



Theme for next week : Remembrance

### Head's Message

Dear Parents,

At the end of the first half term, I said to the teachers, "Congratulations! You have made it, you deserve a break so put your feet up, rest and be ready for the challenges of the second half term - it is going to be another long, hard slog!" Fortunately, and as expected, the government has been true to its word and schools remain open. It is essential that children attend school. It supports their wellbeing as well as their education, and it benefits our working parents. Schools are the best places for children to be, having introduced a range of protective measures to keep them as safe as possible.

On Monday, I had the privilege of selecting the annual Christmas card which will be sent out electronically this year. The standard was very high, so it was very difficult to choose a worthy winner. Whilst I was making this decision, I did think about how we are all going to manage Christmas this year, particularly if we are in lockdown. However, we have proven that we are resilient and we will manage. I am sure we will be able to find some inventive ways to celebrate family traditions, even if this is remotely, should we remain separated from our loved ones. I am happy to report that our EYFS and Year 1 Christmas plays will continue as usual, albeit behind closed doors and without an audience. Even though you will not be able to enjoy this in person, it is a reminder that we can find happiness even in the darkest times. It also demonstrates that there is a lot more to education than grades, as we take pride in the all-round achievement of our pupils. Most importantly, it is about hope and we will need that more than ever as we negotiate our way through a second lockdown and approach the Christmas holiday. Necessity may be the mother of invention but our teachers definitely have a few tricks up their collective sleeves!

As I write, I can hear the sports teacher and children engaging in their lesson with great enthusiasm and enjoyment. While the world outside is at pains to deal with the next step of this crisis, our pupils seem to be having a blast! Coming to school is essential and allows us all to enjoy a little normality for a short while.

Have a super weekend.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom



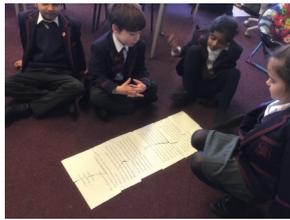
At this time of year, SASS would normally be busily preparing for their annual fireworks display. To commemorate the event, SASS instead have run a Fireworks Art Competition. Many congratulations to all pupils who took part. All entries will be displayed on the outside of the SASS shop and the winners will receive an Advent Calendar. Here is one of the winning designs by Aashvi in 4HS. A wonderful picture, very well done!





The children in Year 2 have been learning about The Great Fire of London and, this week, were given a letter which had been nearly destroyed by the

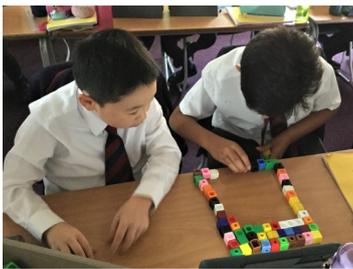
fire. They had to put all the fragments back together like a jigsaw to help Samuel Pepys alert the king as soon as possible to the extent of the natural disaster!



Congratulations to the following pupils whose teachers nominated them for the Star of the Week board in Middle School: Ashnika 3AG, Kirill 3JA, Max 3NL, Isabel 4HS, Tia 4CP, Maelee 4UM, Dhevi 5SY, Uditi 5AM, and Aryan 5MA.



Year 4 have been busy this week making arrays. This practical activity really helps to reinforce their understanding of factors and multiples.



Thank you for all of your National Poetry Day library competition entries. We had many excellent submissions which made judging very difficult indeed!

Congratulations to our winners: Aadam and Ivy in Nursery, Evaani RKO, Grace 1CM, Sofia 2TH, Saanvi 3NL, Emilia 4HS, Yusuf and Harrison 4CP, James 5AM and Zita 6HP! Extra congratulations to Emilia for completing the reading challenge this week too!

This week, to mark Guy Fawkes Night, Year 1 created some lovely pictures with chalk and oil pastels.



Congratulations to York as the overall winner of House Cricket. Trophies were awarded to Emerald 8SS, York House Captain in Seniors, Adam 6NS, York House Vice-Captain in Seniors and Isabelle 5AM, York House Captain in Middle School.

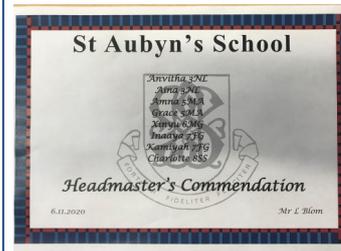
Senior pupils have been invited to take part in the British Youth Council's Make Your Mark campaign.



Make Your Mark is an opportunity for 11-18 year olds across the UK to have their say and begin their democratic journey by voting on the policies they want to introduce or change. The issues they vote as the most important will be debated by Members of Youth Parliament. More information for Senior pupils can be found on their Show My Homework.



This week, Year 4 pupils have continued to construct their photograph frames; strengthening the joints and designing the motif decoration.



Congratulations to these pupils who received a Headmaster's Commendation this week.



On Thursday, Year 4 took part in the House Football and Netball competitions. Congratulations to Grove and Hayton for being joint winners of the football, and to Grove for winning the netball. Well done to all who took part.