



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

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

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Interim Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Interim Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we approach another step in the government's road map out of lockdown, I would like to share a little insight into the changes happening in school.

As of next week, for the first time since the autumn term, our children will be able to play together outside in their bubbles. We have been very cautious up until now in ensuring we minimize the spread of Covid to lessen the risk, incase there was a positive case. After consulting our risk assessment and following Government guidelines, we feel now is the time to allow the children more contact with those already in the same bubble as them on the playground. We are hoping this will encourage and support more friendships across year groups to pick up where they left off, and to flourish again.

The latest guidance for schools has advised that staff are no longer recommended to use face covering in classrooms. They are however, still mandatory in other parts of the school, such as corridors and both school halls. Please do continue to wear masks when dropping off and picking up your children. Indoor and outdoor sports competitions are now permitted to take place.

## Prayer Week

Our wonderful parents who run St John's prayer group have been eagerly contacting me, hoping to come into school to lead another prayer week for our children. We have finally been able to agree on the week beginning the 21<sup>st</sup> June, when hopefully less restrictions are in place. Each class will have a lesson delivered to them, there will be a Collective worship throughout the week, and a prayer space set up in the playground for the children to have access to. If you are interested in getting involved and supporting, please get in touch.



## Kayaking

An annual tradition for our Year 6 children, is to take part in a course of Kayaking sessions at Laburnam Boat Club, in the summer term. Unfortunately, last year this was not the case; however, I am delighted that we have the go ahead for this year. Year 6 parents will be receiving a letter soon with all of the information.





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## Farmer Time

I am so excited to announce that St John's have finally been paired with a Farmer, based in Wales. The Farmer Time initiative is all about harnessing the power of digital communications to inspire, engage and educate young people about not only the journey from farm to fork; but also the ever-changing, diverse agricultural industry.



Our Farmer, Lucy, will be chatting to our Year 1 children every two weeks in their classroom through Skype. The children, and Lucy, will use this time to discuss ideas, ask questions, share knowledge and gain a 'real-time' understanding of the issues farmers face every day.

## St John's Stars

I am absolutely bursting with pride this week at receiving feedback from two external companies on the behavior and attitudes of our children. Year 3 have been attending Highbury Pool for the past two weeks for an intensive swimming course. The instructors went out of the way to comment to our staff on how brilliantly behaved the children have been, and how they are such good ambassadors for our school. To enhance their topic learning this term, Year 6 took part in a sustainability workshop this morning. At the end of the workshop, the instructor from the Freshwater Theatre Company commented on how polite, well behaved and extremely intelligent the children were on the subject. Well done Year 3 and Year 6 😊

## Government Road Map

I hope that those of you who have patiently waited for that hug from a friend or family member, not in your immediate support bubble, enjoy holding those you love and cherish close to you as of Monday.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Interim Head of School

