



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 Tonnies Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

Friday 29th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderful calm week. I have seen fantastic, collaborative work and many acts of kindness from children, parents and staff. I want to thank the staff of St John's for their hard work and dedication to our children. Going above and beyond is something they do every day.

Google Classroom

Thank you for your feedback about Google Classroom. Homework is a very important part of your child's learning. It gives them another opportunity to review what they have learnt in class, gives parents a chance to see what is being learned in school, and helps teachers determine how well the lessons are being understood by their children. Research carried out by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) shows homework, when done collaboratively (child with parent or carer), can add up to 5+ months of progress.

Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y4

Taking all of this into consideration, I have decided that Reception to Y4 children will continue to use homework books, but we will also post on Google Classroom for those families who are happy to upload the work. All children will be getting feedback.

Year 5 and Year 6

Most of the homework will be posted on Google Classroom. Children will have the option to have paper copies. I encourage Y5 and Y6 children to use Google Classroom to prepare them for secondary school. Most secondary schools use Google platform to set work. All children are encouraged to complete their work using pen and paper and upload it.

Golden book

Friday 22nd - Y1 Henry, Y2 Robyn, Chloe, Vienna-Grace and Nell. Y3 Ellie, Y4 Ella and Naomie, Y6 Kyle

Friday 29th - Year 1 Nova, Y2 Naomi, Lawrence, Y3 Clara, Y4 Sophia and Naomie, Y6 Magie, Mariia and Brandon

Learning Council

I would like to thank the children who applied for the position of learning council. As I said in my previous letter, the speeches were very impressive.

I would like to congratulate:

Year 1 **Sam and Aris** Year 2 **Chloe and Woody**

Year 3 **Abbey and Louis** Year 4 **Arlo and Eliza** Year 5 **Immy and Ezra**

I look forward to working with you to make the learning experience at St John's even better.

TTRS

We have had a great TTRS day! Having a secure grasp of the basics of maths, including the fluent recall of times tables, is crucial for children's success in moving on to more complex maths. Learning multiplication tables is a key part of maths education in many high-performing education systems, such as those in Shanghai and





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Singapore. Please encourage your children to practise their multiplication tables daily. You can use TTRS, or if you would like paper copies, please ask the class teachers.

House Captains

We had our first formal meeting this week. The captains are definitely trying to honour their campaign promises. We will share the ideas once we have finalised everything. Thank you, House Captains. I will really enjoy working with you.

Helping families with the cost of living

Please read the letter from Islington Council. The letter encourages you to register if you are eligible for statutory free school meals; your child will be able to access free holiday activities with food during the Christmas, Easter and summer breaks. If you need any help, please contact the office.

Harvest Donation

The Harvest service is on Wednesday 4th October at 2 p.m. at St Thomas. You are welcome to join us for the service. Please can I ask you to refer back to my previous letter and make donations to the food banks. I will be taking some children in the next few weeks to drop off the donations. The wonderful people who run the foodbank will come and speak to the children about what happens to the food that we donate.

Green Team

We are trying to make the school more eco-friendly, and one of the ways we will be doing it is by having a Green Team. Parents and carers, if you have any spare indoor plants or cuttings, please kindly donate to the school. It will be lovely to have more plants in the classrooms and in communal areas.

I will write to you soon for some volunteers to help clear the garden, ready for some exciting projects that have been planned for this academic year.

End of the day

Please can you encourage your children not to use the climbing frame at the end of the day. Children need to be supervised. The staff are usually conversing with parents and are not able to monitor the climbing frame.

Key events next week

Number fluency (Year 1 and Y2 parents) - 3rd October 9:15 am - Maberly Hall

Have a wonderful weekend.

Yours faithfully,
Ms H Khan
Head of School

