



# St John's Newsletter

13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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

Welcome back to a new term. I hope you had a good break despite the rather gloomy weather. We continue to make adjustments to our usual arrangements. You will have been contacted by your child's teacher to organise a parent/carer conference. Usually you will have an allotted time to come into the school. However, this time we will be phoning you. Many of you will be used to this as you received phone calls during the first lockdown. I hope you find this approach helpful.

This week has been very busy. Our Remembrance Day is showcased on the next page. Ms Bahi, Ms Carly and the Worship Council did a brilliant job arranging this so I wanted to say a big thank you to them. Today we are in non-uniform to raise money for Children in Need.

It is World Kindness Day today. Have a lovely weekend, stay safe and be kind to one another.



## Visit to Tate Britain

I wrote in a previous newsletter that children from St. John's feature in the Steve McQueen Year 3 Exhibition at the Tate Britain Gallery. I'm delighted to say that one of our amazing pupils Jaya has visited and thoroughly enjoyed it! The exhibit is on until January 31<sup>st</sup> 2021. I know that the gallery is closed at the moment but it will be open again soon and is well worth a look – it is completely free too! More details can be found on the Tate Britain website below but I am sure that Jaya will be able to tell you all about it if you ask her.

<https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-britain/exhibition/steve-mcqueen-year-3>

## EYFS Update – Mrs. Brownbill

In the EYFS we love reading! Thank you to parents and carers who have sent photos of reading with their children at home. If you haven't yet- please do add any photos or videos of you sharing a book at home with your child using your Tapestry account. All pupils in EYFS will be receiving a free book in the post from us in our work with The Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Please let us know if you have not received your copy!





# Remembrance Day

## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020



Wednesday was the first time that the whole school came together in one space since March 2020 for a Collective Worship event to commemorate Remembrance Day. Mr. Bennett led the service in the large playground with everyone adhering to social distancing within our bubbles. Children made poppies and wrote prayers on them. We came outside to listen to music and pause to think of those that we remember.





## Artis – Thank You Dasha.

In previous newsletters you will have read about some of the great work the children have been doing with Artis. We were so fortunate to receive such a generous donation from Dasha Shenkman. I have known Dasha for many years now and she has been such a good friend to St. Paul's where I first met her through her links with the Concordia Foundation and as a reading partner. A while ago, Dasha and I were talking about St. John's and she said that she would love to help out. Dasha's financial contribution has enabled us to have Artis in school for the next three years. Thank you Dasha, we are so grateful.

artis...

## Sports Update - Ms Walker

On Friday 6th November children from Classes Two to Six took part in a virtual cross country race as part of the Tower Hamlets Sport Programme and the London Youth Games.

This year, children had to run laps of the playground which was on the face of things, not particularly inspiring compared to last year's course around Victoria Park. However, as you would expect, our children showed great Determination and Resilience and ran either 1Km or 1.6Km. They enjoyed running the competitive race and also cheering on each other too.

I am extremely proud of all the children who took part. Well done!



## Music Update

I am so pleased to let you know that African Drumming lessons have now started. I have long been a fan of this type of drumming. Not only does it sound fantastic, it helps children with concentration and dexterity. Ms Bahi organises the music provision in the school, so a big thankyou to her.



We now have 247 followers on Twitter. Thank you to everyone who has signed up. Please follow us @5tJohnsTower – it's a great way to see what is happening in school.

## Worship Council Update

Our Worship Council have been so busy. Not only have they been supporting Ms Bahi with the arrangements for Remembrance Day but they have been working hard to promote our Value of the term which is Compassion. Your child will have been given some 'Compassion Take Home Packs'. If you would like some more information on this you can always check our Twitter account <https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower/status/1324028748224696321> . It's a brilliant video!



## A Prayer for November

### A Prayer of Compassion

Lord, open our eyes  
that we may see you in our brothers and sister.

Lord, open our ears  
that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the  
cold, the frightened, the oppressed.

Lord, open our hearts  
that we may love each other as you love us.

Renew in us your spirit.  
Lord, free us and make us one.

Amen



### Year 3 Update

Two of our pupils in Year 3 dressed up as Norse people - a farmer and a Viking.



### Governor Visit

Two of our Governors, Rowena and Kathy visited St. Paul's on the 15<sup>th</sup> October and St. John's on the 21<sup>st</sup> October to review our Covid risk assessment and to look at our exit procedure at the end of the day. They noted for St. John's:

*"Children left the school building calmly, in their class groups in a line with their teacher at the front and waited to be called by the appropriate member of staff at either of the two exits to the school playground, or the early years' annex exit respectively. All exits displayed a notice stating the staggered pick up and drop off times for the designated year group. Parents calmly adhered to the required social distancing measures."*  
Thank you Rowena and Kathy for taking the time to visit and write the report.

### Duty Leader and Safeguarding Leader Rota

Below is the Duty Leader 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
<b>St John's</b>	Duty Leader	Mr. Rubin	Mr. Hurst/Mr. Rubin	Mr. Hurst	Mr. Hurst	Ms Wall/Mr. Rubin
	Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mr. Rubin	Mr. Rubin	Mr. Hurst	Mr. Hurst	Ms. Wall/Mr. Rubin

### Some Sad News...

We are sad to let our families know that 'Rock' our beloved EYFS guinea pig recently passed away. We would like to thank all the children and families that have taken wonderful care of him.



## From Denise and Rashina

### An information session for all parents/carers



Schools have welcomed back children and young people, but things are still not quite back to normal. Schools might be operating a mixture of in-school and home learning or your child (and your family) may need to self-isolate for a period of time, so you will need to make provision to teach them remotely.

You will also be able to get advice about supporting your child with online learning as well as look at a sample of school websites and become familiar with online learning portals, such as Google Classroom, Purple Mash and more.

***Denise and Rashina are inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting on Wednesday evening.***

***Topic: Online Safety and Learning - Parent Engagement Team***

***Time: Nov 18, 2020 7:00 PM London***

***Join Zoom Meeting***

***<https://zoom.us/j/92973215259?pwd=Wkc2T0xYa2Jtc1NDUWVqRTdFZjRBZz09>***

***Meeting ID: 929 7321 5259***

***Passcode: 6QH9xB***

**For more information:** Email: [denise.foster@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:denise.foster@towerhamlets.gov.uk) or [rashina.begum@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:rashina.begum@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Telephone: 07923 242 488

## Support available in the borough

### **Somali Parents and Carers Network**



The Parental Engagement Team invites Somali parents and carers in Tower Hamlets to an online meeting on **Monday 16th November between 11.00am - 1.00pm**. Join us to meet other parents to discuss support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Tower Hamlets.

Find out the latest updates from guest speakers on SEND and where to get advice and support.

Christine McInnes, Divisional Director, Education and Partnerships, London borough of Tower Hamlets, will be the guest speaker at this meeting

The session will be delivered in Somali and English.

For further information or to book a place, email [parenting@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:parenting@towerhamlets.gov.uk) or call 020 7364 6398.

## Admission to Reception (primary school) 2021

Pupils usually start primary school in the September following their fourth birthday. If your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 this will be from September 2021.

You must complete an online application by 15 January 2021 through the [E-admissions website](#).

You must make an online application for a reception place, even if your child is already attending the school's nursery.

Find out more about [primary school \(reception\) admission](#)

## Advice and information

Organisation	How they can help
<a href="#">Account 3</a> <a href="mailto:admin@account3.uk">admin@account3.uk</a> 020 7739 7720 (leave message with number and service required and response will be provided within a day)	Provide welfare benefits and employment rights advice and information Phone advice for parents of under 5's (resources delivered for under 5's e.g activity books, paper, pens, paints, glue etc. Vocational training for childcare. Teaching assistants and early years courses now transferred to online courses. Assessment, registration and learning all now available online. Welcome to Tower Hamlets – support for new arrival to the UK including those with no recourse to public funding to access resources and services.
Wapping Bangladesh Association <a href="mailto:wappingba@hotmail.com">wappingba@hotmail.com</a> Mob: 07956 503 415 Monday, 2pm - 5pm and Thursday 10am - 1pm.	Advice and info telephone service is provided to clients; 3 days a week Digital project – continuing fortnightly through social media Social contact through phone, email and video calling befriending and advice service Can deliver shopping
<a href="#">Green doctors</a> 0300 365 5003 Pre-booked consultations only	Struggling with energy bills book a consultation service for people on low incomes or over 65.



## **Bethnal Green After School Club**

**Bethnal Green After School Club** is Ofsted-registered, and open to children aged 3 to 11.

There are two branches of the club:

**Globe Primary**, Gawber St, OFSTED: 2549328 and **Bangabandhu Primary**, Wessex Street, OFSTED: 2549327

Both are open **Monday—Friday, 3 pm—6 pm.**

Cost is £11 per child, per afternoon.

Children are picked up from Bangabandhu, Bonner, Globe, Hague, St Johns and John Scurr Primary Schools, and Rachel Keeling nursery.

For enquiries or to register a place, contact  
Globe Club Manager Amanda Carter

[Bethnalgreenafterschoolclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Bethnalgreenafterschoolclub@yahoo.co.uk) or [07593618663](tel:07593618663)

or [Bangabandhu Club Manager Muna Hassan BangabASC@gmail.com](mailto:Bangabandhu Club Manager Muna Hassan BangabASC@gmail.com)

or **07763019301**