

# John Rankin News

Welcome to JRN, the newspaper written & edited by Year 5 & 6 Newspaper Club  
Don't miss our Christmas special! Four extra pages of festive fun



## Meet John Rankin's very own Lionesses!

By JRN reporting team

Footballers Freya, Amber, Alice and Olivia are in a class of their own!

The girls, from Year 6 Cedar Class, have all been chosen to play not only for John Rankin but for the Newbury District Under-11s team. Freya is a striker, Amber a defensive midfielder, Alice plays on the right wing, and Olivia on the left wing.

They are all Chelsea fans (Alice also supports Luton Town) and they all hope to sign as professionals for the Stamford Bridge Academy when they are older.



The talented quartet's ambitions do not end there. One day they all hope to play for the England

Lionesses, who won the Euros this year and then beat the US, the world's No 1 team.



## JRS artists make their (book) mark

By JRN reporting team

Wash Common Library ran a Christmas Book Mark Competition in conjunction with John Rankin. Years 4, 5 and 6 were all invited to design a bookmark with the theme **I Love Christmas**. There were three prizes for each year. The nine winning bookmarks will now be produced, and every pupil in the school will receive one! They will also be distributed at Wash Common Library. The winners were: Year 4 – Hania (Ash), Emily (Chestnut), Bhuvi (Sycamore); Year 5 – Alex (Apple), Pierce (Cherry), Honour (Lime); Year 6 – Alice (Alder), Finlay (Birch), Millie (Cedar). *Turn to page 2 to see more winning entries.*

Issue No 10 December 2022

It's **Professor Ponder!**

Our new expert answers your questions See back page



Our top reporting team for this issue of JRN:

Amelie, Freddie, Dennis, Rose, Ethan, Rafferty, Isabel, Alexander, Winnie, Lucia



# School council meet the Mayor

By JRN Reporting Team

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October the school councillors went to the Town Hall to meet the Mayor and members of Newbury Town Council as part of Local Democracy Week. There are 25 councillors from throughout the junior school, from Year 3 to Year 6, with two from each class. This is similar to the Town Council which has 23 councillors elected from different parts of Newbury. We met council members and staff and also learned about the towns Newbury is twinned with, in Germany, Belgium, France, Spain and Italy. Did you know that the castle on the Newbury flag is not Donnington Castle? It's the long-lost Newbury Castle. We had a tour of the Town Hall, including the Mayor's Parlour (pictured right). We also got to try on the Mayor's robes.



## Election special ... House captains and school council

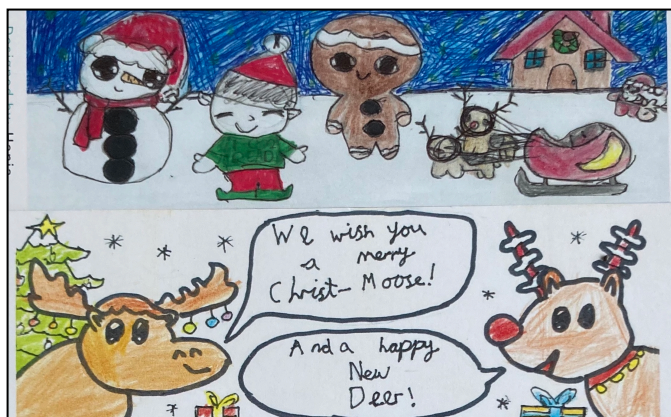


By Lucia and Winnie

In the house captain elections, **Kennet** chose Stephanie and Rafferty, vice-captains Riggim and Carlie. **Craven** elected Micah and Tilly, and vice-captains Riley and Finn. **Enborne** chose Freddie and Amber, with Charlie and Olivia as vice-captains. **Donnington** elected Dexter and Alex, with vice-captains Rupert and Tiana. The results for the school council elections were:

**Year 3** Grace & Isla (Beech), Nicholas & Nya (Oak), Emily & Ben (Willow).  
**Year 4** Phoebe & Lilly (Chestnut), Imogen, Oscar & Grace H (Sycamore), Bella C & Emily (Ash).  
**Year 5** Parker & Winnie (Cherry), Flo H & Joshua (Apple), Tilly CI & Lucia (Lime).  
**Year 6** Ethan & Martha (Birch), Olivia P & Milly P (Cedar), Penelope & Diana (Alder).

## Bookmarks competition: more winning entries



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# Your choice for **school mascot**

Report by **Isabel**  
Research by **Year 5** polling team

What if John Rankin had its very own mascot, chosen by the whole school?

We thought we should find out what everyone thinks, so we ran a poll.

There were 163 votes altogether. Thank you to everyone who submitted their votes – one for “cuddly or fierce?” and one for “real or mythical?”

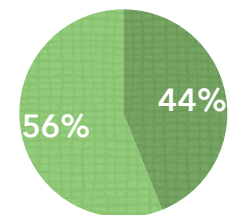
Some of the ideas for what our school mascot should be were dogs, red pandas and penguins!



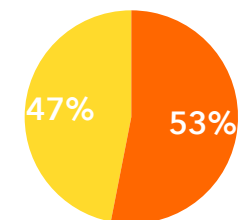
**The red panda: cuddly, not fierce, and real, not mythical ... also cute! So it might be the perfect choice for John Rankin mascot**

## Pupils cast their votes

- Mythical
- Real



- Cuddly
- Fierce



## Tudor-style fun for the Year 5s at Ufton Court

By **Lucia**

Can you imagine 70 hats and head-dresses all together?

This was Year 5 in November when we went to Ufton Court for three days of adventurous activities and fantastic food.

The activities included archery, quill and ink and a banquet. The banquet

was amazing, with children and adults dressed up and playing Tudor villagers. At the end of the evening we did some Tudor dancing.

Some comments from Lime Class were: “Amazing and super fun!” (Honour)

“The food was delicious!” (Sofia)

“It was cool!” (Tyler)

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# It's **Professor Ponder ...** JRN's expert is here to answer all your tricky questions

*Dear Professor Ponder,  
Who are you?*

I am a graduate of both Oxford and Cambridge Universities and have a PhD in Pondering. Upon multiple occasions I met the late Queen for afternoon tea at Windsor Castle.



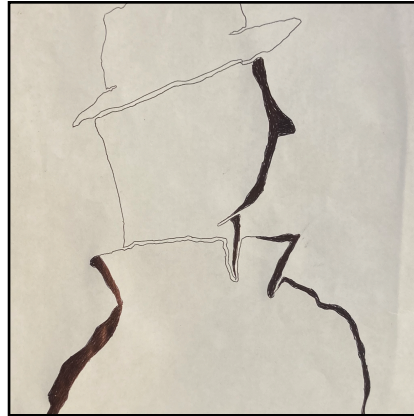
*Dear Professor Ponder,  
What is a PhD?*

PhD, also known as a Doctor of Philosophy, is one of the most common doctoral degrees.

*Dear Professor Ponder,  
I love someone. How do I tell them?*



Well, it's better to ease into declaring your love for someone. For example, if you start to play more with them at break or lunch you will get used to each other's company, and then it won't be such a shock when you tell them you love them.



*Dear Professor Ponder,  
What is the longest word in the English language?*

**Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis (45 letters).**  
It's a type of lung disease.

*Dear Professor Ponder,  
What percentage of people write with their left hand?*



An estimated 10% of the world's population are left-handed. So at John Rankin, that means about 70 children.

*Dear Professor Ponder,  
How do you spell "consoltensy"?*

**Consultancy. Next question!**

*Dear Professor Ponder,  
What football team do you support?*

**I support both Oxford United and Cambridge United.**

*Dear Professor Ponder,  
Which Hogwarts house are you?*



**Ravenclaw.**

*Dear Professor Ponder,  
How do you know everything?*



From a young age, I had shown an interest in maths and science. Then through hard work, regular studying and revision I was accepted into university. Knowledge is something you acquire at school – and you must acquire as much as you can!

**Thank you for all the questions you put in the Professor Ponder boxes.**

*Professor Ponder was assisted by Rafferty.*