



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 Tonnie Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

Friday, 27th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderful week. I visit each classroom every morning, which is the best part of my day. At St John's, our morning routine in every class is for children to complete retrieval questions (Flashback 4). Retrieval practice is a highly effective learning strategy for children because it strengthens memory and deepens understanding of the material by actively recalling information. It is very important that children are in school on time every day, and do not miss out on their learning.

On Monday, I spoke to the children about the important topic of neurodiversity. This year, our goal is to educate the children on what neurodiversity means and why it matters. When children gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of neurodiversity, they contribute to creating more supportive and adaptable communities. By introducing these concepts early, we are laying the groundwork for a more inclusive future - one where different neurological styles are respected and valued rather than misunderstood or marginalised. We are committed to continuing this vital work throughout the academic year.

Learning Council 2024-2025

What is a learning council?

A learning council improves learning conditions for all children, ensures learning is interactive, memorable, and fun, and ensures that planning and teaching improve education for all. As you can see, this is a very important role. I would like to thank last year's learning council for their work; it was an absolute pleasure to work with you.

Congratulations to Nico and Emily (Y1), Nikki and Smith (Y2), Benji and Robyn (Y3), Leyla and Kason (Y4) and Naomie and Zoe (Y5) for being elected to represent your class. Your voice will help your class to ensure learning continues to improve for all children.

Why reading is important

Reading plays a vital role in a child's development, offering a wide range of cognitive, emotional, and social benefits. Regular reading not only strengthens language skills, but also fosters creativity, empathy, and critical thinking. It is essential for your child to read every night and equally important for you to engage in reading together. This shared experience promotes a love for reading and strengthens the bond between you and your child. Please encourage your child to keep up with their reading records to support their progress and reinforce this important habit.





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Key dates

1st October Harvest assembly - 2pm (Y1 to Y6)

Future date

A 1.5-hour Parent Workshop on managing anxiety and building confidence in your child will be held on **Wednesday, November 6th, at 2pm. The School's wellbeing service will lead this workshop.**

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

With warm regards,

Ms. Khan
Head of School

