



St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

Tel: 020 7226 4906

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Executive Head: Mrs Tonnice Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

Friday 10th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another productive week at St John's. The children are working very hard and developing a great positive attitude to learning. During my regular class visit this week, I saw children asking questions when they were unsure and some asking for more extension work. I felt very proud.

Times Tables

This year one of our big focuses is children learning their times tables. I would like your support in helping your children learn their times tables. Learning times tables are really important, they are the building blocks of maths, and when multiplications are mastered, they can do anything!

Best order to learn times tables:

Year 2: Learn the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Learning the 2 times table, 5 times table and 10 times table will give them a great foundation for learning other times tables.

Year 3: Learn the 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 times tables. The 4 times table is a great place to begin, as the number rules your child will have picked up from the 2 times table will come into play. Next, move on to the 3 times table. Once your child is comfortable with multiples of 3, introduce the 6 and 9 times tables. After this, head to the 8 times table. By building on their understanding of the 2 and 4 times tables.

Year 4: Learn the 11 and 12 times tables. Start with the 11 times table and then move on to the 12 times table.

Year 5 and 6: By regularly practising all of the times tables the children have learned, they can keep their knowledge fresh and maintain their instant recall.

Remembrance day

This week we have been thinking about why we observe Remembrance Day. Each class carried out different activities to show respect. We also had a whole assembly led by Rev Gabriel Anstis where we read the poem In Flanders Fields by Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. We will hold a 2-minute silence on Monday, 13th November, at 11 am.





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Anti-Bullying Week

Next week (November 13th to 17th) is anti-bullying week, and the theme is 'Make A Noise About Bullying'. In class, we will discuss what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and how to stop bullying. On Monday, children are asked to wear **odd socks** to celebrate what makes us unique.

BBC Children In Need - It's Time To Get Spotacular

On Friday, **17th November**, children are asked to come into school wearing clothing items with **Spots**. Please make a donation for the charity.

Attendance

At St John's, we expect children to have **100%** attendance to fulfil their learning potential. Being around teachers and friends in a school environment is the best way for pupils to learn and achieve. There is a direct correlation between high attendance and high academic attainment. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care. Full attendance at school is crucial for a child's future life chances and establishes a positive work ethic early in life. To this end we will do all we can to encourage parents and carers to ensure their children achieve maximum possible attendance and that any problems that prevent full attendance are identified and acted on promptly. Pupils will be expected to achieve **100%** attendance unless they are too unwell to come to school or there are exceptional circumstances.

90% attendance = ½ day missed every week! One school year at 90% attendance = 4 weeks of learning missed! Over 5 years of school = ½ school year missed! From September 2015, all children and young people whose school attendance is 90% or below are considered to be persistent absentees.

Punctuality

We take our register between 8.55 and 9 am. If your child arrives after this time, they will be marked late. Please make sure your child/children are on time. If you need help with attendance and punctuality, please speak to me.

Key events next week

Monday 13th to Friday 17th November - Anti-Bullying Week (Children come to school wearing odd socks)

Friday 17th November - Children in Need (Children can come to school wearing spotty clothes)

Friday 17th November - Y2 Coffee Morning

As always, thank you for the support. I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Yours faithfully,
Ms H Khan
Head of School

