



# 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 Tonnies Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

**Friday 25th April 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and managed to enjoy some family time (and maybe a bit of sunshine too!). We have got a fun and busy term ahead, and we are looking forward to seeing all the great things the children will get up to this term.

It was lovely to see how quickly the children have settled back and are ready to learn. They have come back to school full of energy, smiles, and a fantastic attitude—it is clear that they are excited for all the things we have got planned this term!

I would like to welcome Mrs Sharpe, our new Year 6 teacher, to St John's. She is an experienced teacher who has settled in brilliantly and has already made a great start. She knows exactly what the children need to be ready for their SATS, and to make a confident transition to secondary school, and we are really pleased to have her as part of the team.

## **Assessment for learning**

This term, one of our priorities is Assessment for Learning. But what is Assessment for Learning? It is a way teachers check how well children are understanding what they are being taught. It helps teachers plan what to teach next and supports children in understanding how they can improve. How Does It Work?

In the classroom, Assessment for Learning might look like:

- Asking questions to check children's understanding during a lesson
- Looking at children's work to see what they have understood and where they need more help
- Giving feedback, not just marks, but clear advice like "Next time, remember to..."
- Encouraging children to reflect on their own learning – what they did well and what they could do better
- Setting targets so children know what to work on next

## **Why Is It Important?**

- It helps teachers adapt lessons to meet children's needs
- It gives children a clearer understanding of their own learning
- It builds confidence, because children see that mistakes help them learn
- It encourages children to become independent and motivated learners.





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## What Can Parents Do?

You can support Assessment for Learning at home by:

- Asking your child about what they learned today and how they know they understood it
- Praising effort and progress, not just results
- Talking positively about mistakes as part of learning
- Encouraging your child to talk about what they are proud of and what they would like to get better at.

## Booking for Kidz Club

As you may remember, I wrote to you before the holidays to request that all Kidz Club bookings be made by **2:00 pm** on the day your child will attend. If your child is not booked in through SchoolGateway by this time, unfortunately, they will not be able to attend KidzClub that day. I would like to thank those of you who have already been following this new approach and explain why this change is so important.

Kidz Club continues to be a very popular provision, and we are delighted that so many children enjoy attending. To ensure the club runs smoothly, safely, and remains a positive experience for everyone, we need to finalise numbers in advance. This allows us to make sure we have the right number of staff, enough food prepared, and suitable activities set up for the children.

Our aim is for Kidz Club to be more than just after-school care — we want the children to have fun, feel relaxed, and enjoy engaging activities. To support this, we are introducing a mix of structured activities at the beginning of the session, followed by free time later in the afternoon.

**If your child attends another club from 3:30–4:30 pm and you would like them to attend Kidz Club afterwards (4:30–6:00 pm), it is essential that you book this in advance.** It is not an automatic process, and we want to make sure we are fully prepared to welcome them.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It really helps us to give the children a safe, happy, and enriching experience at the end of their school day, and ensures our staff can carry out their roles effectively.

## Morning Fitness Club

Our new morning fitness club starts this Monday 29th April. This initiative is designed to support children's physical health, boost their mood, and prepare them for a great day of learning.

The club will run from 8:30 am each morning and will involve fun, fitness-related activities aimed at helping children start the day feeling active and energised. Each year group will have a designated day to take part:





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Monday – Reception

Tuesday – Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesday – Year 3 and Year 4

Thursday – Year 5 and Year 6

## **Key dates for next week**

28th April - Y1 to Y4 Forest school in School with Nina

29th April - 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Parents meeting (Reception to Y5)

30th April - 3:00- 6:00 pm Parents meeting (Reception to Y5)

2nd May - Y4 Trip to Hackney School for Food.

As always, thank you for your continued support. We really value working in partnership with you, and your feedback is always welcome and appreciated. Please don't hesitate to come and speak to me if you have any questions or concerns — I am always happy to listen and help wherever I can. I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

With thanks,

Ms Khan

Head of School

