



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: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Tuesday 27th June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Class Teachers & Support Staff 2023 - 2024

I hope you are all keeping sun safe and well. I am incredibly excited to report our new staffing structure for September; as always, I know it has been extremely anticipated. This is going to be a long letter, so grab a cup of tea, coffee, water or juice, settle down and drink in the news from this letter.

The table below shows the class teachers and support staff from Reception to Year 6 for the academic year 2023 -2024. You will note that we have new colleagues joining us as well as those that will be leaving us at the end of this academic year.

Teachers & Teaching Assistants 2023-24						
Rec Victoria Bullen	Year 1 Candace Barry	Year 2 Arielle Slack & Victoria Reeve	Year 3 Andrea Bowie	Year 4 Adelle Kirby	Year 5 Angus Goldie-Scot	Year 6 Rebecca Powder
Michaela Lawrence & Yasmina Merabet	Sarah Cleary & Iris Seca	Kristian Hayward-Smith	Judy Harwood & George Le Blond James	Ruth Gladstone	Sue Bennett & Donna Crossley	Kim O'Connor

As well as welcoming **Mrs Khan** to the role of Head of School, we say a huge congratulation to **Mrs Slack** who has been internally promoted to Assistant Headteacher. She will take over leading the whole school curriculum and will be out of class one day a week as time to cover her responsibilities. Miss Reeve will cover this time out of class.

We introduce **Miss Slater** who will be joining the team here at St John's as the Assistant Headteacher with the role of the school Inclusion and Safeguarding Lead. Miss Slater comes to us with a wealth of experience in





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leadership, including leading in Church of England schools in Camden and Westminster. Miss Slater will be out of class as a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We also welcome to the team; **Miss Bowie**, **Miss Lawrence**, **Mrs Merabet**, **Miss Seca** and **Mr James**. **Miss Bowie** has been working in a Year 3 class in Stratford and comes with previous experience in publishing children's books with Penguin. **Miss Lawrence** is an aspiring teacher who is coming to us from a school in Stoke Newington. **Miss Merabet** is a trained teacher in Albania and is looking to gain experience in English schools before retraining as a teacher in England. **Miss Seca** and **Mr James** come with a wealth of experience from a range of schools including special needs provisions.

We say a sad farewell to a number of staff this year; **Miss Jones**, who has been at St John's for eight years. She started here as a class teacher, working in Reception class, moving to Year 2 and then Reception class, making sure the children coming into early years had the best possible start to their primary school experience. She has more recently stepped into the role of Assistant Head, first of all overseeing the curriculum across the whole school, then taking on the SENCo and Safeguarding Lead role making sure our most vulnerable pupils are receiving the best offer possible. Miss Jones has been a valued member of the St John's community from the moment she arrived. We wish her lots of luck as the Deputy Head in her new school. They are extremely lucky to have her.

Miss Dalal will also be leaving us this year. Miss Dalal has been at the school for four years now and has demonstrated her ability to teach any year group starting in Year 6, moving to Year 1 and ending her time with us in Reception class. Miss Dalal has led assessment and curriculum as the Assistant Head and has given nothing but her all to the job since she has been here. We will miss her hardworking ethics and wish her all the best in the future as she looks to start her own business.

Miss Yvette has turned from a young lady to an adult in front of our very own eyes. Working in Reception class over the past three years she has brought nothing but fun and light for all of the children she has worked with. She is taking the opportunity to do some travelling with her friends and family over the next year. She will be heading back to Islington after her extended break, so hopefully she will come back and say hello to us again in the future.





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Arthur has been a real hit in Year 2 this year. He has brought sunshine, laughter and excellent computing skills. We have been very grateful to have him supporting the team and the children and wish him lots of luck back at university studying for his Masters.

Lastly, but most certainly not least, we bid adieu to **Mrs Hodgson**, who has been a towering strength over the past five years since she arrived at St John's. Her resilience and endurance during the covid pandemic and her commitment and drive to develop and improve the curriculum for the children is to be commended and will be missed. She will be an asset to any organisation.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all their hard work and commitment to the children, staff and community at St John's. We wish them all the very best for the future and as ever, remind them that the door will always remain open for them to come back and visit.

As ever, we remind ourselves that although it is always sad when our colleagues leave us, how privileged we are to have had them in our lives at all. We remember and are grateful for all the things they have done to enrich our lives and look forward to welcoming our new colleagues who will, I am sure, bring as much excitement and enthusiasm to St John's.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the content of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the senior leadership team.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Tonnie Read

Executive Headteacher

