



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

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

Tel: 020 7226 4906

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Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have made it to the end of the penultimate week of the summer term. With only one week remaining, I feel we have been able to achieve so much more than we first thought possible, Sports Day take two being one of them, and we still have a week to go! I felt overwhelmed on Wednesday evening as I gave the introduction to the Year 6 performance. The last time these children performed in school for their parents, was March 2020. It was also the last time I had stood up and addressed a group of adults, and I was definitely rustier than the children were. To see the children singing, dancing and performing as a group brought me to tears. They were having so much fun and that radiated around the room. I could not be prouder of both performances the Year 6 children gave this week.

It was wonderful to welcome parents back into school again, and to see them looking around at the work on the walls produced by the children. It reminded me of the better days to come, when we can have you all in school again, show off the work the children have produced, perform assemblies and shows, and give the children their opportunity to shine. September is still a long way off, and we all have a well-earned holiday to take before then, but I really can't wait until the new school year starts and we can hopefully fill the school with parents once again.

## Government Guidelines

As will all be aware, the Government are ending the Covid lockdown rules on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July. This means it is no longer law for face coverings to be worn and the one meter plus rule is no longer required. However, as a school, we will be continuing to keep those precautions in place until the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, when school ends. We feel we are so close to the end now, we would hate to have any last minute outbreaks and have to close down bubbles without children being able to say goodbye to each other properly. Our staff will still continue to wear masks or visors at the school gates, and we ask that you please support us for one more week in doing the same to help keep the school open, and the community safe. I will write to you at the beginning of September regarding any changes to start and end times to the school day, as well as which entrances you should use on return to school in September. Thank you so much for all of your help over the past year and a half, in following the rules set out by the government to help keep the whole community safe.





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## Year 6 Leavers Service

The Year 6 leavers service will go ahead on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July in the main hall. The service will again only be open to Year 6 families to attend, with a limit of two people per family. The service will start at 2.15pm and will be lead by Rev Andy Chrich, Harry Oulton, Chair of Governors, and both myself and Mrs Read.

## Summer Homework

We have decided this year to send a homework pack home for your children this summer. This is not something we would normally do, however, this has not been a normal 18 months in education. Through our recent assessments, we have noted that some of our children have already made great steps towards closing the gaps that would have naturally happened in the very first lockdown. Tuning the children into learning once or twice a week during the summer holidays will help to keep the skills the children have been working on in school, fresh in their mind, ready to build upon on their return in September. Our data shows that writing across the whole school has taken a dip, and therefore the writing challenges sent home would be great to prioritise. Children can bring in their homework packs by the end of the first week when they return to school in September.

## Transition Days

Next Tuesday, your children will spend an afternoon with their new teachers for next year. They will go with their new teachers in their new classrooms and spend some time getting to know each other. I know that the teachers are all very excited to meet their new classes, as are the children!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and I look forward to seeing you next week for the final week of the school year.

Yours faithfully,  
Mrs Lindsey Hodgson  
Head of School

