects by planting more flowers and trees, using less chemicals and leaving their habitats and homes to them!

Staying active

Try to stay active this Winter by giving these seasonal activities a good go!

Listening walk: Take a walk around the playground, or at home and listen out for the leaves crunching beneath your feet, birds talking to each other, or even little waters singing sweetly.

Scavenger hunt: Make a list of all the wonderful things you may have in your garden or nearby: roses, a small stick, a big stick, a bright green leaf, a little robin, a pebble.

Now, go out and find everything on that list of yours, bonus points if you get all of them! Have fun trying these nice and healthy activities!

Quote of the week:

'Forgiveness is giving up the hope that the past could've been any different' – Oprah Winfrey.