



## 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](mailto:admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk)

Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great sadness that we received the news yesterday evening of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. I am sure like many of you, I spent the evening listening to news broadcasts and reading memories and tributes about what was undoubtedly the most remarkable woman of our time. She has given a lifetime of service to her country and in doing so, showed all of us what it means to have dignity, bravery, strength, resilience and endurance, to name but a few of her amazing characteristics.

We will be taking time today in classes and in the whole school assembly at the end of the day, to remember her and celebrate her life. Each class will be writing a collective entry into the online book on condolences and we will continue to discuss the many events and changes that will follow over the next few days and beyond. We are very lucky to have been able to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee as a whole school in June, which is a brilliant reference point for us to draw on with the children.





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As we can see for this weeks' newsletter, the children have had a brilliant first week back in their new classes. We have spent the week getting to know each other, discussing our heritage, setting goals, going over the school vision and values, explaining the changes to the behaviour system, and having fun creating self-portraits in the style of different artists. These self-portraits will be on display at the first class coffee morning of the year.

## Class Coffee Mornings

In the autumn term, we have decided to have class coffee mornings where we share all of the children's work, rather than a class assembly. These will be held in Maberly Hall and are aimed to be a lot more personal. The children will talk through what they have done in each subject so far, and will be able to show off the work in their books. The dates for these coffee mornings are listed below.

Year 6 – 7th October

Year 2 – 21st October

Year 4 – 4th November

Year 3 – 18th November

Year 5 – 2nd December

Year 1 – 9th December

## Homework

Year 6 will be the only class receiving homework this week, which is to write their speeches for the house captain elections (outlining why they should be chosen). The rest of the school will receive homework from next week. Homework will be sent out every Friday and should be returned into school every Wednesday. As previously, your child should have a reading book, their reading diary, which we are encouraging children to fill in, a maths task and a writing task. As I have mentioned previously, writing is the area, which we have seen affected the most due to COVID and the disruption in learning it caused. Please encourage the children to engage in the writing tasks that are given and ensure that these are completed in their homework books, not on google classroom.

## PE Kits

We are now allowing all children in Key Stage 2 to come to school in their PE Kits on the days in which they have PE. The PE kit is part of the school uniform and does not mean general sportswear. During the winter months PE kits can consist of black tracksuit bottoms, a yellow t-shirt and the school jumper. Reception and Key Stage 1 children must still bring their PE Kits into school and change into them whilst they are here as this will give continued practice around developing fine motor skills and being responsible for their belongings.





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## School Gates

A reminder that school gates will not open until 8.45am and that there will be no school adult on the playground until 8.50am. Please do not send children to school on their own before 8.45am. We can not be responsible for children who turn up before 8.45am without an accompanying adult.

## Absences

Please do inform the school office if your child is going to be absent from school. You can do that via e-mail [admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk) at anytime or you can call on 02072264906 from 8am if you wish to speak to someone. If we do not hear from you and your child is absent from school, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Any child arriving late to school after 9.15am the system we use does automatically record the child as having an unauthorised morning session. If you are taking your child out of school during term time you must request permission by completing a form, which is available from the front office. Two weeks notice is expected to be given for any request of absence where possible.

## School Uniform

We have managed to have some successful swap shops with school uniform this week. We do have an abundance of uniform still here in school, in a variety of sizes. We will set up another swap shop at the end of the half term again and will make sure you are informed well in advance. However, if anyone needs any items of school uniform at any point over the term, please do get in touch and we can arrange access to it.

I am ending this week with a prayer for Queen Elizabeth II and with one of her most famous quotes.

“Grief is  
the price  
we pay for  
love.”

Queen Elizabeth II

Heavenly Father,  
As we remember the life of Her Majesty the Queen, receive our heartfelt thanks for her faithfulness in serving you and for all that she has given to her people.  
Bless our nation as we mourn her death.  
Comfort her family as they grieve.  
And may her example continue to inspire us; and unite us also in love and service to one another,  
Amen.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Head of School

