



St John's Newsletter

Friday 21st May 2021

An update from Mr Rubin...

Eid Mubarak to all our St. John's children, families and staff who celebrated Eid last week. I hope you had a wonderful day. As you know, we do a lot of work honing our oracy skills and I was very proud of pupils in Class 4. During lunch time this week, as part of our oracy practice, some of our children shared how they celebrated Eid. Common themes shared included family, being together, prayer and reflection. Children were able to draw parallels to other important days in the religious calendar such as Christmas, Chanukah and Diwali.

It has been a busy couple of weeks since I last wrote to you. Our children have been filming in the Early Years as well as in Class 6. Class 1 went on a school trip to London Zoo. Everyone has worked with Beebop at Artis. Class 3 girls continue to work with the brilliant ICANBE. Class 5 are working on their Poetry Slam competition and Class 2 have recently been working with the author Karen Littlewood.

As promised, I have included the results of our second survey on how well you think we communicate with you.

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

**ZSL
LONDON
ZOO**



Class 1 Trip to London Zoo – Ms Pink

Year one had a FABULOUS time at London Zoo on Tuesday. We saw many of the animals of the African savannah that we read about in English last term. A tiny Goeldi's Monkey tried to make friends with us and we loved the Bushbabies in the nocturnal animals area. We decided that we'd like to go to the zoo every week!



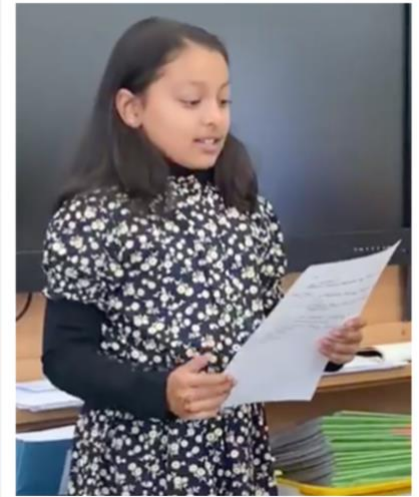
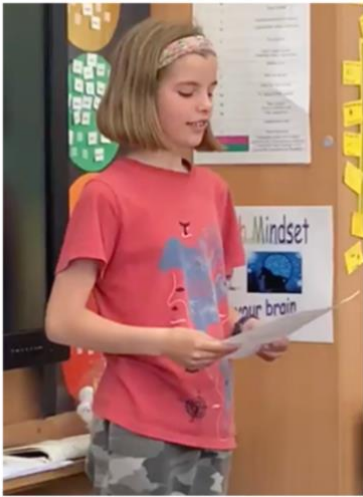
Bubble News

Next week, Class 4 will be joining Class 5 to form a new bubble. Class 6 will now not be paired with another bubble.

Tower Hamlets Poetry Slam

We are so pleased to be taking part in this Year's Poetry Slam. Our children have been getting top tips from a professional poet Mr. Abdullahi Mohammed. Some of the children's work is featured on our twitter page so do take a look – it's rather impressive.

<https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower>



Story time in the Playground!

You can't beat a good story and some children in Mr. Smee's class took advantage of lining up time in the morning to share a book. It just goes to show that wherever you are, you can always enjoy a story.

St. John's Musician of the Week...

Miles Davis

Miles Dewey Davis III (May 26, 1926 – September 28, 1991) was an American trumpeter, bandleader, and composer. He is among the most influential and acclaimed figures in the history of jazz and 20th-century music. Miles' music changed direction and form over his five-decade career, and this kept him at the forefront of many major stylistic developments in jazz. He performed and recorded pieces with Jazz greats such as John Coltrane, and he was still an influence after his death in 1991. In 2006, Davis was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, which recognized him as "one of the key figures in the history of jazz", and many have described him as one of the most important musicians of the 20th century. Hopefully you'll get to listen to some of his amazing jazz music this week

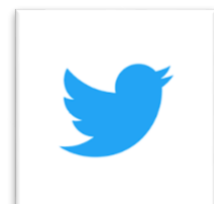


Genre: Jazz
Bebop Jazz
Jazz Fusion



Follow us on Twitter @5tJohnsTower

One of the best ways to keep up to date with what is happening at school is via our Twitter feed. We now have 315 followers.



Lights Camera Action...Again!

Once again, some of our children were in front of the camera, this time filming for the London Garden Trust. It was a great experience for our younger children, despite the inclement weather.



Holiday Childcare June Scheme 2021

The Tower Hamlets Holiday Childcare Scheme is now available for bookings.

The scheme runs from Tuesday 1st to Friday 4th June 2021 at Cubit Town Primary School, Manchester Road, E14 3NE

A hyperlink is attached for you below.

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ign/education_and_learning/extra-curricular_activities/Holiday_childcare/Holiday_Childcare_Scheme.aspx

Celebrating Eid

Children in Class 6 had a lovely time making and eating chana masala. This is a hearty chickpea and tomato saucy dish. The only disappointing thing was that neither Mr. Hurst nor I got to try any!



New Age Kurling

Children in Class 2/3 enjoyed learning how to play New Age Kurling with Emma, a Disability Sports Coach working in Tower Hamlets. All the children joined in brilliantly and became very skilled at using the Kurling 'stone'



Federation Communication Survey

Here are the results of the second survey on how well our school communicates with you. Parents across the Federation took part using SurveyMonkey.

We received 74 responses in total with 32 from parents/vcarers at St. John's. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the questionnaire. Results were reported to our Governing Body. I have filtered the results so that you can see how our school responded.

When the school wanted to give you general information, how useful did you find the following:?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0

	VERY USEFUL	QUITE USEFUL	NEUTRAL	NOT AT ALL USEFUL	N/A	TOTAL
▼ Newsletter	68.75% 22	28.13% 9	0.00% 0	3.13% 1	0.00% 0	32
▼ Text service	81.25% 26	15.63% 5	0.00% 0	3.13% 1	0.00% 0	32
▼ Email	75.00% 24	21.88% 7	3.13% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	32
▼ Phone call	84.38% 27	9.38% 3	3.13% 1	3.13% 1	0.00% 0	32
▼ Twitter	12.90% 4	29.03% 9	12.90% 4	3.23% 1	41.94% 13	31
▼ School Website	25.81% 8	19.35% 6	22.58% 7	3.23% 1	29.03% 9	31
▼ Other	32.00% 8	16.00% 4	8.00% 2	4.00% 1	40.00% 10	25

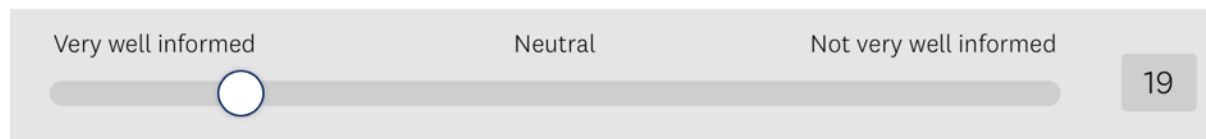
Comments: *Teachers would call me regularly to check up on my children*

The overwhelming majority of parents/carers who responded found our methods of communication either useful or very useful. In particular parents/carers were positive about phone calls, text messages and emails.

It is of note that fewer respondees thought that twitter and the school website were applicable to them.

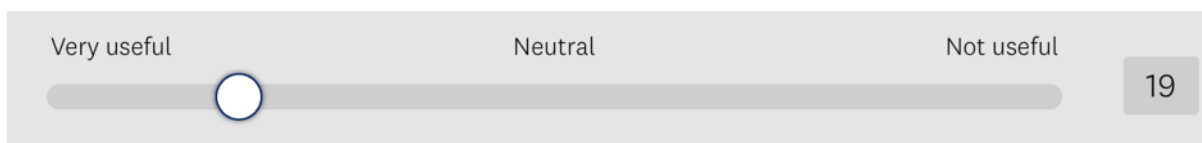
In general, how well do you think the school kept you informed during Lockdown?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



How useful did you find the regular check-in phone calls from school staff?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



These bar shows the average rating of how well the school kept parents carers informed and how useful the regular check-in phone calls from staff were. Overall, the results show that parents/carers felt that the school did keep them informed and the check in calls were useful.

In terms of communication, what did the school do well?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0

- *Very well, I was extremely satisfied with the school and they were very helpful.*
- *Done very well in terms of keeping me up to date with crucial information*
- *Let us know times and dates when relevant. Kept parents updated when food was available to collect for those that needed it,. Nursery staff were great with tapestry videos, phone calls and commenting on children's work on tapestry*
- *Communication was brilliant in all aspects. Prompt in responding and keeping us informed on anything and everything that was going on! Thank you all!*
- *Make sure the children were okay and provide us with laptops for their home school work.*
- *Everything. Phone calls, emails and newsletters*
- *Email, phone and texts were brilliant*
- *Nothing! Communication has been poor from March 2020*

In terms of communication, what could the school do better?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0

- *Bit more detail*
- *I guess in situations like this not much can be done as Government making decisions*
- *I think we could be making more use of the school website if we had a page for parents with all the links on they might need and events in a calendar there and a page for children in each class with all their links on. This could become a go to place and could show great photos for others to find. It would also then build a picture for others who look at our website that we are a thriving school community!*
- *Give sufficient notice when proposing any changes*
- *Nothing! The whole senior team, Teachers and admin staff were all brilliant!*
- *Keeping parents informed with relevant and correct information. Follow up with parents when they have an enquiry or an issue (Because they don't) from my persona experience*
- *They did everything they could in the circumstances they were under*

Summary of Communication Findings:

The overall majority of parents/carers reported that the school communicated effectively. Our Senior Leadership Team will look into the following:

- Consider how we can make adjustments to our website
- Advertise our website more prominently
- Advertise twitter so parents/carers understand the relevance of it