



St John's Newsletter

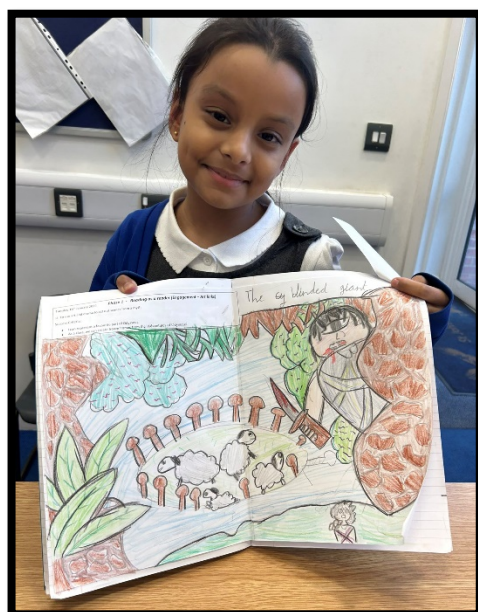
Friday 19th January 2024

An update from Mr. Rubin...

Happy New Year to you all. It seems like a moment ago that we were celebrating Nativity performances and enjoying the Christmas Fayre. Time does fly and the children have now been back at school for almost two weeks of what is a relatively short half term. I hope you had a lovely Christmas break. The children have returned to school raring to go and the atmosphere in the classes is purposeful with lots of learning as you will see in this edition.

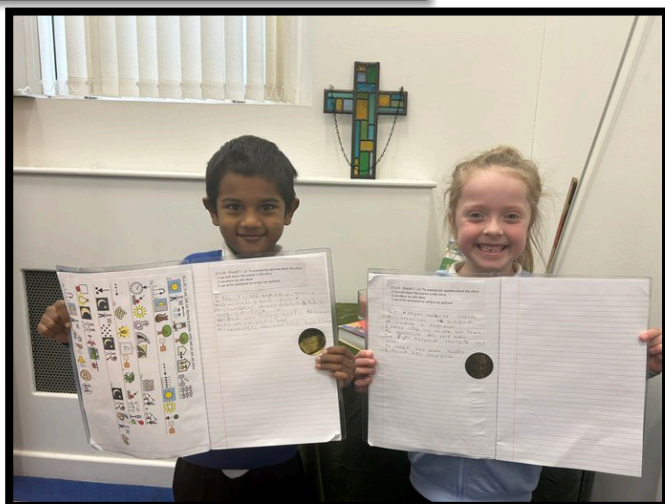
We have recently had a fantastic influx of children in the Early Years which has rather taken us by surprise! This is welcome news as having more children is a much-needed boost. Mrs Jheeta and I are working on how best to transition the children once they have settled but as ever, we will do what we think is best for the children.

Have a lovely weekend and be kind to one another.



Sharing Great Work

Despite only being back a couple of weeks, the office has been very busy with children bringing in a range of great work to share and celebrate. In the pictures you can see a mobile instillation, fantastic art work and writing and a beautiful painting of the London skyline.



Meet Miss Maggie

A breakfast club superstar!



magic
breakfast
fuel for learning

Meet Miss Maggie

Miss Maggie has been running a breakfast club at St John's CE Primary School for 20 years.

She has helped thousands of children over the years.

magic
breakfast
fuel for learning

'To all of the Miss Maggie's out there, your dedication is extraordinary and without you, Magic Breakfast wouldn't be able to do what we do.'

- Helena Russell,
Engagement Partner



'Miss Maggie is gold dust, not only to Magic Breakfast but also to our community as a whole.'

So many schools have a Miss Maggie and I personally feel humbled and forever in debt to them all for what they do, relentlessly, every day, to give our children a wonderful start to the day.'

- Helena Russell,
Engagement Partner

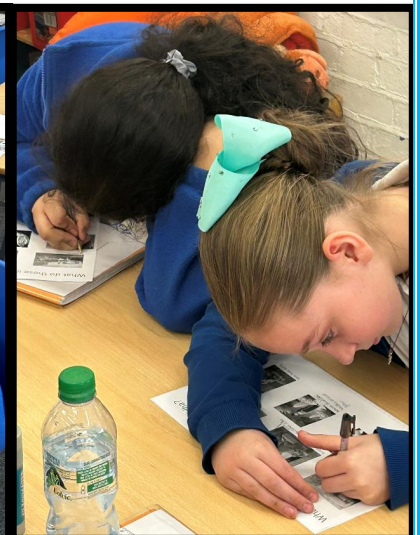
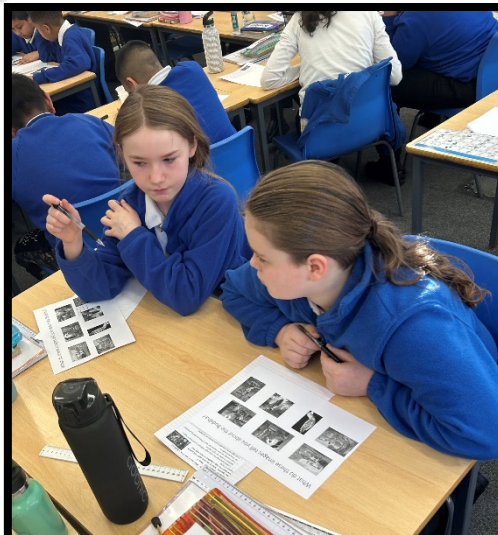
Magic Breakfast Update

If you follow us on social media, you will have seen this wonderful piece on Miss Maggie written by Magic Breakfast. Maggie has been running our breakfast club for twenty years so she will have worked with so many families. It is a fitting tribute to someone who works so hard in our school.

Thank you Miss Maggie for everything you do for our school community.

Class 6 Update

We have a lovely work ethic in our school. Later In the newsletter you can read about the work that Class six have been focusing on with Macbeth but here they are working on their RE lesson studying Buddhism.





Thank you Ms Zoe

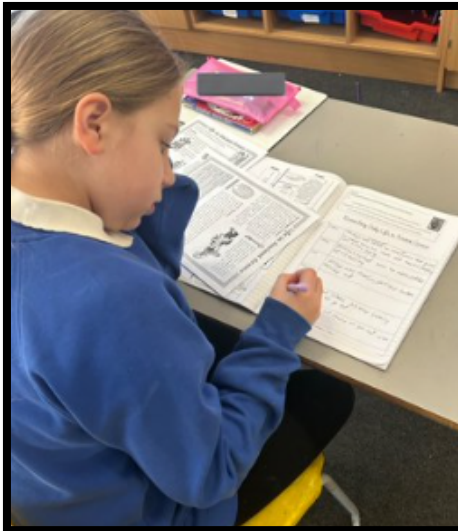
I wanted to say a big thankyou to Ms Zoe for her generosity of spirit in volunteering her time to come in to St John's. Sadly, Zoe will be leaving us this term but so many children have benefitted from her kindness and dedication.

Zoe volunteered in Year one and was previously a parent at the school. If you have any regular time that you can spare to help, maybe listening to children read or helping with a particular task, we would love to hear from you. Please email the usual address parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk or chat to us at the gate.



Phonics at St John's

The first thing we do as a school community is to come together in the morning for Collective Worship (assembly). We will celebrate successes in Celebration Assembly, reflect on our Value of the term in our Values Collective Worship. Reverend Philippa will come in to share a story from the bible and Mrs Bahi will lead an incredible singing assembly. Straight after being together, our children lower down the school will go into different groups to access their phonics. The children work so hard in their groups. In the pictures above you can see Ms Begum and Ms Wood working with their children. It is always good to see how dedicated and focused the children are.



Class 5 Update

Class five have been very busy learning about the wonders of Ancient Greece.

Children worked in groups to fact find and research and have also been looking at Greek art to inspire them.



Year One Update – Miss Pink

Year One's new English book is set in Kenya – a country on the continent of Africa! We found out some facts about Kenya and a group of Kenyan people called the Maasai. We made some necklaces inspired by Maasai jewellery and then did a jumping competition like we saw in a video.



PE Kit Reminder

Our PE (physical education) kit consists of a white T-shirt, black shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms, plain black plimsolls or trainers. Long hair should be tied back at all times. For all PE lessons children must have their PE kit. Children are expected to have their kit in school all week. It should be brought into school on Monday and taken home for washing on Friday. All items of uniform with the St John's logo can be bought from Khalsa in Bethnal Green Road. T-Shirts and shorts etc can be purchased from most supermarkets.



The Tree of Kindness

I have not been able to share this with you yet as it has taken me a long time to realise that I could take a long angle picture of it using my phone.

This is one of my favourite displays in the school. It is just by the staircase, so everyone can see how it is growing as we celebrate the Place2Be Kindness Cup, every Monday in Celebration Assembly. We have a school full of kind children!





Crochet Club with Mrs Pontin

It seems that there is a bit of a craze developing from a number of our girls in Class Five,

Mrs Pontin has shared her love for crochet and it has emerged that a number of children and staff share this passion.

Thank you Mrs Pontin for your enthusiasm with this.



Class 2 Update

We are so pleased to be working with Afla from THAMES. Children love the African drums and in the picture were working on rhythms.

Drumming requires a lot of concentration and dexterity and they make such a beautiful sound.



Macbeth Hook Lessons

To engage and 'hook' the children into Macbeth, Year 6 made their own potions and lotion recipes for a range of different outcomes. We thought carefully about description and making the contents of our potions revolting and gruesome. Finally, we spent time rehearsing the presentation of our potions and spells to share with the whole



Choir Church Update – Mrs Bahi.

The Choir children are rehearsing some beautiful songs with Mr Pease in preparation for a number of events taking place over the Spring term. We wanted to give you as much notice as possible about the following dates if you wish to come along:

Friday 2nd February – Evensong @ St John's on Bethnal Green 6pm service

Thursday 22nd February – lunchtime recital/ service – more information to follow

Wednesday 28th February – Evensong @ St James the Less 6pm service

Wednesday 13th March - after school @ St Johns on Bethnal Green 6pm service

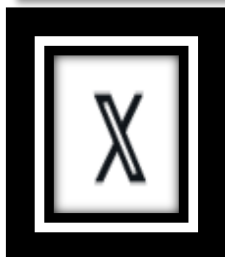
As before half-term, the children will stay behind as before for the evensongs and rehearse with Mr Pease, then we will escort them over for the services. You are most welcome to come along and be a part of it. The services will be ended by 6.45pm.



Food bank Update

A big thank you to Mrs Dixon and her daughter and Mrs Jheeta who came into school over the Christmas holidays to help organise our food banks. We made crates for 25 families.

Thank you to Reynolds who provide all the Fruit and vegetables, The Felix Project who donated food and The Hygiene Bank who supply all the toiletries. Thank you also to Miss Janice from St Paul's who organised the food hub deliver and Mr John for helping shift the tables.



Follow Us on Twitter

The very best way to keep up to date with what is happening in our school is to follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower> . We have 499 followers and the more followers we have, the more people will see what a fantastic school this is!

NSPCC

Online gaming and keeping children safe

**Do you know your whispers
from your skins? Your Fortnite
from your EA Sports FC 24?**

As part of the NSPCC Game Safe Festival, we're encouraging parents, carers and those working with children and families to have conversations about online gaming.

GamCare will be sharing expert advice, and you'll hear directly from young people.

Our webinar will help you:

- understand how young people game online.
- learn about tools and resources that support safe play.
- gain the knowledge you need to keep children safe.



**GAME SAFE
FESTIVAL**

**7 February 2024, 7pm-8pm, via
Zoom. Book your place via this link:
nspcc.org.uk/gamesafe/tickets**

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

NSPCC is the national charity for the prevention of cruelty to children. Registered charity number 214461, company number 02037117 and limited by guarantee. Registered office: 4th Floor, 100 Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2DT. Tel: 020 7625 3500. Email: enquiries@nspcc.org.uk

ST JOHN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bethnal Green

NURSERY & RECEPTION

2024 INTAKE

*The community
is very important to
everyone at this school. As
one pupil said, 'I feel like
I am part of a family.'*

Ofsted November 2021



Play-based
learning



Developmentally
appropriate
curriculum



Outdoor
play

Our experienced teachers and engaging curriculum offer children the opportunity to learn and grow in a safe, nurturing environment. Please contact us to schedule a tour of our school and learn more about the enrolment process at St John's CE Primary School.

**TO DISCUSS FURTHER PLEASE
CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

020 8980 1142

admin@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk

www.st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk



'Let our light shine'

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

Term Dates and Holidays - 2023/ 2024

Autumn Term 2023 (75 days)

Staff Training	Mon 4th & Tue 5th September
First Day of Term	Wednesday 6 th September
Half Term	Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th October
Second half of term	Monday 30 th October
Last Day of Term	Friday 22 nd December

Christmas Day Monday 25th December

Boxing Day Tuesday 26th December

Spring Term 2024 (54 days)

New Year's Day Monday 1st January

Staff Training	Monday 8th January
First Day of Term	Tuesday 9 th January
Half Term	Mon. 12 th to Fri. 16 th February
Second half of term	Monday 19 th February
Last Day of Term	Thursday 28 th March

Good Friday Friday 29th March

Easter Monday Monday 1st April

Summer Term 2024 (66 days)

Staff Training	Monday 15th April
First Day of Term	Tuesday 16 th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May
Staff Training	Friday 24th May
Half Term	Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st May
Second half of term	Monday 3 rd June
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 23 rd July

*Ramadan begins Sunday 10th March 2024**

*Eid Al-Fitr Tuesday/ Wednesday 9th/ 10th April 2024**

*Eid Al-Adha Sunday/ Monday 16th/ 17th June 2024**

195 days including 5 staff training days

* to be confirmed



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 John's are:



Darren Rubin –Executive Headteacher

Monday -Wednesday



Bal Jheeta – Deputy Headteacher

Wednesday – Friday