



# St John's Newsletter

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

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

It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas at St. John's and the sounds of singing and rehearsing are filling the school. Since the last edition, children have reflected on Advent and had a lovely Advent Activity day organised by Mrs Bahi, Class 6 have represented St. John's at the Tower Hamlets Book Awards and Class 5 have had huge success at the 'Architects in School' awards. Our children excelled at a recent Place2Be showcasing event and, once again, children have performed well in sport.

Christmas can be a difficult time of year. If you need any help, support or someone to listen to you, don't hesitate to speak to us either at the gate, or via email to [parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)

Have a lovely weekend and be kind to one another.

## **Kindness Cup Update**

Our Value of the Term is Compassion and children have been learning all about Marcus Rashford in Collective Worship. Marcus has shown such Compassion, Resilience and Endurance during his campaign to combat food poverty.

Kindness is important at St. John's and our children are so kind to one another. Here is our latest winner of the Place2Be Kindness Cup. She is an excellent ambassador and we are very proud of her.



## **More Athletics Success**

I know that I have said it before but I am happy to say again that our school does so well in sporting events. Congratulations to all of our squad who took part. They finished in second place which is impressive considering we are one of the smaller schools in the borough.

As ever, thank you to Mr. Malcolm for inspiring our children and to Ms Pink who has the incredibly difficult job of organising the logistics for these events that our children excel in.





## **Place2Be Update**

There is a bit of a theme emerging in this edition with numerous examples of our children shining. Last week, Ms Kam arranged for some very important people from Place2Be to visit and hear about the work that her team do in school. They listened to some children who were excellent, some parents who did an incredible job and from Mr. Bennett and Ms Kam who spoke so passionately about Place2Be and the impact it has. They were so enthralled that they wrote a letter which you can read below. A big thank you to Kam and her team. The work you do is incredible .

## **Monday 28 November 2022**

I hope you are having an excellent start to the week. I am still buoyed by the most fantastic school visit which I attended last week in east London with Barratt Homes, one of our new corporate partners - a huge thank you and congrats to our long-standing PgDip graduate and incredible School Project Manager Kam Perera and all the team involved at St John's CofE school along with Josie in our fundraising team for organising such a special event. The children and their voices and words were front and centre, along with some parents and our fantastic school partners. It was such an affirming visit and set out so clearly the impact and value of a truly integrated 'whole school approach' to mental health. Thank you Kam and team so much.

## **Sitting Volleyball Tournament**

Thanks to Ms Dixon for organising this. Our children loved the competition and schools visited us from around the borough to take part!.





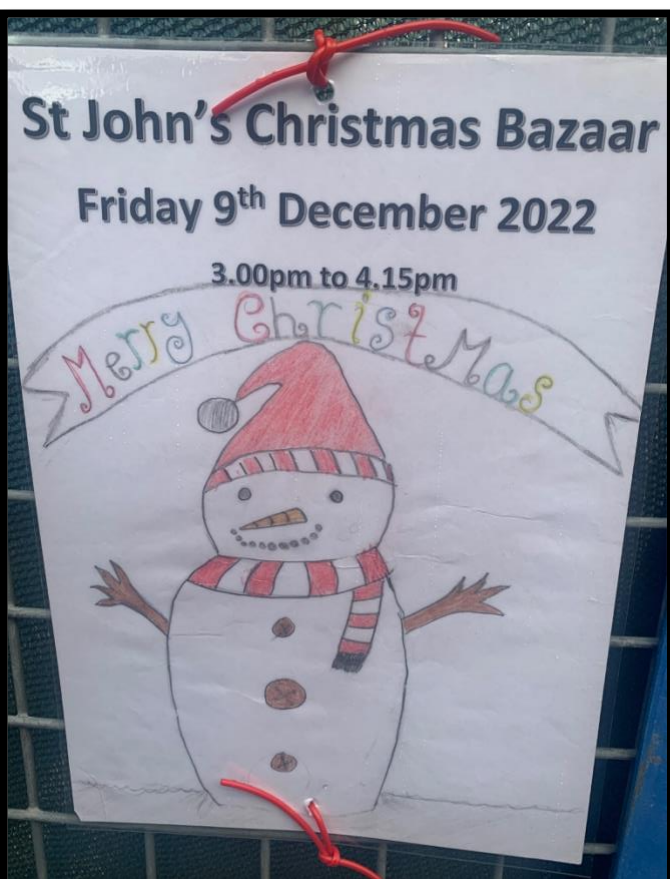


### **School Library Team (SLT)**

When you are next in our school you must pop in to our library. You can not miss it as it is in the heart of our building.

We no longer have Shaju, our brilliant librarian working with us as we have had to make some cuts to our budget. Despite this setback, we are determined to keep our library as impressive as ever.

Fortunately, Ms Carly and Mrs Jheeta have recruited a team of librarians who give up some of their playtimes in order to tidy up books and make sure that everything is where it should be. We are so grateful for their hard work.







### **Tower Hamlets Book Awards – Class 6**

Congratulations to Class 6 who represented St. John's at the Tower Hamlets Book Awards presenting on 'The Amazing Edie Eckhart' by Rosie Jones. The children were simply remarkable and our younger children had the opportunity to watch their dress rehearsal. Thank you Ms Walker for your tireless enthusiasm







## **Class 5 are Open City Champions !**

I mentioned in the last newsletter how pleased I was that Class 5 were representing St John's in the Open City 'Architects in School' event. Those of you with a long memory will know that Mrs Bahi's class back in 2019 did so well in the competition that a model of their city was replicated and stands proudly in our library.

I am delighted to say that last Wednesday, at the prestigious East Wintergarden venue in Canary Wharf, Class 5 came first in the whole of Tower Hamlets for the 'Best Vision' award for their model city. This is a phenomenal achievement and means that Mrs Bahi has a 100% record in this competition. Children in Year 5 that attended the ceremony proudly read their acceptance speech and it was just like being at the Oscars!

OPEN  
CITY







## Advent Activity Day at St John's





# Christmas Dates



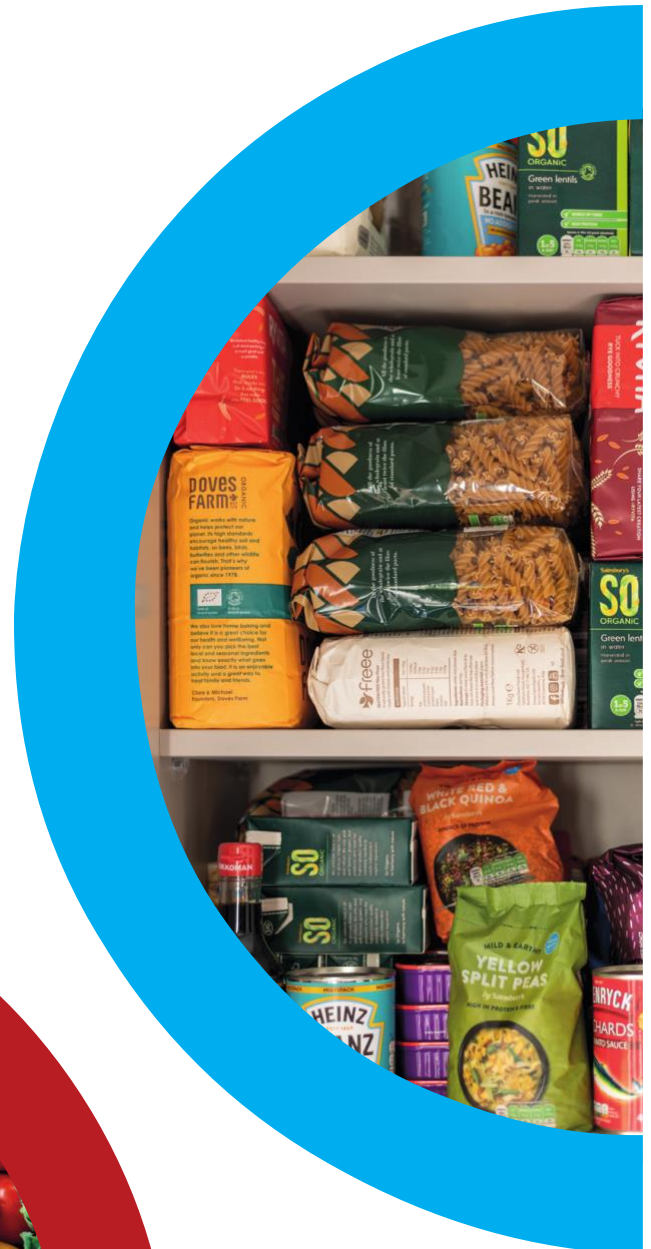
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 9:45am	EYFS Nativity
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 9:45am	Key Stage 1 Nativity
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 3pm – 4:15pm	Christmas Bazaar
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 9:30- 10:30am	Christmas Service at St John's Church. Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 12pm Onwards	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December (afternoon)	Christmas Class Parties
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of School – Finish at 3:30pm



Improving lives  
and reducing  
waste in  
Tower Hamlets



**The Food Store** is a place you can go every week to pick up large quantities of food for a small amount of money, all while being helped to access support for your finances and wellbeing.



MAYOR OF  
**TOWER HAMLETS**



**'All of Tower Hamlets' residents deserve healthy, affordable food. Food Stores showcase all that is best about our Borough - communities coming together to ensure that everyone is fed, regardless of their background. I am proud to oversee the opening of these stores, and look forward to working more closely with and supporting them moving forward'.**

***Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets***

### **How does it work?**

In return for a weekly membership fee of £3.50 you will be able to pick up £20 to £30 worth of groceries and household items. While you are a member we will also set you up with access to advice services for help with debt, benefits access, housing issues and other areas you might find useful.

### **What kind of food will I get?**

We stock quality redistributed food that can help to top up your weekly shop with nutritious essentials. Your weekly groceries will include fresh fruit and vegetables, chilled and frozen foods, and store cupboard staples. We also offer household items, like toiletries and cleaning products, when we have them.

### **Where is The Food Store?**

The Food Store is running in sites across Tower Hamlets.

### **How long can I be a member?**

Every three months we will check in to see how you are doing and if you are getting the right support. If things have improved and you no longer need our help, the membership will end – if not it will carry on. Memberships normally last for six months.

### **How do I sign up?**

To sign up, or for more information, please email **TheFoodStore@towerhamlets.gov.uk** with your name, address, postcode and contact details.







## **Are you concerned about a child or a family?**

Make a factual record of your concern.

(Include day, date, time, other witnesses, concern and your signature)

You must share your concerns without delay.

### **The Designated Members of Staff Responsible for Safeguarding and Child Protection at St Johns are:**



**Terry Bennett –Executive Headteacher**



**Darren Rubin –Executive Head of School**



**Bal Jheeta – Deputy Headteacher**



**Lisa Lee – Business Manager**



**Marie Dixson- SENCO**



**St John's & Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools**  
**Term Dates and Holidays - 2022/ 2023**

**Autumn Term 2022** (70 days)

<b>Staff Training</b>	<b>Thu 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>
First Day of Term	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
Second half of term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Last Day of Term	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December

<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December</i>
<i>Boxing Day</i>	<i>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December</i>

**Spring Term 2023** (58 days)

<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January</i>
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January
<b>Staff Training</b>	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>
First Day of Term	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Mon. 13 <sup>th</sup> to Fri. 17 <sup>th</sup> February
Second half of term	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Last Day of Term	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March

<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April</i>
<i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April</i>

**Summer Term 2023** (64 days)

First Day of Term	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April
Staff Training	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Second half of term	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June
Last Day of Term	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

<i>Ramadan begins</i>	<i>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March* 2023</i>
<i>Eid Al-Fitr</i>	<i>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April* 2023</i>
<i>Eid Al-Adha</i>	<i>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June* 2023</i>

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

\* to be confirmed