



Thursday 16th January 2020

Spring Term Issue 14

# NEWSLETTER

St John's Highbury Vale C. of E. Primary School

School Website: [www.stjhv.islington.sch.uk](http://www.stjhv.islington.sch.uk)

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## Welcome Back & Happy New Year

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break, and have settled back into routine feeling refreshed and eager to go. We have a very busy and exciting term ahead of us, with lots to look forward to including some fun trips, World Book day, International day and of course of annual Easter service, which this year will be held at St Thomas' on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, and will be the last service Stephen delivers for us before his retirement.

### Warm Welcome

A huge warm welcome this term to Miss Lena Dalal, who has joined us as the new Year 6 teacher and Interim Assistant Head. Miss Dalal has been working as a class teacher for fifteen years now, working across all year groups. She will also take on the Lead in Maths across the school as well as data and assessment lead. Please do welcome her into our school community when you see her.

### The School Magazine Needs You!

A small Year 1 parent team has taken on the school magazine this year, but we need more help from other year group parents, as this is a big job.

We ideally need a Project Manager/Editor, while the writing and graphic design roles have been filled. If anyone wants to get involved please get in touch with Melanie Mackay at [melaanie@gmail.com](mailto:melaanie@gmail.com) ASAP.

We really want to work towards all year groups having a great memory of 2019-20.

### Parents Evening

You will all be receiving a letter at some point today to inform you of the new way in which we are inviting parents to sign up for parents evening, using parent pay. We feel this is a fairer system for those parents who work and struggle to make it into school to sign the forms physically. A link will be provided on the letter which will allow you to sign in, however if you have any difficulties please come into the school office and we will assist you as much as possible.

### Headteacher Update Forum

Just a reminder that this Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> January, we will be holding another Headteacher update forum. We received great feedback from the last forum we ran and decided to make it a regular event. The forum this time will be very much focusing on successes in school, updates on future events and as always, an opportunity for you to ask questions about what is happening in school. We look forward to seeing those of you who can make it at 9.05am in Maberly Hall.

## Attendance & Punctuality

We have been reviewing the attendance and punctuality across the school and it is much lower generally than at this point in the term last year. We are aware there have been many nasty bugs around recently and can understand why this may be the case, however we are asking parents and carers to please make a huge effort to get the children to school on time. The school bell rings at 8.55am and learning starts at 9am. Please help us to stick to our school timetable. To help encourage the children we will be celebrating the classes with the best weekly attendance and punctuality in both Friday's celebration assembly and on the newsletter. Look out for this next week.

## Recent News

We had some lovely collective celebrations before Christmas in which we came together as a community. The Christmas service at St Augustine's and the Carols around the Tree. As always, both celebrations were lovely, and thanks to Tom Bogdanowicz we have some lovely shots of the whole school gathered in the main hall for the Carols around the Tree event.



In Year 2 last week, the children started a new Science Topic, 'Ready, Steady, Grow', and in their first lessons they made some close observations of common seeds and bulbs. They then used them to draw some still life images using a range of media and skills.



The children then viewed each other's work in an Art Gallery at the end of the drawing session.

