



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 6th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the Christmas break, I hope you all had a wonderful time celebrating, and I hope everyone is feeling well rested. It really has been a lovely start to the spring term and to 2023. Everyone seems to have returned to school with enthusiasm and motivation, just what I like to see.

I would just like to say again, on behalf of all of the staff, a huge thank you for your kindness and generosity at the end of last term with the cards and gifts you gave to us all. It is a lovely gesture, in which we feel very grateful for; thank you!

School Uniform

Thank you to everyone who has sent in uniform that is no longer used. We have an abundance of pinafores, jumpers, trousers and skirts available for the school community now, as you can see in the image of the stock cupboard. Therefore, for the time being, please hold off on sending anymore in to school. We have been receiving more uniform than we are actually giving away, so we are trying to make the process a little easier. If you are in need of any uniform items, we have now produced a request slip, which is available at the front office. If you complete the slip, stating the size of which clothing items you require, along with your child's name and year group, we can pack the items into a bag for you and give them to your child to bring home with them at the end of the day. You can also send an e-mail to admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk including the same information, and we can do it that way. We are aware that not all parents are able to be in the school playground at drop off or pick up, so hopefully, this can be a more practical way of getting the uniform back out into the community.



NSPCC Safeguarding Sessions

Before Covid-19, the NSPCC would visit the school annually to lead age-appropriate assemblies educating the children on how to keep themselves safe using a range of brilliant resources. We have arranged again for workshops to take





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place on **Wednesday 25th January**. The children will see a presentation from the NSPCC entitled: Speak Out Stay Safe. The presentation will include helping the children understand forms of inappropriate abuse and ways in which to deal with it. All of the material is age appropriate and there is a short video to explain further on the following link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jolOr4E-9PQ&t=132s>

Children's Birthday Treats

Already this term, we have had a lot of children celebrating their birthday. It seems to be a St John's tradition that on a child's birthday they give out treats to their classmates at the end of the day. In line with the schools Silver Healthy School Award status, we can not give out sweets or baked goods that contain a high sugar content. This includes cakes, biscuits, cookies etc. I am aware that this can be a huge expense that some parents can not afford, yet may feel they have to do, as they see others doing so. As a staff team, we discussed a possible alternative. If a child would like to donate a copy of their favourite book, or a new book they have not yet read to the class on their birthday that would be a lovely treat. This is just an idea, but something that the children would all be excited about, as well as the class teachers – we all love new books! If you do wish to give out an individual treat, please ensure that these are healthy and that you make sure the child checks with their parents before they eat them due to allergies, intolerances and religious dietary practices.

Key Dates

As always, there is lots to look forward to this term. I have listed some of the key dates for this term below. This term, each class will be delivering an assembly in the main hall, which you are all invited to. Some of the assemblies may be subject to change, but if this is the case, we will give you as much notice as possible. Coffee mornings for Reception and Year 1 that were not able to take place last term, will take place this term instead.

This Half Term

11th Jan – Parents Evening

12th Jan – Parents Evening

13th Jan – Reception Coffee Morning Maberly Hall

20th Jan – Year 1 Coffee Morning Maberly Hall

24th Jan - Young Voices Event at the O2

6th – 8th Feb – Year 5 PGL

10th Feb – Year 3 Class Assembly





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Next Half Term

24th Feb – Year 2 Class Assembly

2nd March – World Book Day

2nd March – 9th March – Book Fair

3rd March – Year 4 Class Assembly

10th March – Year 5 Class Assembly

17th March Year 1 Class Assembly

21st March – Year 5 Shakespeare School Festival

24th March – Year 6 Class Assembly

29th March – Easter Service at St Thomas'

30th March Reception Class Assembly

31st March – Easter Bonnet Parade

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and that 2023 brings you all lots of love, happiness and success, whatever that may look like.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Head of School

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

