



St John's Newsletter

Friday 4th March 2022

An update from Mr. Rubin...

I hope you had a lovely half term and were not too inconvenienced by the windy weather. We are now looking forward to the easing of coronavirus restrictions and are considering what this might mean for the school; what changes we might keep and what have we most missed after almost two years of disruption. We will keep you informed of developments.

Well done parents, carers and children on your efforts for World Book Day. I am always so impressed with how our school community commits to these events wholeheartedly. A big thank you to Ms Wall for organising the day and thanks also to Rowena and Hermes, our friends that support our readers, who have donated some fantastic new books for our school library.

I know a number of children have been concerned with recent events in Ukraine. We are informing children sensitively and our school council led by Ms Moses have come up with a great idea to help raise some funds – more on that later.

A number of you have asked about volunteering in school. Please take a look at the leaflet that Denise has sent giving you lots of information about this.

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



Sports Update – Ms Pink

Well done to the eight girls in our year 5/6 squad who attended the West Ham Foundation with Mr Malcolm and Miss Carly on March 1st for the Premier League Primary Stars U11 Competition.

They won all their matches and have got through to the regional final! We are so proud of you!



381 followers and counting keep up to date with the school @5tJohnsTower. It is the best way to get the latest information on what is happening in our school!

School Council Update

Our school councillors met with the St Paul's school council as well as meeting Richard Nicholson from City Hall who discussed how important democracy is and what it is like to work alongside the Mayor of London. It has been a long time since our School Councillors have met one another and it is such an important job that they do. Soon they will be meeting up with our Chair of Governors Dr. Robin Precey to interview him about the work that he does so we will be sure to report on that too.

Thank you Ms Moses and Ms Blake from St. Paul's for organising!



BAKE FOR UKRAINE !!

Wednesday 16th MARCH

Time: 2:45 – 3:30pm

Donations of £1 or more for baked goods
– contributions welcome

Bake for Ukraine

Our School Council met with Ms Moses and Ms Denise. They would like to hold a Cake Sale to raise money for Ukraine on Wednesday 16th March from 2:45pm – 3:30pm in the big playground. All items will be £1 and all money raised will go to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), who are one of the charities organising relief. More details about the charity can be found here <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

Early Years Update Ms Pink

Children in the Early Years are learning about the seasons and minibeasts this half term. Our book has been 'Yucky Worms', which has taught us plenty of worm facts. When we went to the allotment, we found some worms and some of us were brave and gentle enough to hold one!



Equalities Questionnaire

Thank you so much to all our parents and carers that have taken the time to fill in our Equalities questionnaire which tells us how well the school is doing in promoting equality, diversity and inclusion. We have had 16 responses so far but it would be great to have some more. It only takes a couple of minutes and we welcome your feedback which will inform us on what steps to take next. The link is here. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YKJPCPR>

Oracy Update – Ms Wall



This half-term's Oracy target is **'to clarify'**. Children will be learning to ask questions about what other people say, to better their understanding. They may use phrases such as:

- *What do you mean when you say...*
- *Could you tell me more about...*
- *Does that mean that...*

Please model this type of questioning to your children and encourage them to use these phrases at home.

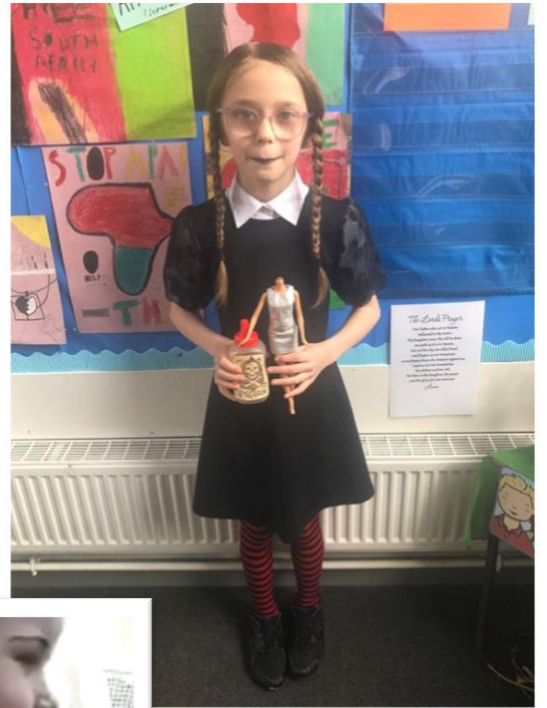
Word of the Fortnight – Mr Smee

Year 4's word is **sustainability** - related to our topic on the Rainforest (specifically, an investigation we're currently doing into the farming and uses of Palm Oil).

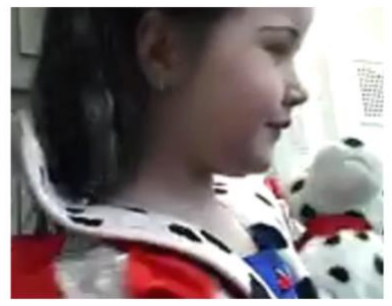


Office Hours – St. John's

Please remember that school phones are staffed from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (4:30 on club nights). And, although Coronavirus is almost over, we will aim to continue to monitor the parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk email address on a daily basis.



World Book Day @St Johns



***Join us in a coffee morning on
Wednesday 23rd March at 9am to
Celebrate Neurodiversity Week***

***All parents very welcome – we'd love
to see you!***



The banner features a central white area with a lightbulb icon above the text. The text includes the event name, tagline, conditions, website, and dates. The banner is framed by colorful vertical bars on the sides and a yellow bar at the top with the tagline. Two inset images show a group of people and hands joined together.

It takes all kinds of different minds

NEURODIVERSITY
It takes all kinds of different minds

ADHD | AUTISM | DYSLEXIA | DYSPRAXIA

www.Neurodiversity-Celebration-Week.com

MARCH 21 - 27, 2022

Meet other parents and share ideas and experiences.

Find out more about:

- The Local Offer (what's going on in the borough including holiday schemes, clubs and activities, parent groups and specialist services)
- The Zones of Regulation – how to support your child in communicating their feelings using the 'Zones' and 'a toolkit'

Message from Denise



Bromley by Bow Centre's Financial Inclusion projects are coming to deliver a workshop for parents and carers on **Wednesday 23rd March 2022 at 10am**. The session will last for approximately 1 ½ hours.

The workshop is fun and interactive and will show you how to manage their energy costs and maintain a warm home. This has become vital with the impending energy price rises which will affect everyone.

Topics covered include:

- Understanding which appliances cost more to run
- Understanding bills
- Reading meters
- How to calculating energy costs
- How to reduce damp & condensation in the home
- Understanding how heating controls and systems work
- How to switch supplier/tariff to reduce costs
- Accessing grants and financial support
- And more!

To book a place email parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk or speak to Denise or Feruja.

Places are limited so please book as soon as possible.



Tower Hamlets Transition Support Service Secondary Transfer Appeal Information Sessions 2022

**Do you need help making an appeal for a year 7 school place
for your child?**

Come along to one of our virtual sessions about the secondary transfer appeal process – delivered through zoom by experienced Transition Support Officers from the Parent Advice Centre.

These interactive sessions will provide key information and advice about the secondary transfer appeal process and will take place from
8th March – 30th March 2022.

To check dates and to book a place:

<https://thsappeals2022.eventbrite.co.uk>

Tower Hamlets Transition Support Service (part of Parent and Family Support Service)

provides impartial advice, information and assistance to support children, young people, and their families during key points of transition.

If you prefer meeting face to face, contact Tower Hamlets Transition Support Service on 07908 456 660 or 07783 884 869 or

transitions@towerhamlets.gov.uk to arrange a place at one our information sessions at the Parent Advice Centre.



Join us for the Tower Hamlets Annual Parent Conference 2022: Families Matter

Thursday 10 March 2022, online via Zoom

Conference opening: 9.30am with 45-minute bitesize webinars for parents starting on the hour, every hour, from 10am-2pm, plus an evening webinar at 6pm.

To book a place and receive information on how to join the 2022 Annual Parent Conference, please register at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tower-hamlets-annual-parent-conference-2022-families-matter-tickets-274840022907

The Parent and Family Support Service welcomes parents, carers and guardians to join the virtual parent conference for its second year online, with webinars on a range of topics including online safety, children's learning and health, the importance of family communication and understanding and dealing with bullying.

Choose the webinar topics that interest you and support your family. You are welcome to attend as many as you would like.

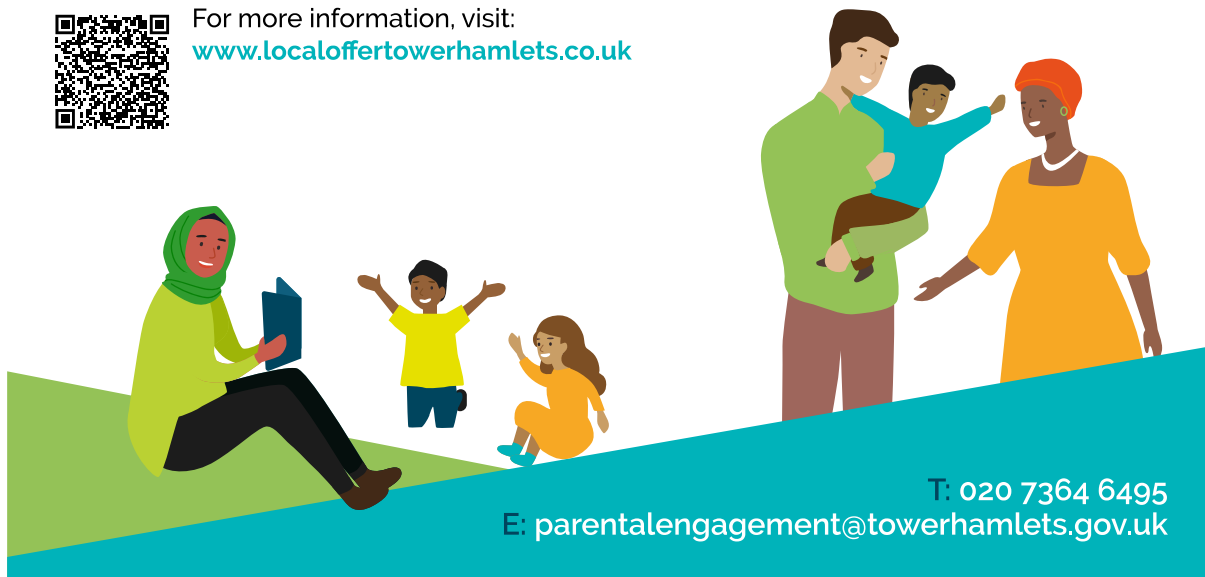
The full agenda and webinar details are in the table on page 2.

All registered attendees will be sent Zoom details to attend the conference. Some webinars will also be delivered in Bengali and Somali at the same times.

Each registered conference participant will be entered into a prize draw to win family tickets from our conference partners. Many thanks to ICON College of Technology and Management, Half Moon Young People's Theatre and Rich Mix for supporting the conference this year.



For more information, visit:
www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk



T: 020 7364 6495
E: parentalengagement@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Information for parents

Volunteering in Your Child's School course

An accredited course delivered by the
Parental Engagement Team



St John's & Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools

Term Dates and Holidays - 2021/ 2022

Autumn Term 2021 (71 days)

Staff Training	Wednesday 1 st September
	Thursday 2 nd September
	Friday 3 rd September
First Day of Term	Monday 6 th September
Half Term	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October
Second half of term	Monday 1 st November
Last Day of Term	Friday 17 th December

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

Spring Term 2022 (58 days)

<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Saturday 1st January</i>
<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Monday 3rd January (substitute day)</i>
Staff Training	Tuesday 4 th January
First Day of Term	Wednesday 5 th January
Half Term	Mon. 14 th to Fri. 18 th February
Second half of term	Monday 21 st February
Last Day of Term	Friday 1 st April

<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday 15th April</i>
<i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>Monday 18th April</i>

Summer Term 2022 (63 days)

First Day of Term	Tuesday 19 th April
Staff Training	Friday 29 th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May
Half Term	Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 rd June
Second half of term	Monday 6 th June
Last Day of Term	Friday 22 nd July

<i>Ramadan begins</i>	<i>Saturday 2nd April* 2022</i>
<i>Eid Al-Fitr</i>	<i>Monday 2nd May* 2022</i>
<i>Eid Al-Adha</i>	<i>Saturday 9th July 2020</i>

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

* to be confirmed