



St John's Newsletter

Friday 24th September 2021

An update from Mr Rubin...

The children have settled back to school well. Everyone is working hard to start to fill in any gaps that have been missed as well as making sure that we are giving our children opportunities to flourish and shine.

Whilst the figures remain relatively high in the borough we will continue with our cautious approach. We are looking into trip provision for year groups and I am pleased with our staggered start and end to the day. In the next couple of weeks I will be canvassing your views on how best to return to 'normal'.

Our team are available if you need us. If there is a matter which you would like to talk about in private, you can always email us on our parents address parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk to book an appointment.

Have a lovely weekend, stay safe and be kind to one another.



Governing Body Strategic Away Day **17th September 2021**

Last week our Governing Body met at the Bethnal Green Town Hall Hotel who kindly loaned us a space. We discussed how we will shape our Vision and Values over the years to come. Ms Bahi spoke passionately and Governors discussed how our school exhibits our Values based on their experiences. We will have an exciting update in the weeks ahead.



Miss Maggie

I wanted to let you all know that Miss Maggie will be away from school for a while. She hasn't been very well recently so will take the time that she needs to convalesce. We all miss her and send her lots of love. Mr. Bennett and I popped over to see her last week to send her all our best wishes.



Welcome to St. John's!!

We have some new children that have joined us over the last couple of weeks. A warm welcome to the St. John's family to Aliza, Rocco, Ali, Hasan, Zion, Sierra, Sinnead, Sonnie and Zaira



After School Club Programme

Thank you to all of our parents and carers that have booked a place. Our programme is set out below.

Monday 15:20 – 16:20	Arts and Crafts – EYFS – Y3
Monday 15:30 – 16:30	Journalism Club Y5 & 6
Tuesday 15:25 – 16:25	Year 2/3/4 Multisport/Football
Tuesday 15:30 – 16:30	Drumming Y4, Y5 & Y6
Wednesday 15:30 – 16:30	Year 5 & 6 Multisport/Football
Thursday 15:30 – 16:30	Athletics Club – Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6

Music Update

Not only do we have fantastic singers in the school, we also have some talented musicians. I'm delighted that African Drumming lessons are starting up again. They make a great sound and encourage concentration.



342 followers and counting keep up to date with the school @5tJohnsTower. It is the best way to get the latest information on what is happening in our lovely school!



Kindness Cup

Kindness is such an important value in our school. Our Kindness Cup is awarded weekly via a nomination from a member of staff. Congratulations to these children in Year 6, 5 and 4 who have made such a great start to the year and are demonstrating kindness wherever they go. We are looking forward to find out who it will be next week.

Pointillism In Class 4

I was so impressed when I walked into Class 4. They were studying pointillism and thinking about how they could use that style when replicating local landmarks in the area. You might recognise in the painting the 'Stairway to Heaven' monument by the station



School Library Update

As our children enter the main school, one of the first things they see is our library. It is one of my favourite places!
As things are returning to normal, our children are once again visiting our librarian Shaju on a Tuesday to work with him and choose new books. In the picture to the left, you can see our Early Years children coming to visit the library all the way from their base in the Early Years Unit. I am so glad that everyone is making such good use of this special space.



Duty Leader and Safeguarding Leader Rota

Below is the Duty Lead and Safeguarding Leader rota, outlining which member of our Senior Leadership Team is on duty throughout the week. Please ensure that, should you have a safeguarding concern regarding a child in school, you report it immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Leader (DSL).

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
St John's	Duty Leader	Mr. Rubin	Ms Jheeta	Mr. Rubin	Mr Rubin	Ms Nehaar
St John's	Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mr. Rubin	Ms Jheeta	Mr. Rubin/Mr. Bennett	Mr. Rubin	Ms Nehaar/Mr. Rubin

Congratulations Ms Walker

I am so pleased to share the fantastic news that on Friday 17th September, Ms Walker gave birth to a baby girl – Arabella Rose Howarth who weighed in at 7 pounds 1 ounce.

Ms Walker and Arabella are at home and as you can see, her older brother Harry who was with us last year is doing a great job lending a helping hand.

Congratulations to Ms Walker and her lovely family, we can't wait to see you all soon when you come to visit us.



Lunchtimes at St. John's

Lunchtime is so important for our children. It is an opportunity to take a break, sit around the table with friends and eat good food. You can see how our older children are encouraging their younger friends to make healthy choices. During lunch, our children will listen to our Composer of the Fortnight and sometimes hone their oracy skills. This week we were discussing whether you would want to live forever or be the richest person on earth. Children are encouraged to discuss their views and share them which can be quite nerve wracking. Their friends are then encouraged to build on the point that has been made or respectfully disagree!



RICH MIX

Creative ESOL Course

This is a 9 week course which is aimed at ESOL learners who are interested in creative activity.

This fun and happy course will help you to develop your English through creative approaches to ESOL teaching including arts & crafts, drama, storytelling and access to a wide range of opportunities at Rich Mix. The course also aims to increase your confidence and skills for looking for jobs and volunteering and accessing local services.

Assessment Dates: 22/09, 29/09

Course Dates: 06/10, 13/10, 20/10, 03/11, 10/11, 17/11, 24/11, 01/12, 08/12

Time: 1pm – 3pm

Place: Rich Mix

35 - 47 Bethnal Green Road,
E1 6LA

To book your place please contact
Tracy Barbe; Schools and Outreach at Rich Mix
tracy.barbe@richmix.org.uk

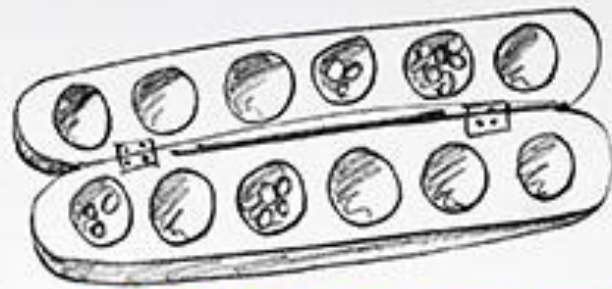


Idea Store Learning

idea
Library Learning Information

www.ideastore.co.uk

DRAW & PLAY



OWARE

I'm a
BIG DRAW
Artist!

**SUN 3 OCT, 2-5PM
AT RICH MIX**

**LET THE GAME CAPTURE
YOUR IMAGINATION!**

Rich Mix in partnership with Art Hoppers and Mwalimu Express present BIG DRAW 2021! Learn how to play Oware, the ancient pit & pebble game. Make your own game-board from recycled materials. Discover the meaning of Adinkra symbols like Sankofa the mythical bird who looks to the past for knowledge. Draw, cut, design and play to the sound of African rhythms!

FREE Family Event - Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Rd, E1 6LA
richmix.org.uk/events/the-big-draw-2021-draw-and-play-oware

RICH MIX

Ah!

MWALIMU
EXPRESS



THE 2021[®]
**BIG
DRAW
FESTIVAL**

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

Term Dates and Holidays - 2021/ 2022

Autumn Term 2021 (71 days)

Staff Training	Wednesday 1st September
	Thursday 2nd September
	Friday 3rd September
First Day of Term	Monday 6 th September
Half Term	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October
Staff Training	Monday 1st November
Second half of term	Tuesday 2 nd November
Last Day of Term	Friday 17 th December
<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Saturday 25th December</i>
<i>Boxing Day</i>	<i>Sunday 26th December</i>

Spring Term 2022 (58 days)

<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Saturday 1st January</i>
<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Monday 3rd January (substitute day)</i>
Staff Training	Tuesday 4th January
First Day of Term	Wednesday 5 th January
Half Term	Mon. 14 th to Fri. 18 th February
Second half of term	Monday 21 st February
Last Day of Term	Friday 1 st April
<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday 15th April</i>
<i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>Monday 18th April</i>

Summer Term 2022 (63 days)

First Day of Term	Tuesday 19 th April
Staff Training	Friday 29 th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May
Half Term	Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 rd June
Second half of term	Monday 6 th June
Last Day of Term	Friday 22 nd July

<i>Ramadan begins</i>	<i>Saturday 2nd April* 2022</i>
<i>Eid Al-Fitr</i>	<i>Monday 2nd May* 2022</i>
<i>Eid Al-Adha</i>	<i>Saturday 9th July 2020</i>

190 School Days, **5 Staff Training Days** (2 to be arranged)

* to be confirmed

Parenting programmes

Parenting programmes are a source of support for all parents and offer an opportunity to share experiences, develop an understanding of child development, build positive relationships and learn to deal with challenging behaviour.

Autumn programmes (Sept-Dec 2021)

Programmes are delivered by the Parenting Team and take place in schools, community centres and on online.

Programme	Age range	Information
Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities (SFSC)	2 - 18 years	Aims to increase parental self-esteem and confidence and reduce child behavioural difficulties. Five sessions, shortened version adapted for online. Also available in Bengali and Somali. Evening programme in English.
Triple P Teen	12 - 18 years	For parents to foster positive relationships with their teenager or for those who have concerns about problem behaviour, non-cooperation and aggression or wish to prevent behavioural problems from developing. Eight sessions.
Triple P Group	18 months - 11 years	For parents who wish to build positive relationships with their child, increase self-confidence and develop their skills and techniques for dealing with difficult behaviour. Eight sessions.
Triple P Family Transitions	Birth - 18 years	NEW for 2021. For parents who are experiencing personal distress after separation or divorce, which is impacting on their parenting. Eight sessions.
Triple P Online	18 months - 11 years and 12 - 18 years	An individual online programme for parents to access and complete at their own pace. Practitioner support and guidance to complete the programme is available on request.
Emotional First Aid	All parents	Offers an overview of mental health and wellbeing in relation to parenting. Learn strategies to manage anxieties, identify stress factors, gain a better understanding of ourselves and promote a healthier sense of wellbeing. Six sessions.
Speakeasy	5 - 18 years	For parents to develop the skills and confidence to talk to their children about growing up, relationships and keeping safe. Explores how Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) is taught in schools and the influence on children from media and peers.
The Parent Factor in ADHD	5 - 18 years	A programme for parents with children diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The course will cover information to help understand the diagnosis and treatment, strategies to support your child and manage difficult behaviour and how to advocate on your child's behalf within the education system.

Parenting one-off discussion groups

The Triple P discussion group series cover a range of topics and parenting concerns.

For parents of children aged 2-11 years

- Encouraging Positive Behaviour
- Managing Fighting and Aggression

For parents of children aged 12-18 years

- Dealing with Emotional Behaviour
- Reducing Family Conflict

Get in touch

The parenting team look forward to receiving enquires from parents, carers, social care colleagues, school staff and other agencies in the borough.

To talk to a parenting practitioner for advice, to book a place or to make a professional referral contact the Tower Hamlets Parenting Team: Email: parenting@towerhamlets.gov.uk Tel: **020 7364 6398**



**Invitation to families – Welcome Little Amal to London
Saturday 23rd October, 09:30AM, St Paul's Cathedral**

Little Amal has been walking since July, beginning at the Syria-Turkey border and is soon to be finishing her quest in Manchester in November. Throughout her journey, Amal has been welcomed and celebrated by the towns, cities, and villages she has travelled through with artistic events uniquely reflecting and rejoicing the different communities she has met. You can find out more about her journey [here](#).

At 9:30AM On the 23rd October Amal will arrive in London to be welcomed by faith leaders on the steps of St Paul's Cathedral. We want to make her feel especially welcome and to do this we need your help to prepare a surprise song. We will serenade her as she sets off through the streets of London!

So, warm up your voices, and join us to sing one of the most welcoming songs ever written - 'Consider Yourself' from the musical 'Oliver'.

Everyone is welcome to attend the event. We would love to see friends and family, song-sheet in hand, singing along with the choir, as the whole of London greets this very special little girl. As this is a public event, we are unable to provide dedicated supervision, but invite teachers and parents to come with their young people and to enjoy the celebrations.

Please arrive by 09:30AM outside the steps of St Paul's Cathedral. Amal will emerge at 10AM to be greeted by faith leaders, and musicians from the West End. The event will conclude by 11AM.

You can find more information at <https://www.goodchance.org.uk/thewalk>

SOMETHING
BIG

IS COMING TO



London



Little AMAL, a 3.5 meter puppet of a 9 year old girl, has travelled across Europe and is **sleeping** on the steps of **St Paul's Cathedral**. She will be woken up by hundreds of young voices welcoming her on her first day in the Big City.

When: SATURDAY
23rd OCTOBER
Time: 9:30am



We are inviting your school to join us and sing '**Consider yourself**' to give Little Amal a wonderful surprise.

She will not only be greeted by young people just like her but also with singers and instrumentalists from the West End and Bishops and Senior Faith Leaders.

DO YOU WANT TO JOIN US IN FRONT OF **St Paul's Cathedral**
AND BE PART OF THE CHORUS OF VOICES?