



St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

Tel: 020 7226 4906

E-mail: admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

Friday 1st March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we have been thinking about how we teach vocabulary at St John's. Vocabulary is very important for many reasons, including improving reading comprehension, language development, communicating ideas, expressing yourself in writing and occupational success.

Vocabulary Teaching

We have started using the Frayer Model to enhance our vocabulary teaching. The Frayer Model consists of a square divided into four smaller sections, with the term or concept in question placed in the centre. Each of the four sections serves a distinct purpose: providing a basic definition, listing key characteristics, enumerating examples, and noting non-examples. If you want to know more about this, please speak to the class teacher or me.

After School Music Centre

We are keen to develop and enhance our music provision at St John's. Emma, our music teacher, and I met this week and explored how we can provide opportunities for children to play the flute and another instrument. We want to remind you about the after-school music club at City of London Academy Highbury Grove on Wednesday from 4pm to 6pm. The cost to attend is £140 per 10-week term for a weekly 2-hour programme. Free and discounted places are available for children requiring financial assistance who live or attend a school in Islington.

The children can participate in instrumental group lessons, singing and tailored ensembles according to their skill level. If several children from Years 4, 5 & 6 would like to attend this club, please let me or the office know so we can consider a 'walking bus' to take the children from school. **Please look at the newsletter for more information.**

Book Week

Next week, we will do various activities to promote reading for pleasure. One of the things I would like is for you to **take some pictures of your children reading in different places**, for example, on public transport, in the garden, in different rooms in the house or maybe secretly reading under the duvet after the lights are off (this often happens in my house). Please email the pictures to the office or class teachers via Dojo.

I look forward to celebrating Book Week with the children and can't wait to see all of their reading customs!





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Reading to Children

A few weeks ago, I asked if you would like to come and read one of your favourite stories or poems from when you were a child to your children's class. If you are available next week, please let the class teacher know. We would love you to share your stories with us.

Come Dine With Me

We would like to invite you to come and eat with your children on **Thursday, 14th March**, to celebrate Mothering Sunday. Of course, we all have busy lives, and you may not be available, in which case, we would welcome a grandparent, uncle, aunt or friend of the family - 1 adult per household.

We are planning the lunch to be between 11.30am and 1.30pm.

R - Y1 - 11.30

Y2 - Y3 - 12:00

Y4 - Y5 - 12.30

Y6 - 1:00

We appreciate that some families have multiple children in different year groups at St John's so we will find a way to accommodate this.

If you can attend, please complete this [form](#) before Friday, **8th March**. The cost of the lunch will be £4.00. This includes a 3-course restaurant quality lunch! Please use School Gateway to make your payment.

Birthdays

Look out for our new 'Birthday' page on this week's newsletter. We will use this space to celebrate those children who have had a birthday in the current week.

Key Spring Term 2 dates:

Key dates for next week

Monday 4th March-Friday 8th March - Book week

Friday 8th March - Dress up as your favourite book character or word (please see letter from Miss Bullen for more information)

Friday 8th March - Y3 Sharing assembly (2.50pm)

As always, thank you for your support. Have a creative weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Ms H Khan
Head of School

