



St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

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Interim Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Interim Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Wednesday 31st March 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

The school has been bursting with creativity this week. From Prayer day, to the Easter Bonnet parade, and the hope homework projects in between. The level in which the children engaged in Prayer day on Monday was amazing. There were some real moments of reflection, and some surprisingly thoughtful questions asked by even our youngest children. The message of the Easter story was delivered well, in a creative and engaging way. A big thanks to Judy Harwood in supporting me to make the day the success it was.

Homework projects are in, and are breath-taking. I took a long time reading them, looking at the images provided and really seeing the journey the children, and you as families, have been on over the past year. I was overwhelmed by how often the words love, family and friends were mentioned repeatedly. A clear indicator of what we have all learnt to cherish so much during such a difficult year.

Although this year's Easter Bonnet parade was not how we normally know it to be at St John's, we are pleased that at least we were able to have one. The children carried out the parades in their bubbles and really did take pride in showing off their creations.

As a result of a short, but productive week, our school is looking amazing. We have work from Prayer week already displayed, more photographs and homework projects ready to go up too. It's a real shame we can't have you all in school to enjoy the work of the children first hand, but we have done our best this week to flood the newsletter with as much as we could. We hope you enjoy the pictures!

So as we started the term in lockdown, working from home, we are all now back in school and feeling like a feel community again. As things stand, procedures will remain the same after Easter, but we hope to slowly move closer to normalcy soon.

Government Road Map

During the Easter holidays, the next set of changes in the government's road map are set to be introduced on Monday 12th April. This should see the opening of outdoor attractions including zoos, theme parks and outdoor cinemas. Libraries and community centers should reopen and hairdressers, barbers and beauty salons. Outdoor hospitality and retail will also open, along with self-contained accommodation and domestic overnight stays. I hope





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that if you have plans to enjoy any of the above changes in the second week of the holidays, you have a wonderful time. I am sure on our return to school on Monday 19th April, I will be seeing a lot of fresh new haircuts.

Updates

You should all be receiving your child's spring term report cards today, and parent's evenings will take place at the beginning of the summer term for further discussions with class teachers about your child's progress. We will advise you of the dates in the first week back. There will also be another Head teachers update meeting in the summer term, which will be focused on the new SRE (Sex Relationship Education) curriculum. Again, we will advise on dates in the first week back after Easter.

Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support. We have all had to adapt quickly to a number of changes that have been thrown at us over the past year, and I think you have been magnificent in doing so. A huge thank you to all of the teaching staff and teaching assistants for their brilliant hard work during remote learning, and now back in school. The care and support they continue to give our children is endless and always given with love and understanding.

Equally, a huge thank you to Beverly the cook, and her team for the food they prepare every day. Finally, an enormous thank you to Richard, our site manager, and the domestic team who ensure our school is clean and safe daily.

I hope this Easter, you are able to breathe, pause and reflect. Holy week takes us on a journey of emotions but when Easter Day arrives, we are able to look up and see that out of suffering, pain and anguish, new life bursts forth.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Interim Head of School

