



St John's College



## Early Years & Infant School

### Newsletter Autumn 2011

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoy reading about the events carried out in our department since returning in September.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new families whose children have joined the Nursery and Infant department. Everyone has settled in to their new routines, and the children are making good progress. We were extremely lucky to have such good weather during the first half of the term. At times, it was hard to think that it was the Autumn term!

The children have already enjoyed a variety of events, and with Christmas ahead, it promises to be a very busy half term. We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J. Walton.

### Nursery News

The children in the nursery department have all settled back in to Nursery life this term. They are having lots of fun learning about farm animals, vegetables and farm life in their new topic *Down On The Farm*.



The children have also had fun exploring in Forest School and even Norman the Nursery Bear had a Teddy Bears' picnic in Forest School and the children brought their bears to meet Norman Bear.

We have had fun exploring different mediums in art, especially working with clay, making autumn leaves and an autumn tree. We are looking forward to our trip to the farm to buy our Christmas tree.

### Book Fayre



Our annual *Book Fayre* gave the children the opportunity to look at a wide selection of age appropriate books that were displayed in the Junior department. We are very grateful for the purchases you made.

### Harvest

A Harvest Assembly was held in the school hall on Thursday 13 October. Nursery and Infant children developed an understanding

of the work of the farmer, and the many crops grown. Many thanks for your donations.

### Enterprise Week

Enterprise week, held by R11, provided an ideal opportunity for Nursery and Key Stage 1 to liaise with Key Stage 2. It has now become a firm favourite in the school calendar. The children enjoyed attending the trade fair enormously.

### A Visit To The Woods

On Monday 19 September, R5 visited the woods at The Amelia Trust Farm. This was a topic-related trip that proved to be both enjoyable and successful. The children had first-hand experience of a wood, and were enthusiastic to discuss everything they observed. They produced some delightful paintings on our return.

### R6 Visit to The Museum of Welsh Life, St Fagans

In October, R6 visited the Museum of Welsh Life as part of our topic on Homes. We visited various homes including the Celtic Village and Llwyn-yr-eos farmstead. The children had the



opportunity to listen to and question the guides and found out a lot of information. They enjoyed seeing the variety of farm animals on the farm including pigs and piglets, ducks, chickens and turkeys. A good day was had by all!

### The School Council

Our department representatives for the School Council are Matthew Logan and Katie Wright from R7. They contributed to the meeting by suggesting that some colourful litter bins would be an improvement in our yard and encourage all children to dispose of their litter responsibly. The children are now very proud of their news bins!

### Puppet Plays

On Friday 25 November R7 invited the Nursery to come and watch some puppet plays. The plays were based on the story of 'The Frog Prince'. During the week R7 had worked in pairs to make the puppets and write the dialogue, finally performing them with much enthusiasm and expression. It was a very enjoyable event.



## Dates for the Diary

- Friday 2 December Puppet Theatre Wales presents: The Fox's Tale.
- Tuesday 6 December The Christmas Tableaux at St Cadoc's Church, 10.30am.  
*All families warmly welcome.*
- Friday 9 December Nursery and Infant Party Day.
- Tuesday 13 December The Christmas Concert *Shine Star Shine*,  
7pm in the School Hall.
- Wednesday 14 December Nursery and Infant Trip to Brecon Mountain Railway.
- Thursday 15 December End of term.  
  
Awards Ceremony & Christmas Concert, 7pm.  
R16 GCSE students, Lower Sixth, Upper Sixth &  
former Sixth Form students.  
*All parents warmly welcome.*
- Friday 16 December Schola of our Cathedral Choir singing at *Christmas with the Stars*  
with Wynne Evans for British Heart Foundation  
at Llandaff Cathedral.
- Tuesday 20 December Cathedral Choir Carol Service  
at Cardiff Metropolitan Cathedral, 7pm.