



# St John's Newsletter

Saturday 27th March 2021

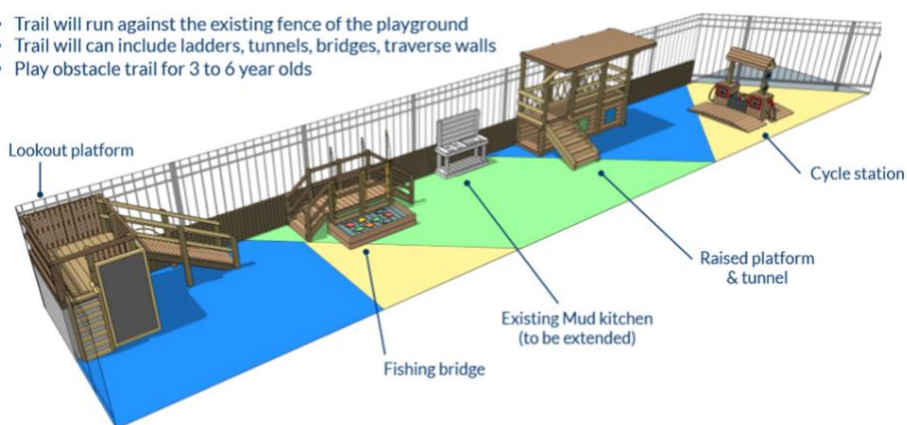
## An update from Mr Rubin...

You will have noticed that our Early Years/Year 1 and KS2 playgrounds are receiving a much-needed makeover. Huge thanks must go to Harry Hill, his family and friends who have given up their time and funds towards this project.

Our Governing Body met on Thursday evening so we could update them on what has been happening in the school since we last met in February.

Sadly we have had to postpone our Easter Service as we had to close four bubbles on Friday. Thank you parents and carers for your cooperation with this. Up until Friday I believe we were one of the only primary schools in Tower Hamlets that had kept every class open over the pandemic. Classes affected will have received guidance on next steps and how learning will take place for children that are required to isolate. Have a lovely weekend, stay safe and be kind to one another.

- Trail will run against the existing fence of the playground
- Trail will can include ladders, tunnels, bridges, traverse walls
- Play obstacle trail for 3 to 6 year olds



Splash Projects - Project Design

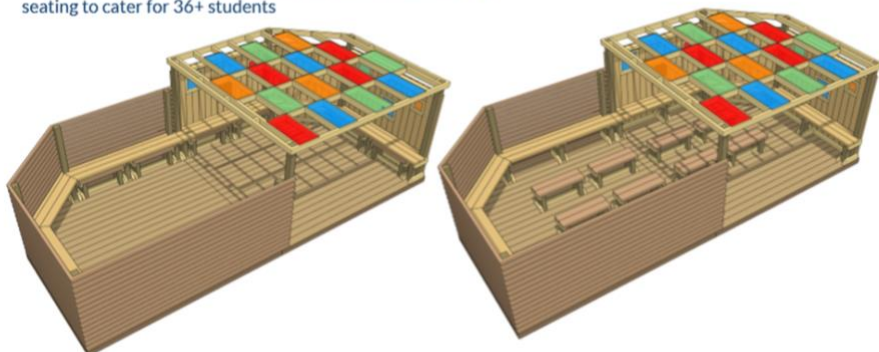


## Building Works

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Hill family, two of our playgrounds will be having some work carried out. I will show you some more pictures on twitter and in the next newsletter but for now, here are the plans. I can not wait to show you the end product.

## Outdoor classroom

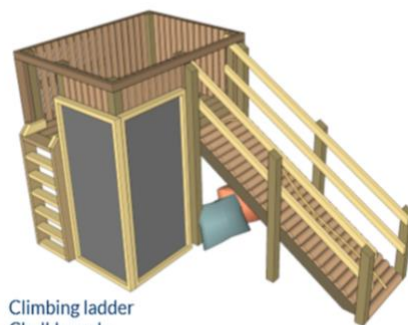
- Classroom to have colour perspex windows and roof panels
- Free-standing benches to be stored underneath outside edge seating to cater for 36+ students



Splash Projects - Project Design



## Lookout platform

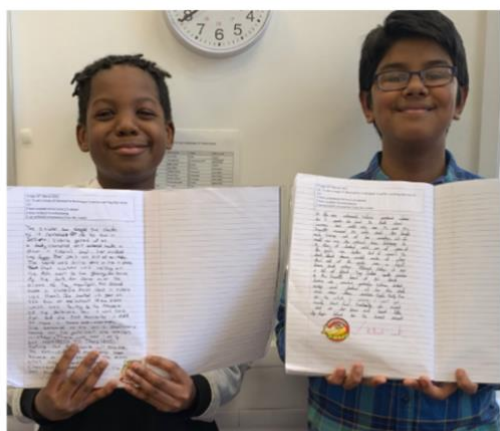


- Climbing ladder
- Chalkboards
- Raised platform to rest on top of existing concrete
- Half-round ramp with rope and handrails
- Space underneath for 'reading den'

## Message from our Governing Body

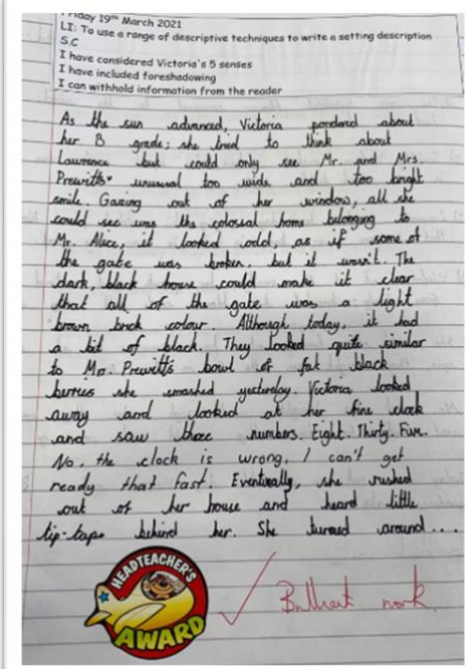


We are deeply grateful to the key worker parents who continued to go out to work all year despite the risks.



## Sharing Great Work

One of the best bits about my job is seeing how proud our children are when they share their work. Here are two of our fabulous writers in Class 6. I think they look pretty pleased with themselves and rightly so!



## Worship Council Update

I noted in the last newsletter that our Value of the Term is Forgiveness. The hearts on the display are filling up nicely with examples of when our children have shown acts of Forgiveness.

I want to share with you this link as four members of our Worship Council have done such an amazing job explaining why Forgiveness is so important. Aply directed by Ms Carly, do please watch it. It makes me very proud to have such capable, assured ambassadors.

<https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower/status/1372938984297488391?s=20>

## School Survey Findings

Thank you to everyone who took part in our recent survey. Across the Federation there were 91 responses for the Home Learning survey (34 St. John's) and 74 responses (32 St. John's) for the Communication During Lockdown survey. Mr. Bennett presented the findings to our Governing Body on Thursday and I will send the analysis out to you next week.

## Red Nose Day 2021

We raised £105.82 to put towards this good cause.

A big thank you to everyone that contributed.

**School will break up on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April at normal time. Our food bank will be open on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April. If you require any support in the holidays, please contact the school email address [parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)**



### Every Child Online

We are so grateful to Mike Tabard, co-founder of Every Child Online who recently donated computer equipment to both schools in our Federation. We were put in contact with Mike via Rachel Maidment, a former school governor so a big thankyou to Rachel too. The equipment will go to great use!

### Year 3 Update – from Mr. Smee

Year 3 have just finished a run of oral storytelling. They used their knowledge of Stone Age hunting and gathering to tell stories of survival, escaping from saber-tooth tigers, taming wild wolves and foraging. They even decorated the classroom with a campfire and cave paintings.



### Year 6 Update - Ms Walker

As part of our collaborative programme with The Rich Mix, our children worked with two professional poets, Mr, Gee and Armani the Poet to enhance their project on MacBeth, honing their art, English and oracy skills. We are looking forward to the end product and screening!

# Family Fun!

Ideas to support learning, play and well-being

## How many words

Develop your child's reading, spelling and writing skills. Give them a word on a piece of paper and ask them to make as many new words they can from it. At first use words at your child's level, then as they get more confident use longer and more complex words.



## Managing emotions

We all experience different emotions in our every day lives. This is part of being a healthy person. However, some emotions can be difficult to manage and so it is important to recognise these feelings and talk about them. Talking about our feelings makes us feel better and more balanced.

## Cereal box art

Most people have a cereal box in the cupboard, don't throw it away, use it for art. Give it to your child with pens, paint, paper, anything you have at home to decorate and help them to make something to play with, something useful or just something to look at. Arts and crafts support positive mental health. Use the opportunity to talk to your child about how they are feeling.



## Enjoy the outdoors

Now the weather is improving try and up your family activity levels. Go for a walk through the boroughs parks, at the moment they are filled with beautiful spring flowers. Being around nature has a positive effect on mental health, increasing happiness and reducing stress.

Produced by  
The Parental Engagement  
Schools and Family Team



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