



St John's Newsletter

Friday 8th October 2021

An update from Mr Rubin...

We are racing through the term and unbelievably, there are only two weeks until the October break. One of the favourite parts of the job is getting to walk around the classrooms and seeing how happy and engaged our children are with their learning. There is always a lovely atmosphere as you walk around our school.

I am pleased to report that our Year 6 children went to visit The Palace of Westminster and The Houses of Parliament. Our Year 5 class will once again be taking part in the Architects in Cities programme where they get to learn about the beautiful architecture in the incredible city we live in. Furthermore, we will be back at St. John's Church with Father Alan for our Harvest Festival. Great news as we gradually begin to return to normal.

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



Internet Safety at St. John's

It is so important that children understand how to use the internet safely. It is such a valuable resource which children use more and more in their everyday lives. Thanks to Ms Moses for organising Konflux Theatre Company to come into school to run a series of workshops about how to keep safe online. The children thoroughly enjoyed them.



346 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 lovely school!

EqualiTeach Visit St. John's

There are so many important lessons that our children learn at school. As they advance through the years, we want them to have the skills to apply critical thinking to information that they might see or hear. Our friends at EqualiTeach came into school to work with our children in Years 5 and 6 to get them to 'Think' and 'Rethink'.

Topics included how opinions are formed; where people get their information from; how believing in false information can hurt them and others; what they can do to check their facts and treat others fairly; how people may have different opinions and world views; how information might sometimes not be reliable; where children can get reliable information and finally how believing in false information can hurt them and others.

Our children were commended by the course leaders and asked some really thought provoking question.



Welcome to St. John's!

We have two new children that have joined us over the last couple of weeks. A warm welcome to the St. John's family to Daniel and Madina, both in Reception class.



Oracy in Action

I thought I would share this picture with you. It may look like two of our Year 6 children having a chat instead of focusing on their work. In actual fact, what you can see here are two of our students retrieving information from their text and discussing their answers in greater depth. Oracy is at the centre of our learning here at St. John's.



Early Years

I went to visit our Early Years to find them hard at work and play. It is such a beautiful environment to flourish and thrive in.



Acts of Kindness

We are always on the lookout for acts of kindness and I was delighted when one of our Year 6 children popped into the office to tell me that he had drawn me this picture to adorn the wall. It is so colourful and cheery that I couldn't wait to put it up.



Place2Be's Kindness Cup



Kindness Cup Update – Mr. Rubin

We continue with our Kindness Cup awards every week in Celebration Assembly. Congratulations to our winners so far: Tylan, Irfan, Georgie, Alesha and Chloe.

Place2Be's Kindness Cup





Teddy Bear Hospital Visit – Y1&2

Our children in Year 1 and 2 had a visit from the Teddy Bear Hospital earlier in the week. Students from Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, volunteered their time to work with children and their teddy bears with the aim of reducing anxiety when visiting a doctor or dentist. It is a great opportunity for our children to familiarise themselves with medical and dental procedures and in addition, it is great fun!

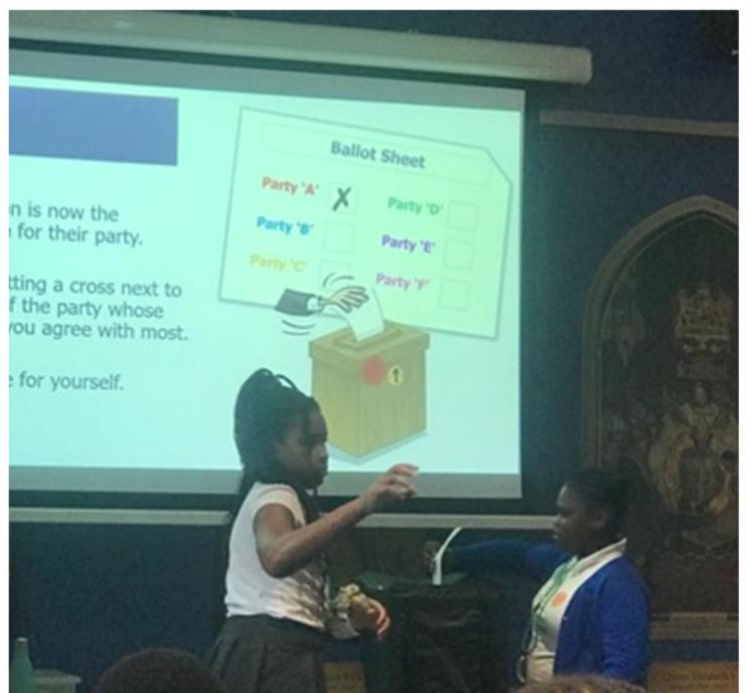




Year 6 Trip to the Palace of Westminster Written by Jaya – Year 6,

When we went to the Houses of Parliament, it was a mind blowing experience. The fact that we walked into an important historical library was very cool! I liked when we visited the House of Lords because the Queen's throne was there, coated with 23.5 karat gold leaf. It was the library for me that I enjoyed the most, stocked with books, new, red carpet and images of famous Kings and Queens faces on the walls.

We had a great time!



Upcoming School Events

Thursday 21st October 9:30am – Harvest Festival at St. John's Church – All Welcome!

Friday 22nd October – Cultural Day

(More information to follow).



PE Update – Ms Pink

St John's owes a big thankyou to everyone at Middlesex County Cricket Club.

Every Wednesday for this half term, KS2 students are enjoying their PE lessons with our fully qualified Middlesex Cricket coach, Hassan.

We have had cricket coaching at St. Paul's for a number of years and it is very popular with the children.



RICH MIX

Creative ESOL Course

This is a 9 week course which is aimed at ESOL learners who are interested in creative activity.

This fun and happy course will help you to develop your English through creative approaches to ESOL teaching including arts & crafts, drama, storytelling and access to a wide range of opportunities at Rich Mix. The course also aims to increase your confidence and skills for looking for jobs and volunteering and accessing local services.

Assessment Dates: 22/09, 29/09

Course Dates: 06/10, 13/10, 20/10, 03/11, 10/11, 17/11, 24/11, 01/12, 08/12

Time: 1pm – 3pm

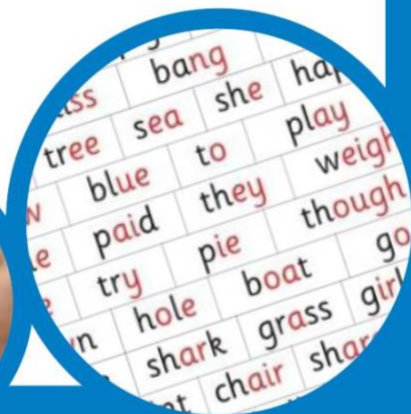
Place: Rich Mix

**35 - 47 Bethnal Green Road,
E1 6LA**

To book your place please contact

Tracy Barbe; Schools and Outreach at Rich Mix

tracy.barbe@richmix.org.uk



idea
Library Learning Information

www.ideastore.co.uk

Idea Store Learning

St John's & Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools
Term Dates and Holidays - 2021/ 2022

Autumn Term 2021 (70 days)

Staff Training **Wed 1st to Friday 3rd September**

First Day of Term Monday 6th September
Half Term Monday 25th – Friday 29th October
Second half of term Monday 1st November
Last Day of Term Friday 17th December

Christmas Day Saturday 25th December
Boxing Day Sunday 26th December

Spring Term 2022 (58 days)

New Year's Day Saturday 1st January
Bank Holiday Monday 3rd January
Staff Training **Tuesday 4th January**
First Day of Term Wednesday 5th January
Half Term Mon. 14th to Fri. 18th February
Second half of term Monday 21st February
Last Day of Term Friday 1st April

Good Friday Friday 15th April
Easter Monday Monday 18th April

Summer Term 2022 (64 days)

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

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

190 School Days, **5 Staff Training Days** (1to be arranged)

* to be confirmed

Parenting programmes

Parenting programmes are a source of support for all parents and offer an opportunity to share experiences, develop an understanding of child development, build positive relationships and learn to deal with challenging behaviour.

Autumn programmes (Sept-Dec 2021)

Programmes are delivered by the Parenting Team and take place in schools, community centres and on online.

Programme	Age range	Information
Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities (SFSC)	2 - 18 years	Aims to increase parental self-esteem and confidence and reduce child behavioural difficulties. Five sessions, shortened version adapted for online. Also available in Bengali and Somali. Evening programme in English.
Triple P Teen	12 - 18 years	For parents to foster positive relationships with their teenager or for those who have concerns about problem behaviour, non-cooperation and aggression or wish to prevent behavioural problems from developing. Eight sessions.
Triple P Group	18 months - 11 years	For parents who wish to build positive relationships with their child, increase self-confidence and develop their skills and techniques for dealing with difficult behaviour. Eight sessions.
Triple P Family Transitions	Birth - 18 years	NEW for 2021. For parents who are experiencing personal distress after separation or divorce, which is impacting on their parenting. Eight sessions.
Triple P Online	18 months - 11 years and 12 - 18 years	An individual online programme for parents to access and complete at their own pace. Practitioner support and guidance to complete the programme is available on request.
Emotional First Aid	All parents	Offers an overview of mental health and wellbeing in relation to parenting. Learn strategies to manage anxieties, identify stress factors, gain a better understanding of ourselves and promote a healthier sense of wellbeing. Six sessions.
Speakeasy	5 - 18 years	For parents to develop the skills and confidence to talk to their children about growing up, relationships and keeping safe. Explores how Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) is taught in schools and the influence on children from media and peers.
The Parent Factor in ADHD	5 - 18 years	A programme for parents with children diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The course will cover information to help understand the diagnosis and treatment, strategies to support your child and manage difficult behaviour and how to advocate on your child's behalf within the education system.

Parenting one-off discussion groups

The Triple P discussion group series cover a range of topics and parenting concerns.

For parents of children aged 2-11 years

- Encouraging Positive Behaviour
- Managing Fighting and Aggression

For parents of children aged 12-18 years

- Dealing with Emotional Behaviour
- Reducing Family Conflict

Get in touch

The parenting team look forward to receiving enquires from parents, carers, social care colleagues, school staff and other agencies in the borough.

To talk to a parenting practitioner for advice, to book a place or to make a professional referral contact the Tower Hamlets Parenting Team: **Email:** parenting@towerhamlets.gov.uk **Tel:** 020 7364 6398



**Invitation to families – Welcome Little Amal to London
Saturday 23rd October, 09:30AM, St Paul's Cathedral**

Little Amal has been walking since July, beginning at the Syria-Turkey border and is soon to be finishing her quest in Manchester in November. Throughout her journey, Amal has been welcomed and celebrated by the towns, cities, and villages she has travelled through with artistic events uniquely reflecting and rejoicing the different communities she has met. You can find out more about her journey [here](#).

At 9:30AM On the 23rd October Amal will arrive in London to be welcomed by faith leaders on the steps of St Paul's Cathedral. We want to make her feel especially welcome and to do this we need your help to prepare a surprise song. We will serenade her as she sets off through the streets of London!

So, warm up your voices, and join us to sing one of the most welcoming songs ever written - 'Consider Yourself' from the musical 'Oliver'.

Everyone is welcome to attend the event. We would love to see friends and family, song-sheet in hand, singing along with the choir, as the whole of London greets this very special little girl. As this is a public event, we are unable to provide dedicated supervision, but invite teachers and parents to come with their young people and to enjoy the celebrations.

Please arrive by 09:30AM outside the steps of St Paul's Cathedral. Amal will emerge at 10AM to be greeted by faith leaders, and musicians from the West End. The event will conclude by 11AM.

You can find more information at <https://www.goodchance.org.uk/thewalk>

SOMETHING
BIG

IS COMING TO



London



Little AMAL, a 3.5 meter puppet of a

9 year old girl, has travelled across Europe and is **sleeping** on the steps of **St Paul's Cathedral**. She will be woken up by hundreds of young voices welcoming her on her first day in the Big City.

When: SATURDAY
23rd OCTOBER
Time: 9:30am



We are inviting your school to join us
and sing '**Consider yourself**' to give
Little Amal a wonderful surprise.

She will not only be greeted by young people just like her but also with singers and instrumentalists from the West End and Bishops and Senior Faith Leaders.

DO YOU WANT TO JOIN US IN FRONT OF **St Paul's Cathedral**
AND BE PART OF THE CHORUS OF VOICES?