



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

Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Friday 16th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful term we have had, with a jam packed final week to end it! Every day this week has brought its challenges and its rewards. This is a very long Head's letter, which I do apologise for, but one in which highlights some of the amazing things that happen here at St John's.

Snow Day

The wonderful blanket of snow that we all woke up to on Monday morning was an excellent opportunity for us to down tools and have a Snowman making competition. All classes were instructed to build the best snowman they could in an extended playtime on Monday. I have to say, Year 4 worked excellently together as a team and were without doubt the winners in my eyes.





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On Monday, Richard did a great job of getting the school ready to open without any disruptions – he was our very own Christmas superstar. On Tuesday, the playground was looking exceptionally dangerous due to the snow freezing over and becoming quite slippery. So, this was not something Richard could manage on his own and many hands joined in to help. We grabbed the shovels and brushes and made sure there was enough space for the children to play safely at playtime and lunchtime play – and to do all we could to make sure the school remained open for the children.



Nativity

As always, the children in the nativity have blown me away with their amazing ability to remember all of the their lines and the words to all of the songs. They have been practicing a long time to get the performances ready for parents and family members to see. I was so proud to see all of the children involved deliver the message of Christmas in such a fun-filled way.





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Choir

On Tuesday morning, the school choir visited Christ Church Memory Café. The session runs every week for elderly members of the community and their carers/family. We had heard that along with the weekly quiz and a chair aerobics session, the regular attendees liked a good old sing-song. We had a wonderful time singing both to and with the group, and we enjoyed some juice and biscuits afterwards.



Christmas Church Service

This year our Christmas service was held at Christ Church. Unfortunately, Andy Chrich, the vicar at Christ Church, was unable to join us due to a broken ankle. He was missed, however Sarah Hinton, our Chair of Governors did a great job standing in for him. The Year 6 children read fantastically well and the whole school sang wonderfully loud and clearly.





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Golden Book

The final group of children to be added into the Golden Book this year were those added in the week beginning 5th December. Due to Christmas parties and all other events happening this week, we have had a few gatherings to try and make sure everyone got their treat. Fingers crossed, we got there in the end. I am looking forward to see who will get their names in the Golden Book next year.



Week Beginning 5th December

Year 1- Emily, Amy, Chloe & Alex

Year 2 – Ben

Year 3 – Sophia, Harmony & Naomi

I just want to take this opportunity, to thank all of you who have supported the staff and the school over the past term, in helping us provide a wonderful term for the children. Thank you also for the generous cards and gifts.

My huge, heartfelt thanks to the staff, who as always, have given everything over the past fourteen weeks – literally in sickness and in health. We really do have a brilliant team this year and I am so proud of all we have achieved together.

I hope you all have a fabulous festive period filled with love and laughter. I am very excited for 2023 and all the possibilities that lie ahead for us all.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Head of School

