



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 Tonnies Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

Friday 9th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday and had the opportunity to spend time with your loved ones. It is wonderful to have the children back in school. The children looked very happy to see each other and to be back into a routine — maybe I am talking about myself! I am definitely happy to have the routine back.

Wisdom

This half term, our school's value is **wisdom**. In our collective worship, we explored a couple of quotes with the children:

"Wisdom begins in wonder" – Socrates

"Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom" – Aristotle.

If you are able, please discuss what wisdom means to you at home. The children will be thinking about how they can show wisdom through their choices, actions, and the way they treat others, both in school and beyond.

KS2 FOSJ Movie night

On Friday 30th January, we will be holding a KS2 movie night. FOSJ will organise the event, and school staff will support FOSJ in managing it. More information about how to sign up will be sent out next week.

Parents' Meetings

Next week we will be starting parents' meetings. As you know, we are arranging all meetings to take place during the day, and we realise that this could cause some difficulties for working parents. I would really appreciate your flexibility. If you are finding it difficult to get time off work, please let me know and we will try to accommodate you.

Reading

You may have heard on the radio, or have read in the press, that this year is the National Year of Reading. There will be a number of things we will be doing this year to really promote reading for pleasure. If you would like to reignite reading for pleasure at home, please take a look at [National Reading Trust](https://www.nationalreadingtrust.org.uk/) for some ideas.

We have attached a [Google Form](#) for parents to share what book they are currently reading for pleasure. It would be lovely for as many of you as possible to take part, so we can share your reading with the children.

School Gateway

Last term, we asked for parent contributions for a few activities. If you have not yet done so, please log in to School Gateway and make your contribution.





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Unicef – The Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA)

In the last two years, the school has been working towards achieving the RRSA. We achieved Silver last academic year. For many, achieving Silver would have been enough — but not for us. We wanted to make sure that equality, dignity, and respect are at the centre of everything we do. We wanted to ensure that children's rights are fully embedded throughout the school. I am pleased to say that the assessor visited last week and confirmed that we are now a GOLD school.

This is a big achievement for the school because it reflects our commitment to creating a culture where every child feels valued, heard, and respected, and it shows that our whole-school community is living and promoting children's rights every day. A big thank you to Mrs Slack, who led this project successfully and collected all the evidence. Also, a big thank you to all the staff for their support and commitment in helping us achieve this award.

Key dates for next week

Parents' meetings 8.30 am - 5.30pm

Tuesday 13th January – Reception

Wednesday 14th January – Y1

Thursday 15th January – Y2

Friday 16th January – Y3

Thank you for your support and for everything you do to help the school.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and have the opportunity to spend some quality time with a book!

With thanks,

Ms Khan

Head of School

