



# 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](mailto:admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk)

Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've all had a wonderful week. I was very pleased to find out at the end of last week, that we now have a newly appointed Chair for Friends of St John's (FOSJ). The very wonderful Emily Chilton, mum of Holly in Year 6 and Lucy in Year 3, has stepped forward to take the reins. She is already in full swing; sending the e-mails and giving out the jobs ready for the Christmas Fare, which will be held in the school on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December**. I just want to say a huge thank you to Emily. The amount of support the school receive from the work carried out by FOSJ is quite simply amazing, and without it, our offer to families and children would not be what it is.

## St John's Swap Shop

We had two successful uniform swap shops this week and are looking into planning more at the end of the half term, before the Christmas break. In the meantime, we thought we would try a nativity costume swap shop. I am very aware that parents often purchase an outfit for their child's part in the nativity and then they don't use it again. If you have a nativity costume from last year that you no longer need, please donate it to school. Equally, if you have any dressing up clothes or outfits that your children are finished with, we would love to receive those too. If we gather enough costumes and outfits, we will share a swap shop date with parents, so that you can come and look through what we have.

## Parent Whats App Groups

The power of the parent Whats App groups can be amazing: it is a great way of sharing information about trips, up and coming event, and requests or actions from the FOSJ team. Recently, we have had a few occasions where children have reported to their parents at the end of a school day that incidents have happened and parents have taken straight to Whats App to discuss these. I completely understand that as a parent you want to get to the bottom of an incident as soon as possible, but I assure you the best way to do that is speak to the school first. We are always able to carry out a thorough investigation into any worry or concern you have, and will always support you and your child with any issue.

## Kidz Club

One of our biggest successes over the past year for me, has been Kidz Club. The staff who run the club are always thinking of new things for the children to do and ways in which to entertain them. One of the best things about Kidz Club is that it is run by members of our own staff team and the children already have excellent relationships with them. These ladies work extremely hard and are here very long hours. Can I please request that if your child does use Kidz Club, that you try aim to collect your child no later than 5.50pm. The ladies have recently been kept at school until as late as 6.30pm recently due to late collections. I would really appreciate your support with this.





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## House Captains

Our new House Captains met for the first time this week and have agreed the first two issues they are going to tackle this year are school dinners and playtimes. They have a plan of action to help them relaunch the playground and are looking for help. A lot of children across the school have been requesting a lunch time games club. This is something we used to do before Covid-19 and was run by parents. The House Captains are wondering if there are any parents who may be able to volunteer an hour of their time over lunch 12.30-1.30pm, one day a week, to help them run a games club in Maberly Hall for those children who would like a quieter environment to play. If you are able to volunteer some of your time, please do get in touch with the front office and I will be in touch to discuss further.

## Golden Book

The children below were added into the Golden Book on the weeks beginning 31<sup>st</sup> October. Every week, those children who find themselves nominated in the Golden book are allowed to come to school in their own clothes on Monday. I had a lovely catch up with these children, and a few that had missed their treat previously, on Monday, as we shared some popcorn together



Year 1 – Ariande, Lawrence and Helena

Year 3 – Rebecca and Danny

Year 4 – Imogen

Year 6 – Ava

I must also give a HUGE apology to Layla in Year 2, who was added into the Golden Book back in the middle of October. Thankfully, she did receive her treat with Miss Jones whilst I was on school journey, but her name was missed out of the Head's letter, so I've added it in this week.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Hopefully the weather is nice enough for us to enjoy one of the last few autumnal weekends.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Head of School

