



# 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)

Interim Head of School: Mrs Alice Shaw

Interim Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for the overwhelming support we have received following the letter sent out this week regarding racial discrimination at the school. It is true that we face some challenges and that change is necessary, however, I have no doubt that by coming together in this way and by taking a proactive, rigorous approach to addressing issues, we will make rapid progress to ensuring that our school is an identity safe, welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone.

## Inclusion, Diversity and Unconscious Bias

Next week is Anti-Bullying week. This year's theme is 'United Against Bullying' and will start with **Odd Socks Day**. On Monday, all members of our school community can wear **Odd Socks** to school to help raise awareness of bullying and to celebrate the differences that make us unique. Throughout the week we will discuss our differences and the power of coming together to unite against bullying. We will be collecting a £1 donation for Odd Socks Day. If you would like to contribute, all proceeds will go to the anti-bullying alliance.

Please follow the links for more information and for useful resources that parents and carers can use at home with their children.

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2020-united-against-bullying>

## Social Media and Internet Safety

In a time when we are increasingly restricted on outdoor and face to face interactions, we are often forced to seek social interaction through media devices and the internet. At this time it is especially important for children to understand how to use the internet, social media and messaging groups in a way that is safe and age appropriate. If your child has a phone, uses messenger, a computer, an iPad, a tablet, or plays games online, please spend sometime this weekend speaking to them about age appropriate, safe use online and remind them to speak to an adult at home or school if they are ever concerned. The teachers will be reinforcing these messages at school. Some excellent resources for parents and carers to access and to use with their children can be found through the links below.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>





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## **Headteacher's Update**

Unfortunately we have not been able to get everyone together this term for a Headteacher's update. As a result we will be attempting a virtual Head teachers update meeting on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 9.30am. More information about the format for the meeting and the agenda will be sent out next week.

## **Covid-19 Update**

We are very pleased to report that there have been no further cases of covid-19 reported in our school community this week. Please continue to help keep each other safe by wearing a mask whilst dropping off and pick your children, keeping a 2 metre distance from others outside your household and by moving away from the school gates as soon as you are able to.

## **School photographs**

If you would like to purchase your child's school photo, please return the form by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November. The school office can assist you with any further enquires.

I hope that you all have a wonderful weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Tonnie Read

Interim Executive Headteacher

