



# St John's Newsletter

22nd January 2021

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

I hope you are all well and looking after one another. We are certainly missing everyone here at school but are adapting. Work continues to be set daily on Purple Mash and we are trialling Google Classrooms so the children can see their friends. We are open every day for 'vulnerable' families and children of critical workers and we continue to run food drops on a Friday. I mentioned in the last edition about the importance of supporting your children to engage in work set and Denise and Rashina have added lots of links in the newsletter today that might help.

I know how difficult it can be to manage and keep on top of things. If you are finding things hard then you are not the only one. I wanted to remind you that we are here to support you. In the phone calls that you have with our staff, let them know if you are finding things challenging so that we can help. Your children need to be engaging with the learning our staff are setting and work should be uploaded or sent back via email. Let us know if there are issues and we can support you. If you need to get in touch with the school you can leave a message on the phone 0208 980 1142 or email us by writing to [parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)

Do make sure you read every page of the newsletter. There is lots of information today ranging from assistance with broadband, a Place2Be update with Kam, food banks that are opening, flu vaccine information plus some rather splendid news from Ms Wall.

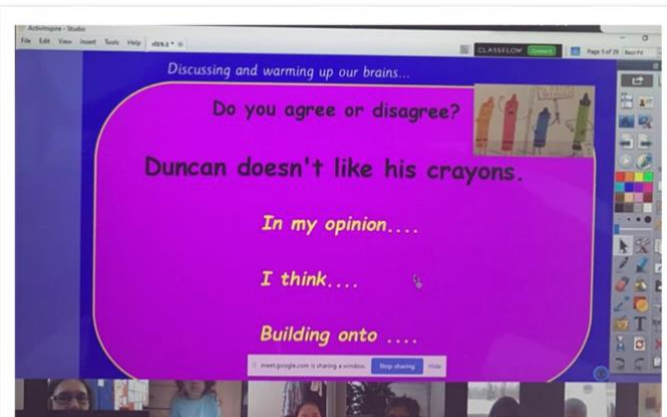
## Google Classrooms

I noted in the last newsletter that our staff were to receive training on Google Classrooms. Over the next couple of weeks, your teacher will be in touch to arrange to meet your child using this application. Our plan is to introduce this slowly as there are a number of things to consider such as timetabling, number of devices in the house, broadband strength etc.

I am very grateful to Ms Moses and Ms Walker who have been trialling this in their classes. Feedback has been good and the children enjoy seeing one another.

Whilst Google Classroom and Google Meets are a great way to see the class, we will continue to use Purple Mash and Tapestry

Encourage your children to upload their work so teachers can assess it.





## Ms Wall

I am very pleased to inform you that Ms Wall got in touch to share her good news...Baby Isaac Adkins was born on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021!

Isaac is doing really well and is already very tall. He is still learning to sleep through the night and he has been having lots of cuddles as he gets used to the world around him.

We are so happy for Ms Wall and her husband Jack.

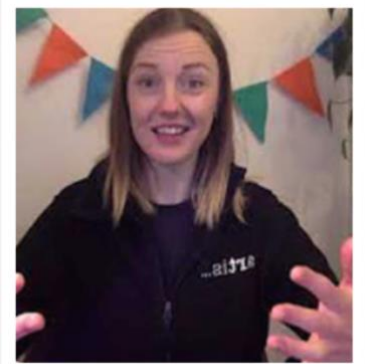
I think we all needed a bit of news to cheer us up!!



## ARTIS Update – Mr Rubin

Whilst we are all disappointed that we can't be in school, we are lucky that Beebop from Artis has recorded her lessons for you to enjoy weekly. Please encourage your children to take a look at them. If you click on the link below, you can access all of the lessons so far.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLrtLkmztNPCMNSNT1Fnp3Lfj8MWktQpAM>



## Sharing Good Work

Whether you are winning Blue Peter Awards or making intricate works of art with salt dough, we want to know what you have been doing so you can inspire our school community.

If you would like to share anything you have been working on, please send it in to our twitter account or email in.



## Oracy Update Ms Walker and Ms Pink

It is really important to keep up your oracy skills whilst in lockdown. Teach your families about the instigator, builder and challenger roles.

This week, we want you to debate this question: **If there could only be cats or dogs in the world which would you choose?** Remember to provide evidence.

Please send in your responses either via video or written to our twitter account @5tJohnsTower or the parent email address.

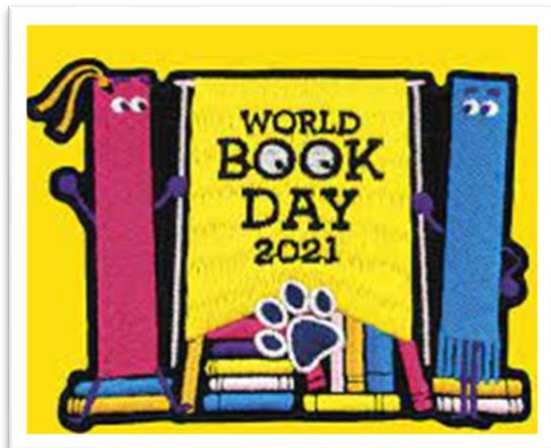
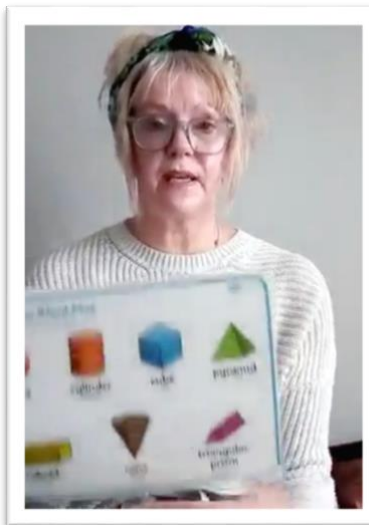
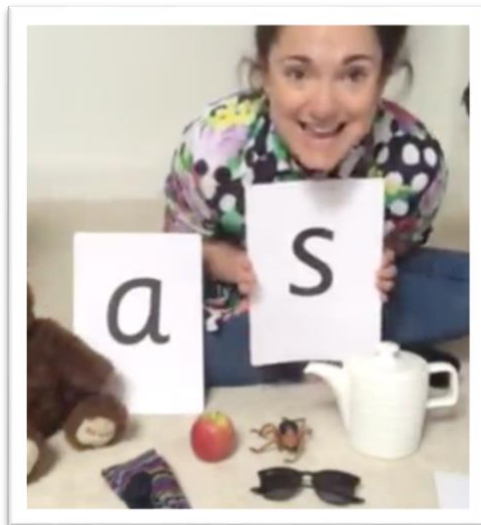
## EYFS Update – Mrs Brownbill

During lockdown we still need to be learning! There's lots of important and enjoyable lessons for your child on Tapestry.

If your child is missing PE with Malcolm or stories with Mrs Stevens they can access them remotely from the comfort of your home.

We update our videos daily, so please log in daily as a part of your home learning routine.

If you have any questions or log in queries please do not hesitate to get in touch and speak to Mrs Brownbill.



## World Book Day Early Reminder – Ms Walker and Ms Pink

It may seem a long way away but on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March we will be celebrating World Book Day even if we are in lockdown. We are giving you notice because we would love home-made costumes but of course shop bought is fantastic too. Get your creative hats on and we can't wait to see the results on World Book Day.

## PSHE Update – Ms Pink

We pride ourselves on celebrating all that makes us different, unique and special. Ms. Pink has worked very hard to record a 'Celebrating Difference' assembly on our YouTube channel. Please watch it and perhaps you can have a discussion about differences at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXW2NwQykU>



**Celebrating Difference - PSHE - Ms Pink**



St Johns CE Primary School

# ST. JOHN'S FUNDRAISER

Fundraising Campaign

## School Fundraising Update – Mr. Rubin

I am so pleased to let you know that our fundraising campaign is going from strength to strength. We have already raised a staggering £1800! If you would like to contribute or know someone that would, please send them the following link <https://donatemyschool.com/st-johns-ce-primary-school-2431>

## Did your child miss out on the flu vaccine?

**It's not too late to join thousands of parents who already got their children vaccinated for the seasonal flu.**

We only have a limited supply left so don't miss the chance to get a flu jab or spray for your child (Reception to Year 7).

- ✓ Safe
- ✓ Halal friendly (no gelatine)
- ✓ Free

### **Book your child's appointment today in 3 easy steps**

1. Send a text message to **07908908415**
2. Include your child's full name, DOB, Class, School and vaccine preference (spray or injection)
3. Wait to hear from us to finalise details of your appointment



**Have questions on how the flu vaccine protects your child and family?**

Contact us at [towerhamlets@vaccinationuk.co.uk](mailto:towerhamlets@vaccinationuk.co.uk)



# Virtual Autism Coffee Morning

For parents and carers that have a child diagnosed with Autism.

The coffee morning will be delivered in  
English and Bengali

Join to meet other parents and find out more  
about the following topics on:

**Monday 25th January 2021:** Managing self-care  
during lockdown for parents

**Monday 8th February 2021:** Supporting  
children with anxiety

**Time:** 10am - 11:30am  
on Zoom

These coffee mornings will be run by parents and staff from DCOS  
(Disabled Children's Outreach Service)

If you are interested in attending,  
please contact us for the zoom details by:

EMAIL: [halima.chowdhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:halima.chowdhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

TELEPHONE CALL/TEXT: 07984188237

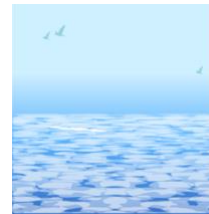




*A message from Place2Be.....*

Hello again children of St John's from Place2Be!

How have you all been feeling this week? For this week's feelings check-in, perhaps we can think about our feelings drifting along the ocean.....



Maybe your feelings would be peacefully floating along with the breeze.....? Or perhaps your feelings might be crashing like mighty waves in a thunderstorm? Remember to share your feelings with those around you, to tell them about your 'ocean of feelings'. Why not ask other people how they've been feeling too!

At Place2Be, we think a lot about our feelings and our 'wellbeing'. Wellbeing means looking after both our *minds* and our *bodies* to keep us healthy and feeling the best we can feel. Your activity for this week is to design your very own wellbeing **festival**. A festival is often a special event with lots of activities, food and music, that lasts for a whole day or even longer. What would your 'Wellbeing festival' be like?

Maybe you'd play a sport that makes your heart race and makes you feel good?!



Maybe you'd hire your favourite band to play the songs that get you smiling when you sing along?



What food would you have? What food is special to you?



What activities would you have? Are there any arts or crafts that help you think about your feelings? Don't forget – this is YOUR wellbeing festival....so the choices are all up to you!



*Dear Parents/Carers,*

*It's important to think your own wellbeing in these changing times. Find here a link BBC bitesize, with articles around supporting 'self-care' for you and your families:*

*<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/znsmyxc>*



Limited  
Delivery Service  
Available

# osmani FOOD BANK

Providing **emergency food** support  
to people in poverty or crisis

**FOOD COLLECTION**

**Every Wednesday 12pm - 3pm**

Osmani Centre, 58 Underwood Road, London E1 5AW



**VOLUNTEER + DONATE FOOD + DONATE MONEY**

For further information

**020 7247 8080**

[eet@osmanitrust.org](mailto:eet@osmanitrust.org)  
[www.osmanitrust.org](http://www.osmanitrust.org)



LONDON  
COMMUNITY  
RESPONSE FUND



osmanitrust



# FINANCIAL SUPPORT

## + Debts, Benefits and Money Advice

- A free professional advice service.
- Support with making benefit claims, appeals, and negotiating with creditors.

## + Financial Inclusion Support for Families

Dedicated officer providing support to families in hardship and crises to begin the path of financial recovery by supporting access to a wide range of financial, health, employment and social support.

For further information

**020 7247 8080**

[eet@osmanitrust.org](mailto:eet@osmanitrust.org)  
[www.osmanitrust.org](http://www.osmanitrust.org)



LONDON  
COMMUNITY  
RESPONSE FUND



## From Denise and Rashina – Parental Engagement Team

You may have seen or heard about a scheme where internet providers. The Department for Education (DfE) Get Help with Tech scheme is being supported by EE, Vodafone, Three, Sky Mobile, Smarty, Tesco Mobile and Virgin Mobile.



### Who can get help?

Schools, trusts and local authorities (ordering for maintained schools) in England can request mobile data increases for disadvantaged children and young people in years 3 to 11 who are not able to attend school due to national lockdown restrictions. They must meet all 3 of these criteria:

- **do not have fixed broadband at home**
- **cannot afford additional data for their devices**
- **are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education**

If you meet all 3 criteria and would like support with data, please email [parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk) with the following information:

For each request, we need to know:

- the name of the mobile phone account holder
- the number of the mobile device
- the mobile network of that device (for example Three)

Upcoming workshops for parent/ carers. Rashina and I are delivering some sessions in the evening and over the weekend too.

Produced by  
The Parental Engagement  
Schools and Families Team

**FamiliesMatter**  
Subscribe to our e-bulletin  
[www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/parentfamilysupport](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/parentfamilysupport)

Tues 26 January 10am-11am	<b>Maths At Key Stage 2</b>	Gain an insight into what your child is learning in Maths at Key Stage 2 and discover how to use the internet and other tools to encourage mathematical thinking and motivate reluctant learners.
Weds 27 January 10.15- 11.15am	<b>Healthy Families</b>	Is your family snacking more during lockdown and finding it difficult to be active? In this workshop, you'll have the chance to share your concerns, pick up some ideas for quick, easy meals and discover ways to get the family a bit more active!
Thursday 28 January 10am-11am	<b>Learning in the Early Years</b>	In this workshop for parents of nursery and reception class children, you'll find out about the Early Years Foundation Stage and discover how you can use every-day experiences to enhance your child's learning.
Monday 1 February 10am-11am	<b>Supporting your Child's Well-being and Mental Health</b>	This is an uncertain time for everyone. Children are often more aware of what's going on than we think. They might not understand the news, but that doesn't mean they can't sense that something is up. You might not be sure how best to talk about what's going on, but it's important we pay attention to their mental health.
Friday 5 February 7pm-9pm	<b>Digital Family Quiz #YourDigitalFamily</b>	Does your family know its TikTok from its Twitter, Deliveroo from Discord or Bieber from Baby Shark? Take part in this fun family quiz night and test your family's tech knowledge. Suitable for parents, year 6 and secondary school-aged children. Prizes to be won!
Saturday 6 February 1pm-2.30pm	<b>Support with Online Learning</b>	This workshop, which is delivered through Zoom, will give you an opportunity to look at examples of school websites as well as on-line learning portals such as Google Classroom and Purple Mash, to name a few.
Monday 8 February 10am-11am	<b>Platform to Talk- Keeping teens motivated to learn</b>	With exams being cancelled, some young people are feeling there is little point to online lessons- This timely session for parents of secondary school children will explore what can parents do to motivate teens and help prepare them for their future.
Thursday 11 February 10am-11am	<b>E-Safety and Learning</b>	With children learning at home, online safety is never more important, this workshop looks at the practical steps parents can take to safeguard children and explains the latest social media and gaming apps children may be using to communicate online.

Friday 12 February <b>7pm-9pm</b>	<b>Digital Family Quiz #YourDigitalFamily</b>	Does your family know its TikTok from its Twitter, Deliveroo from Discord or Bieber from Baby Shark? Take part in this fun family quiz night and test your family's tech knowledge. Suitable for parents, year 6 and secondary school-aged children. Prizes to be won!
Monday 1 March <b>10am-11am</b>	<b>Learning in the Early Years</b>	In this workshop for parents of nursery and reception class children, you'll find out about the Early Years Foundation Stage and discover how you can use every-day experiences to enhance your child's learning.
Tuesday 2 March <b>5pm-6pm</b>	<b>Mindfulness Discover the importance of being in the present and fully aware of what is happening around us</b>	With the unpredictability of the current times we find ourselves in, you may be finding that you and your children are a little more anxious than usual. Join the session to pick up some useful strategies and tips that may help to create a sense of calm.
Wednesday 3 March <b>5pm-6pm</b>	<b>Reading at Key Stage 2</b>	Gain an insight into how reading is taught at school. Discover how to motivate reluctant readers and how you can support your child's reading development at home.
Friday 5 March <b>10am-11am</b>	<b>Reading at Key Stage 1</b>	Gain an insight into how reading is taught at school. Discover how to motivate reluctant readers and how you can support your child's reading development at home.
Thursday 4 March <b>6pm-7.30pm</b>	<b>E- Safety and Learning</b>	With children learning at home, online safety is never more important, this workshop looks at the practical steps parents can take to safeguard children and explains the latest social media and gaming apps children may be using to communicate online
Wednesday 10 March <b>10am-11am</b>	<b>Healthy Families</b>	Is your family snacking too much or finding it difficult to be active? In this workshop, you'll have the chance to share your concerns, pick up some ideas for quick, easy meals and discover ways to get the family more active!
Wednesday 17 March <b>5pm-6pm</b>	<b>KS2 Maths</b>	Gain an insight into what your child is learning in Maths at Key Stage 2 and discover how to use the internet and other tools to encourage mathematical thinking and motivate reluctant learners.
Friday 19 March <b>5pm-6pm</b>	<b>Maths at Key Stage 1</b>	Gain an insight into what your child is learning in Maths at Key Stage 1 and discover how to use the internet and other tools to encourage mathematical thinking and motivate reluctant learners.



## About Us

### **What We Do:**

The SENDIASS Team offers free and impartial advice to parents and young people with SEND who are residents within Tower Hamlets or City of London. Some of the ways we can support you are:

- Attending meetings with schools / professionals
- Applying for an Education Health and Care Plan
- Mediation with the Local Authority
- Preparing and attending SEND Tribunals

We have a dedicated telephone line, **020 7364 6489**, that you can call to speak to an advisor Monday - Friday, 09:00 a.m. - 17:00 p.m.

**If your query can not be resolved during the telephone consultation, we will take a referral and you will be allocated a caseworker who will contact you within 10 working days.**

Our team also runs workshops for parents around the EHCP process and Secondary School Transitions. If you are interested in attending one of these workshops, please call the team on **020 7364 6489** who can discuss this with you.

<https://www.towerhamletsandcitysendiass.com/>

## **Nursery Admission 2021**

### **Virtual information session for parents/carers**

This interactive session will provide important information about the application process as well as explore how families can support their child's transition to nursery.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**10 am – 11 am**

Parents can attend this workshop through zoom using the following:

**Meeting ID: 949 8055 2656**

**Passcode: Y0tqVX**

Local Offer Link:

<https://www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk/events/32735-tower-hamlets-transition-support-service-get-ready-2021-applying-for-nursery?date=2021-01-27&term=nursery+admission>