



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: Ms Hasina Khan

Friday 15th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a lovely week.

At St John's, we have had a busy and engaging week. The children have been learning about Remembrance Day, participating in activities related to Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need, alongside their regular curriculum. It's been wonderful to see the children actively involved in these important events.

In addition, our KS1 and Reception classes have begun preparations for their Nativity production. Yes, we start early to ensure we have plenty of time to create a truly outstanding performance, one that we hope will feel like a theatre-quality production! We look forward to welcoming you to see the hard work come to life.

Anti-bullying week

Every year in November, schools are encouraged to highlight Anti-Bullying Week. This year, the theme is "Respect," which, coincidentally, aligns with our Christian value for this half term. Throughout the week, the children have written pledges to express their commitment to choosing respect over bullying.

While all school leaders would love to say that bullying does not happen in our school, we acknowledge that it is essential to address it. At St John's, we have worked hard to build positive relationships between children within their own classes and across the wider school community. We have equipped the children with various tools to report any unkind behaviour they may have experienced or witnessed.

Children are regularly reminded that they should always have a trusted adult they can talk to at school. We also have a "Worry or Tell Me Anything" box in every classroom for anonymous concerns. Additionally, children can make self-referrals to Gladys from Meaningful Minds, and my door is always open for them to talk to me directly.

We understand that not all children will immediately share if something unkind is happening to them, which is why we encourage you, as parents, to support us by encouraging your child to speak with the school. This way, we can address any concerns promptly and provide the necessary support.

While I would like to reassure you that we do not have a significant issue with bullying, it remains an important topic to discuss. Bullying can happen outside of school or online, and it is crucial that we teach our children that they have a voice, and we are here to support them. Thank you for your continued support in fostering a safe and respectful environment for all our children.





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How to safeguard children and young people online.

Tuesday 26th November at 7.45 pm on Zoom. (Finishing at 9 pm).

To book your free place, please email: gabriel@stac.org.uk

The next few weeks will be incredibly busy, so please keep an eye on the key dates. All the dates for this half term can be found on our website homepage. Some of the events require parents to make contributions. Please can I ask that you make your contribution if you are able to.

Prayer space

At St. John's, we have several areas where children can worship or reflect, including a dedicated space near the Year 3 and Year 4 classrooms. Kirsty, Emma, Jo—three wonderful mums—and Tamika from Christ Church lead activities there a few lunchtimes each month. This provides a wonderful opportunity for children to nurture their spirituality and faith. If you would like to visit the prayer space or offer your support, please feel free to contact me.

Breakfast and Kidz Club Bookings

A reminder that bookings should be made via the SchoolGateway app - Breakfast club should be booked **by midday the day before** and KidzClub should be booked **by midday on the day**. We do understand that on occasion, plans change and sometimes last minute childcare is needed. We will always do our best to accommodate your needs, but please be mindful that the kitchen staff need numbers of children attending in advance to enable them to prepare sufficient food for all the children. Recently, we have had a large number of late bookings, and it is becoming difficult to accommodate the sheer number of extra children that we hadn't accounted for.

Please also ensure that you select the correct time needed for KidzClub - from 3.30pm if needed directly after school, or from 4.30pm if needed after After School Club - and please select the correct finish time if your child needs to be taken by KidzClub staff to another club. Selecting the correct time slots helps us to ensure the children are where they are supposed to be at the correct time and allows us to properly safeguard the children in our care.





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Key Dates Next week

Thursday 21st November - This is open to all parents - Neurodiversity coffee morning (9:00 am)

22nd November - Year 1 coffee morning (9:05 am)

22nd -27th November - Book fair

22nd November Y1 - Trip to The Smeds and the Smoos theatre trip

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

With warm regards,

Ms. H. Khan
Head of School

