

# THE KEY STAGE 3 POST

Issue 5

Year  
7

## This Week's Message...

A quick message from your Head of Year  
Dear Students, Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you all continue to remain safe.

Welcome to the last newsletter of this term! We have now published 5 editions and it has really been a pleasure to hear from students, parents, and staff over these past five weeks. It has brought a little bit of normality back to my Head of Year role.

This week, the KS3 team have been influenced by the lovely weather outside and the world around us. The elements are extremely powerful and I have been hearing and reading all the stories of how the lockdown has influenced many aspects of the planet; a drop in carbon emissions, clearer water in Venice's canals, and a return of more wildlife. It is interesting to think how nature fills the vacuum that our absence creates.

It got me thinking of travel. I have always wanted to visit Cambodia, specifically to see Angkor Wat and its breath-taking temples. I look at how these 12th Century temples are now derelict, and nature has taken over, but not entirely. It has simply become a new normal where man-made buildings co-exist with the trees, plants and wildlife.

It is a phrase we have heard time and time again in the News, 'a new normal'. I would like to think that when this pandemic is over that the new normal is to respect the world around us more. To learn to live but not destroy, and to realise that out of despair comes hope and opportunity.

Your well-being task this week is a Photography and Art competition. We would like you to be inspired by nature, either on your daily exercise, within your own garden, or online. You may have been reading about photographers such as Dieter Klein in the news, who has documented abandoned cars across Europe. Another photographer, Romain Thiery, took pictures of abandoned pianos in derelict buildings. These Artists could inspire you to document your own pictures over the half term break. If you prefer, you could always complete my 'Try it' task, I was inspired by this week's home share story!

This new normal for all sectors should be something we all see as an opportunity, perhaps a time to adapt and make what we have even better.

I wish you all a lovely half term.

Stay Safe.

Mr Steadman



SHOUT OUTS

## Top good comments!

Liam W (7AMA)  
Immacolata R (7OMP)  
Brodie L (7HB)  
Dilara C (7SDC)

## Why not try this week...

Complete a recycling project...  
Some ideas [HERE](#)



## Wall of Fame!

Martina P RE	Rosella P RE	Sarah F DT
Brodie L Transition	Mya T Geography	Freddie P Geography
Olivia N Geography	Mark B Geography	Luca B Geography

Well done to you all, keep up the good work!

## This week's home share!



Our home share this week goes to Sarah F (7OMP). The class were tasked in DT to design and make a stationary holder from recycled materials found in their home. The DT department had a good response from the class. Thank you to everyone who has gone above and beyond like Sarah. Well done.

## Don't forget!

Parents please email any images to your child's Year Leader to have an opportunity of appearing in next week's issue! For safeguarding reasons, this must come from the email address the school has on the system!

Bringing the community back together...



## Spirited Arts



Well done to Martina P (7OMP) for her spirited Arts work. This fits perfectly well with my opening message in this issue. Martina explains in her writing 'My project is based on the world (our actions towards it), I believe we shouldn't be spoiling such an amazing world we live in, and littering just proves how lazy we are, animals are a humongous part of our world, all we have to do is throw our litter in a bin.' Well done Martina!

## Geography



Congratulations to Olivia N (7HB), Mark B (7SDC) and Luca B (7STA) who have constructed their own weather station. Excellent efforts, well done.

## Grow your own!



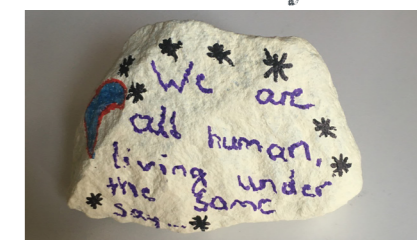
Amelia B (7OMP) has started a competition to grow the biggest and brightest sunflower. She challenges all Year 7 to do this! There is a prize for the biggest sunflower. Send all your photos (once grown) and the height of the plant (no exaggerations allowed!) to Mr Steadman and we will judge them. Thank you to Amelia for putting this together and keeping spirits high!

## Angry Birds



Well done to Brodie L (7HB) for using the shapes learned last week to create these Angry Birds from drawn nets!

## History



Well done to Maria L (7MJC) who created this memorial stone. Mr Murphy would like all Year 7 stones to be kept and brought to him when we return to school.

shout out

Bringing the community back together...



# Well-being Tasks

“We have learnt that amid the fear, there is also community, support and hope!”

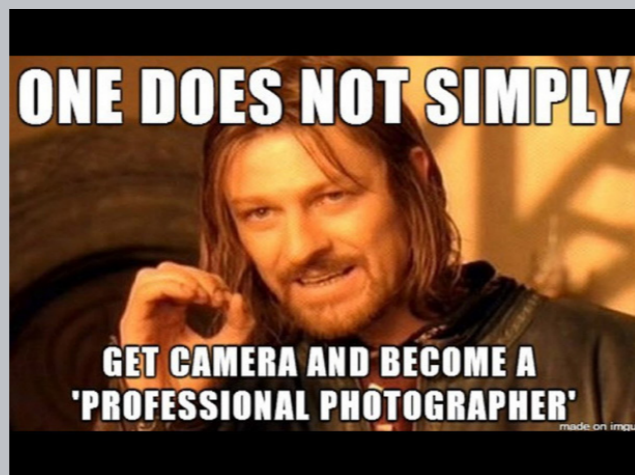
“We are making photographs to understand what our lives mean to us.” Ralph Hattersley

With the sun shining, half-term approaching and lockdown rules loosening ever so slightly, we thought to challenge you, KS3 readers, to a competition which tests your creative and documentary skills.

These challenging times that we live in can also be, when used wisely, a time of transformation and self-discovery. When taking a break from the hustle and bustle of your everyday life, the stream of information and various to-do lists, choose to rest actively, doing something that gives you joy.

Pause. Take a breath. Look around. What do you see? What do you want to remember? What would you want to change?

As Destin Sparks once said, “photography is the story I fail to put into words.” What story are you going to tell once the lockdown is over?



## HOME – SCHOOL SUPPORT

Dear Parents/Guardians

As a school, we recognise that your experiences of lockdown, just like our own, would not all have been plain sailing. We also understand that, for some of you, there is a real danger of feeling isolated from your friends, family and community at this uniquely challenging time.

Whilst we, at St John’s, have been working hard to try to further enhance our communications with you through our weekly Newsletters, we understand that isn’t necessarily the same as speaking to a member of our community or hearing a familiar voice.

Therefore, from this week onwards, we are offering you the opportunity to contact the school to request a ‘call back’ from a member of our Year Group Pastoral Team. Whether it is a concern you may have with Home Study, a particular problem that you or your child is going through or even an opportunity to have a general chat with someone from St John’s, if you would like to speak to a member of our Pastoral Team, please email your request through for a ‘call back’ to the relevant pastoral managers email address below and we will get in touch with you in due course.

We would love to hear from you, so please do make use of this opportunity.

- Year 7 - Miss J. Styles: [jstyles@stj.kent.sch.uk](mailto:jstyles@stj.kent.sch.uk)
- Year 8 – Mrs Hodges: [lhodges@stj.kent.sch.uk](mailto:lhodges@stj.kent.sch.uk)
- Year 9 - Mrs L. Buckingham: [lbuckingham@stj.kent.sch.uk](mailto:lbuckingham@stj.kent.sch.uk)

### This Week’s Prayer

*Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from  
your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Amen.*

Show My Homework is changing its' name!

There will be:

- ✓ A new app icon and website logo (see below)
- ✓ **NO** changes to the way you currently use or access the app and website.



Bringing the community back together...



# Round 1 'Summer' The Great STJ Cook Off!

*Aprons on, wooden spoons at the ready and COOK!*

We are so impressed with the dishes you have been sending us and think it's time to get a competition going! So far only students who have Food & Nutrition on their timetable currently have been set work within the subject, however more of you may want to get your aprons on and get cooking!

The first theme for **The Great St John's Cook Off** is 'summer'. Your entry can be sweet or savoury, a dish you make regularly or something you have never made before – but it must fit the theme of 'summer'.

If you wish to take part, in this optional competition, you need to email your entry to Mrs Oatley (hoatley@stj.kent.sch.uk), Miss Gosling (sgosling130@stj.kent.sch.uk) and Mrs Matthews (smatthews537@stj.kent.sch.uk) by Friday 12th June. Title the email 'The Great StJ Cook Off' and within your email include your name, year group, name of dish, ingredients list, method, and photograph of your finished dish. A short explanation of how your chosen dish meets the brief would be brilliant too. This competition is open to all students, from all year groups, and winners will be chosen from each Key Stage. We look forward to your entries!

**Mrs Oatley, Miss Gosling & Mrs Matthews**  
Food & Nutrition Department



# STJ Photography Competition

## Calling all Art and Photography Enthusiasts!

We challenge you to document your town/village/local countryside with photographs. This can be done on your daily walk. Remember to document captivating landmarks, architecture or landscapes.

During your hunt for interesting scenes, be sure to pay attention to how you frame and crop your image. Think about it more like a project of 'recording documents' in these unprecedented times...

Follow these links for some creative inspiration:

- <https://www.icp.org/>
- <https://www.moma.org/>
- <https://printsales.thephotographersgallery.org.uk/artworks/>

Get your work  
Published in the KS3  
bulletin!

Win an  
exciting prize  
from your Head of  
Year!



Bringing the community back together...

