



# **St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School**

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

Tel: 020 7226 4906

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Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Head of School: Ms Hasina Khan

**17th October 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another wonderful week at STJHV!

## **Developing independence**

This week, the children have been busy writing. Every child was given the same stimulus and asked to write their own story. While no adult support was provided during the writing process, children with SEND were given appropriate scaffolds to help them access the task successfully.

We are doing this as part of our ongoing work to develop independent and resilient learners. One of our key focuses this year is ensuring that all children are able to engage with their learning confidently, without waiting for adult support. To achieve this, teachers are using a range of strategies to help pupils build good learning habits, take ownership of their work, and develop the confidence to persevere when faced with challenges.

You can really help with this at home by encouraging your child to have a go before asking for help, praising their effort rather than just the outcome, and giving them opportunities to solve problems or complete tasks independently. Small steps—like packing their own bag, checking their homework, or practising a skill on their own—help build confidence and resilience that carry through into their learning at school.

## **Year 6 residential**

Our Year 6 class will be going to Aberdovey in Wales next week, where they will take part in many exciting activities. I want to wish them all the best and encourage them to enjoy themselves and try something new. Thank you to Mrs Sharpe, Emily, and Miss Kirby for accompanying them.

## **Diwali**

Next Monday, we will have a special lunch and an assembly to celebrate Diwali — the Festival of Light. In every class, the children will take part in activities to mark Diwali, including making lanterns.

## **Disability awareness**

As part of our theme of *Belonging*, on Wednesday, the children had the opportunity to take part in wheelchair basketball and learn how challenges can be turned into strengths. The purpose of the day was to help the children further develop tolerance and respect for people who may be different from us. Both the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the experience and had great fun playing basketball using the wheelchairs.





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## Quiz night

I hope everyone attending the Quiz Night has a fantastic evening and helps raise lots of money for our school! A huge thank you to the wonderful FOSJ team for organising this event — you do so much for our children, and we are all incredibly grateful for your hard work and dedication.

A special thank you also goes to Fin, as this will be his final time as our Quiz Master. He has been absolutely brilliant, and we will really miss his enthusiasm, humour, and incredible quizmaster flair! Thank you, Fin, for all the time and energy you've given to the school — it has made such a difference.

## Key dates for next week

Monday 20th October- Friday 24th October - Y6 Residential

Friday 24th October - Y1 Bake Sale

Friday 24th October - End of half term - school finishes at 3.30pm

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October - **Half Term**

I hope you have a wonderful weekend — the weather has definitely turned! Thank you for everything you do to support the school.

With thanks,

Ms H Khan

Head of School

