



# St John's Newsletter

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

## *An update from Mr. Rubin...*

We have another action packed newsletter that showcases the many activities and adventures that the children have been experiencing over the last few weeks. You will see in this edition that we have been victorious in the Tower Hamlets Poetry Slam; discover more about our children's Royal visit; find out how compassionate and caring our children are for those less fortunate than ourselves and explore what our children in the Early Years have been up to recently.

Thank you to all of those parents/carers who filled out the survey about school meals. We are working with our service providers and the Healthy Lives Team to maximise our children's healthy eating opportunities. I am in the process of finalising a parent/carer survey which will be appearing in your inbox soon.

**There are two INSET days to be added to your calendar on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April and Friday May 26<sup>th</sup>**

Have a lovely weekend and be kind to one another.



## **A Royal Visit**

The Princess of Wales worked with our children to promote the start of Children's Mental Health Week by reflecting on the importance of Place2Be in school. The media pictures went around the world and our children were so articulate when talking about how they use their Zones of Regulation and toolkits to help them get back to the green zone.

Princess Catherine was so impressed with how articulate the children were and noted their enthusiasm when speaking about the importance of mental health.

## **Congratulations!!!**

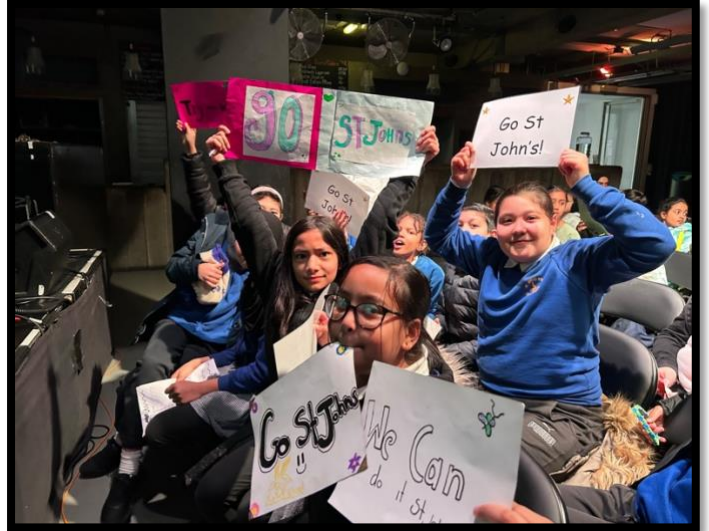
Huge congratulations to Mr. Smee and his wife Rowan on the fantastic news that they now have a new baby girl - Cecilia.

The family are doing very well and we cannot wait to see them soon!!



## Poetry Slam Update

They have only gone and done it again... Well done to the children in Class 6 who did such an incredible job at the recent Tower Hamlets Poetry Slam. In a packed hall at the Rich Mix Cinema, children performed their poem and were awarded the accolade of 'Best Group Performance.' A big thank you to Miss Walker and the Year 6 staff team who work so hard to support the children along with our Poet in Residence Shagufta Iqbal.



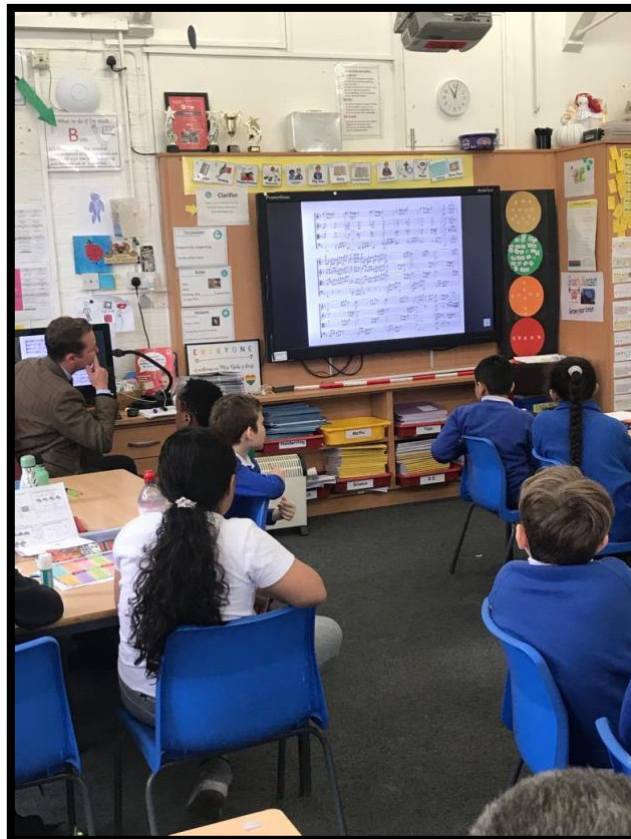
## School Council Update – Ms Moses.

On Thursday 9th February, St John's School Council enjoyed a special trip to City Hall in the Docklands to find out how London is run. They were invited to sit in on a meeting with the London assembly and they also asked some great questions about the Mayor of London. Did you know that the mayor manages a budget of over £19 billion pounds? Did you also know that London is bidding to hold the Olympics again in 2036? Who knows we might even win it! Did you know that the mayor is currently working on a possible project with Madison Garden Square which could bring a new spherical music venue to Stratford. A giant LED ball in the middle of Westfield? Will this be our future? Before we came back to school, we fitted in a quick trip on the cable cars!



The very best way to keep up to date with what is happening in our school is to follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower> . We have 429 followers and the more followers we have, the more people will see what a fantastic little school this is!





### Year 5 Music Update – Mrs Bahi

We had an awe-inspiring day with a visit to the prestigious Haberdasher's Hall to watch a bespoke Schubert Recital by the Hanover Symphony Orchestra- we were bowled over by their talent and the different emotions evoked...and they were impressed with our German singing of Schubert's 'An die Musik'.

A huge thank you to Tom Daggett for making this possible and for visiting us before the event to help make the music come to life.







### Helping Our Community

I wanted to say thank you to the children in Years 5 and 6 who have given up their time after school to help set up camp beds in the local night shelter with Heather at the Bee Hive Cafe for people in our community who do not have a home. Our Core Values of Compassion, Humility and Koinonia (community) were on display. Thanks also to Ms Carly and Ms Walker who lent a hand and helped to get the children there and back safely.





## Early Years Update

Children in the Early Years have been learning all about different careers. They were very lucky that they received a visit from the police and safer neighbourhoods team to talk about the work that they do. In addition to that, children visited the local fire brigade and learnt all about the job of a firefighter. They even got to have a go on the powerful hoses that shoot out water to put out flames.



## Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

Thank you to everyone in our school community who contributed to this appeal. We raised £350 which is one of the largest sums raised. The money has been sent to the Disasters Emergency Commission who allocate funds to support the relief effort.





Improving lives  
and reducing  
waste in  
Tower Hamlets



**The Food Store** is a place you can go every week to pick up large quantities of food for a small amount of money, all while being helped to access support for your finances and wellbeing.



MAYOR OF  
**TOWER HAMLETS**



**'All of Tower Hamlets' residents deserve healthy, affordable food. Food Stores showcase all that is best about our Borough - communities coming together to ensure that everyone is fed, regardless of their background. I am proud to oversee the opening of these stores, and look forward to working more closely with and supporting them moving forward'.**

***Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets***

### **How does it work?**

In return for a weekly membership fee of £3.50 you will be able to pick up £20 to £30 worth of groceries and household items. While you are a member we will also set you up with access to advice services for help with debt, benefits access, housing issues and other areas you might find useful.

### **What kind of food will I get?**

We stock quality redistributed food that can help to top up your weekly shop with nutritious essentials. Your weekly groceries will include fresh fruit and vegetables, chilled and frozen foods, and store cupboard staples. We also offer household items, like toiletries and cleaning products, when we have them.

### **Where is The Food Store?**

The Food Store is running in sites across Tower Hamlets.

### **How long can I be a member?**

Every three months we will check in to see how you are doing and if you are getting the right support. If things have improved and you no longer need our help, the membership will end – if not it will carry on. Memberships normally last for six months.

### **How do I sign up?**

To sign up, or for more information, please email **TheFoodStore@towerhamlets.gov.uk** with your name, address, postcode and contact details.





## **Are you concerned about a child or a family?**

Make a factual record of your concern.

(Include day, date, time, other witnesses, concern and your signature)

You must share your concerns without delay.

### **The Designated Members of Staff Responsible for Safeguarding and Child Protection at St Johns are:**



**Terry Bennett –Executive Headteacher**



**Darren Rubin –Executive Head of School**



**Bal Jheeta – Deputy Headteacher**



**Lisa Lee – Business Manager**



**Marie Dixon- SENCO**



## St John's & Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools

### Term Dates and Holidays - 2022/ 2023

#### Autumn Term 2022 (70 days)

<b>Staff Training</b>	<b>Thu 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>
First Day of Term	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
Second half of term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Last Day of Term	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December

<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December</i>
<i>Boxing Day</i>	<i>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December</i>

#### Spring Term 2023 (58 days)

<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January</i>
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January
<b>Staff Training</b>	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>
First Day of Term	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Mon. 13 <sup>th</sup> to Fri. 17 <sup>th</sup> February
Second half of term	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Last Day of Term	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March

<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April</i>
<i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April</i>

#### Summer Term 2023 (64 days)

<b>Staff Training</b>	<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>
First Day of Term	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May
Bank Holiday	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May (The King's Coronation)
<b>Staff Training</b>	<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May</b>
Half Term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Second half of term	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June
Last Day of Term	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

<i>Ramadan begins</i>	<i>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March* 2023</i>
<i>Eid Al-Fitr</i>	<i>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April* 2023</i>
<i>Eid Al-Adha</i>	<i>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023</i>

190 School Days, **5 Staff Training Days**

\* to be confirmed