



# 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)

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

*Friday, 10th January 2025*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a wonderful break and feel rested, rejuvenated, and ready for an exciting new term. It has been a joy to welcome the children back to school and hear them eagerly share their delightful holiday stories. Their enthusiasm and energy bring the school to life, and it is lovely to see them reconnecting with their friends and settling back into their routines.

This week, the children have been busy exploring new topics and their class text, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. They have been engaging in discussions, asking thoughtful questions, and immersing themselves in activities that set the stage for an exciting term ahead.

## **Reading Breakfast**

This week, I wrote to you about attending our upcoming reading breakfast session, a wonderful opportunity to share a special moment with your child while fostering a love for reading. I would love to see as many of you as possible joining us for this event, enjoying a warm breakfast together and celebrating the joy of books and stories.

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

Regular school attendance is essential for a child to reach their full potential. Consistent attendance not only supports academic progress but also fosters the development of friendships and social-emotional skills.

School starts promptly at 8:55 am, with the gates opening at 8:45 am. Please ensure your child attends school regularly and arrives on time. Even occasional absences can disrupt their progress, creating gaps in core subjects such as reading, writing, and maths, which may affect their learning as they advance through school.

Additionally, please remember that holidays during term time will not be approved unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any such requests must be submitted in advance and agreed upon with me.

## **Illness**

If your child is unwell, please contact the school by 9 am to inform us of the reason for their absence. You may leave a message on the answering machine, or alternatively, you can email us. Please remember to contact the school each day your child is absent, not just on the first day. If we do not hear from you, Clare will follow up to ascertain the reason, in accordance with our safeguarding and attendance policies.

## **Appointments During School Hours**

If your child has a medical appointment (e.g. dentist, doctor, or optician) during school hours, please provide an appointment card/letter for our records. The absence will be authorised if proof is provided. Whenever possible,





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we kindly ask that you schedule appointments outside of school hours to minimise disruption to your child's learning

## LDBS Buildings Maintenance Scheme

- Last term, I wrote about the LDBS Building Maintenance Scheme. Thank you to all the parents who have already made a donation. The opportunity to contribute is still open for those who have not yet had the chance. If you are able, please consider making the suggested donation of £30 per child. There are several ways to do this:
- Please put your gift (cash, or preferably a cheque made payable to **St John's School**) in the envelope, complete the label and return it to the School Office.
- You could set up an annual or a monthly direct debit to the school, either online or a standing order mandate can be obtained from the School Office.
- You could also make a donation through the School Gateway App. You can select the option 'LDBS Buildings Maintenance Scheme'
- Remember, if you are a taxpayer, you can **make your donation more valuable by giving through Gift Aid** by completing the enclosed Gift Aid form.

## ADHD workshop

**On January 24th at 9 am**, we are hosting a coffee morning to raise awareness about ADHD. The session will be led by a representative from New River College and will provide valuable insights and practical advice. This event is open to all parents, and we warmly encourage you to attend, whether you want to learn more about ADHD, share experiences, or ask questions in a supportive environment. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this informative and engaging session.

## Key Dates for Next Week

- Monday 13th January and Wednesday 15th January - Parents meetings ( Reception to Y6)
- Monday 13th January, after-school clubs start.

I wish you a wonderful weekend filled with relaxation, joy, and quality time with your loved ones! Stay warm!

With warm regards,

Ms. H. Khan

Head of School

