



# St John's Newsletter

Friday 25th June 2021

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

I can hardly believe that there are only 4 weeks left of school. Children have been working hard and taking part in lots of activities and events. I was incredibly proud of the athletics squad that Mr. Malcolm and Miss Laila took over to Victoria Park. I have some pictures to share later in the edition. A big thank you to Ms Walker for organising this for everyone.

The Government have extended restrictions which are due to be lifted on 19<sup>th</sup> July. In the meantime, we will continue to be cautious. We are determined to make sure the children have a positive ending to the year and plans are well underway but I am always mindful of the health, safety and well-being of our pupils, staff and wider school community.

Today your children should receive their reports. Telephone consultations will be taking place next week.

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

## Staffing News

We say goodbye and thank you to our Head cook Kim who has worked with our St. John's family for 9 years. Thank you Kim for all your hard work and dedication.

As part of a restructure and like a number of other schools in the locality, hot food will be prepared at the main school kitchens in Toby Lane and delivered to the school. We will have an additional kitchen assistant and all vegetables, fruit platters and salads will still be prepared on site. I am pleased to say that there will be no change to the menus. If you would like some more information about this, do please email the school address at [parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)



## Library News

Two of our school values are Resilience and Endurance and children in our Early Years have certainly demonstrated these on numerous occasions.

I am so pleased that Mrs Brownbill has been able to work her magic and our children in the Early Years are able to visit the library again. Here they are having a lovely time.

A big St. John's welcome to our new pupils, Chloe, Paris, Aliyah, Miley and Lucia-Stefania.



## Tower Hamlets Poetry Slam Winners Picture

Here is a picture of our amazing Poetry Slam Winners holding the trophy aloft. It was an inspirational piece of writing and performance. Lots of thanks once again to Ms Bahi and Ms Carly for supporting the children, Shaju for entering us into the competition and our brilliant children for giving their all into making their poem come alive on the screen. I am working on getting a recording to put on our website so watch this space.



## Football and Athletics Update

The gradual easing of some restrictions has meant that once again, St. John's pupils can start to compete in athletics meets and competitions. As ever, Mr. Malcolm chose a large squad and children trialled to take part in, what, for many of them, was their first experience in a competition.

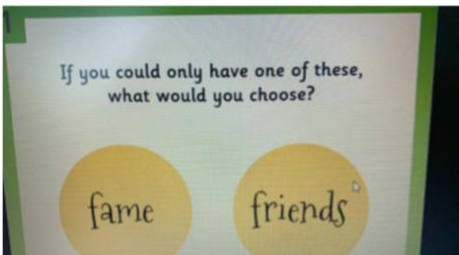
I am proud to report that our children were a complete credit to the school and a great time was had by all.



One of the best ways to keep up to date with the school is via twitter. We now have 324 follows @5tJohnsTower

## Year 2 Update – Ms Moses

Year 2 have 5 new members of our class. As part of our work on life cycles in PSHE we will be watching carefully what happens to our caterpillars.



## Oracy Update

We continue to work on our oracy skills. We regularly have questions of the day where our children reflect, discuss with their peers and present their findings to those assembled in the hall.

In this picture you can see our children rehearsing and honing their skills.

## Barnes Literature Festival

Children in KS2 took part in the Barnes Literature Festival going to Genesis Cinema to see the brilliant Konnie Huq. Konnie spoke about her latest book, "Cookie and the Most Annoying Girl in the World."

Children learnt some top tips on how to save the planet as well as advice for making bird feeders.

Thank you to Ms Walker and Ms Pink for arranging these visits.



## 'Perform' visit St. John's

Children in the Early Years and in Key Stage 1 were very pleased to receive a visit from the drama group 'Perform' on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June. The children had a wonderful time exploring the theme of 'Under the Sea' using drama, dance and singing to help develop themes of confidence self-esteem, concentration and social skills. Thank you to Mr. Hurst for arranging this.



## EYFS on Screen

In the last edition I noted that our Early Years stars were filmed discussing how lovely the allotment is and how good a resource it is for our local community. I am delighted to show you some of the pictures. Our children were fantastic, even in the rain!



## GLAM UPDATE

Our children were lucky enough to have a zoom question and answer session with Ode Fulutudilu who plays as a forward for Glasgow City and the South African National Team. A big thank you to Kathy Richards for helping to arrange this.

## Message from Denise, our Family Support Partner



### Uniform grants for year 6 children.

If you are in receipt of the following benefits you can apply to Tower Hamlet's Benefits team for a uniform grant, which can be used to purchase your child's first secondary uniform.

### How do I qualify?

To qualify, you (the parent or guardian) must be receiving one of the following:

- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Pension Credit Guarantee Credit
- Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, or
- Have an annual income less than £16,190 (excluding child benefit and child tax credit)

### How much is the grant?

The grant for 2019/20 was £110 for each child that meets the conditions.

### When should I apply?

Applications can only be made between June and 30 September and only for pupils transferring to secondary school.

### How do I apply?

Where a family receive housing benefit or council tax benefit from Tower Hamlets, the grant is normally paid without the need to make a separate application. Some of you have been contacted by them directly. If not, you should complete the [school clothing grant application form](#). If you would like support in completing the form then I can assist every Tuesday, when I am in school.

### How will I be paid?

All school clothing grants are paid into a bank or building society account in your name.

**For further information please telephone the council's Benefits Contact Centre on 020 7364 5000.**

# Holiday Childcare Summer Scheme 2021

The Tower Hamlets Holiday Childcare Scheme bookings for the summer 2021 Scheme open on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 12pm for working parents' resident in the borough and vulnerable referrals. We will be following government guidance and will open offering a reduced capacity, for more details please see the [government guidance](#).

## Scheme dates

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (4 weeks)

## Venue

St Mary and St Michael Primary School, Sutton Street, Stepney, E1 0BD

Please support and share this information with families who may benefit from our scheme. To refer a child please complete our [referral form](#) and support the family to book following the steps on our [booking system](#). Referral forms can be sent to [holiday.childcare@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:holiday.childcare@towerhamlets.gov.uk) at any point, bookings are accepted when open (see dates above.)

More information can be found on our website [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs).

We will look forward to receiving your bookings.

Holiday Childcare Team  
Parent & Family Support Service  
Children and Culture Directorate  
London Borough of Tower Hamlets