



St John's Newsletter

Friday 23rd February 2024

An update from Mr. Rubin...

I hope you had a restful half term break. We await the outcome of our recent SIAMS inspection and are looking forward to sharing the report with you. Once we receive it, I can write a little more about the process. The last one was back in 2016 so we were patiently waiting for reinspection.

As always, there is a lot to share with you in this edition. Children in Year One and Two have moved classrooms due to the increase in our Nursery class. The children have transitioned well and we continue to monitor them carefully as moving in the middle of the year was not what we envisaged. Increases in numbers is great news for our school but we still have space in a number of other classes so if you know families that have just moved to the area and are looking for a school to join, we would love to speak to them.

From gymnastics competitions to studying Macbeth, you will see how busy our children have been. I hope you enjoy the read.

Have a lovely weekend and be kind to one another.



Early Years Update

This week, our children in the Early Years extended into the classroom next door to allow additional space so children can continue to flourish.

In addition, our Year 1 children have moved into a new classroom over in the main school building and just to keep everyone on their toes, Class two children moved into one of our classrooms upstairs.

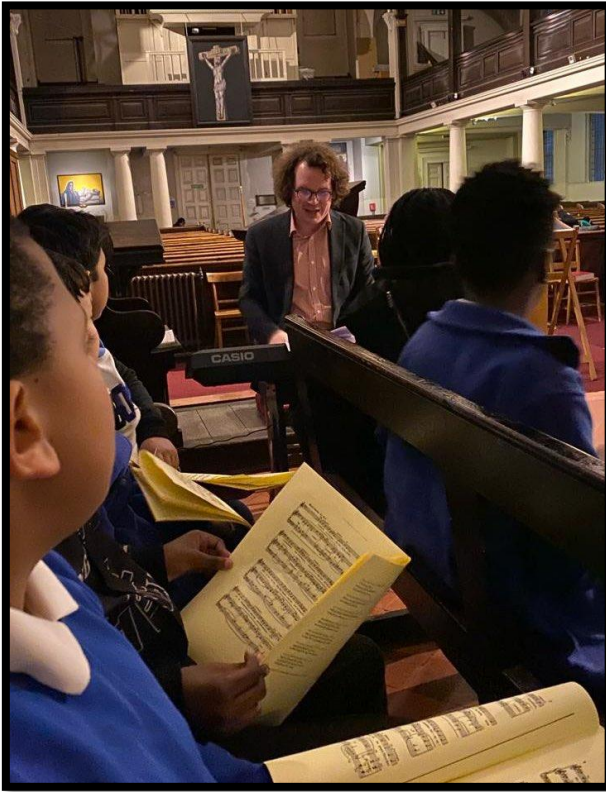
In the next edition I will share how they have settled.



Follow Us on Twitter

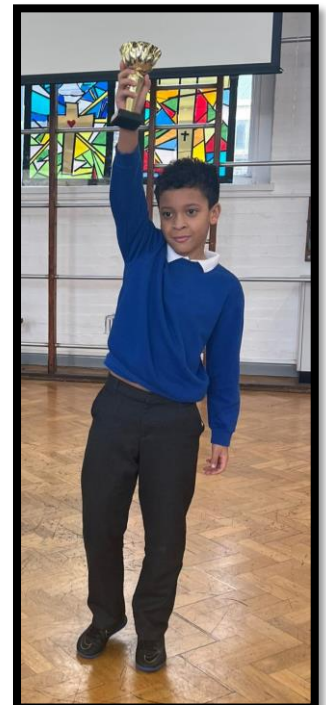
The very best way to keep up to date with what is happening in our school is to follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower>.

We have 517 followers and the more followers we have, the more people will see what a fantastic school this is!



Choir Church Sings with Jonathan Pease

Thank you to Mrs Bahi and our incredible choir who joined Jonathan at our church St John's Bethnal Green to sing in the recent Candlemas Service. It was a beautiful service and our choir continues to grow.



Kindness Cup Updates

Every week we celebrate the importance of Compassion by awarding the Kindness Cup. Our new Value for this half term is Forgiveness. We are always on the lookout for students who go that extra mile to be kind and the three students above are excellent role models.



RE Update – Mrs Bahi

We were so grateful to have Ms Ticher visit us. She has always been such a great friend of the school and used to work here as our Home School Liaison Officer.

Ms Ticher is a practicing Buddhist and was able to answer all of the children's questions on Buddhism and the importance of the Sangha. She was very impressed with the children's knowledge



Luis Enrique

Apart from a short break at Easter, we are going to be featuring the music from some of the home countries of our pupils. Our Musician of the fortnight is Luis Enrique Mejía López (born September 28, 1962) is a Nicaraguan-American singer-songwriter and musician. He is known as "El Príncipe de la Salsa" (The Prince of Salsa). A grammy-award-winning artist, he has released over 20 albums and achieved widespread success, including his single "Yo No Sé Mañana" which was awarded a Latin Grammy Award for "Best Tropical Song". Enrique music certainly gets you moving and maybe one day you might be inspired to learn to Salsa dance! For now, see if you can work out who in our lovely school comes from Nicaragua.

Genre: Salsa & Latin Pop



Luis Enrique Composer of the Fortnight

We have really enjoyed the music of Luis Enrique this week. Known as 'The Prince of Salsa' (El Príncipe de la Salsa) the rhythmic beats have been filling the hall during lunchtime and before and after Collective Worship.



Gymnastics Success

Thank you to Ms Pink, Mr. Malcolm and of course, our Gymnastics squad who took part in this recent Tower Hamlets tournament. The children acquitted themselves superbly well taking part in a range of activities covering a plethora of disciplines from tumbling, vaulting and specific gymnastic moves.

Well done to everyone involved!



Year 5 Visit Barking Gurdwara

Children enjoyed a visit to the Gurdwara in Barking recently. Did you know that when our children visited last year, they were so inspired that it encouraged them to work with Mrs Bahi and launch our annual SEWA day which involves children giving up some of their time to support their community?

Children learnt about the Sikh religion, heard about the importance of the Gurdwara and also sampled some delicious food! Thank you Ms Palmer, Ms Carly and Ms Sharon for taking the children



Children's Mental Health Week (CMHW) Update

Thank you to Ms Pink and Ms Kam for the work that they did for CMHW.

This year's theme was 'My Voice Matters'. Ms Pink led an assembly on the importance of empowering children by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel heard can have a greater sense of self-esteem.

Children certainly embraced this concept and below, you can see the work Year five produced.



Class Five Learn About Financial Literacy

Year 5 have been extremely busy! In the pictures below you can see how our children learning about the importance of understanding your finances focusing on topics such as profits and deficits.

A big thank you to one of our governors Mr. Mark Campbell who helped us get this project started.





Year 6 Visit the Natural History Museum

Class 6 has a great visit to the Natural History Museum learning all about fossils, evolution and the time line of the earth. They even got to become closely acquainted with a Tyrannosaurus Rex!

Keeping Fit with Mr. Malcolm

If you are able to have a look at our twitter feed, you will see Mr. Malcolm in action putting the children through their paces encouraging them to exercise and enjoy the music. I think Mr. Malcolm was having as much fun as the children.





Governing Body Update

We are so fortunate to have such a caring and committed Governing Body. Thank you to Dr Precey and Father Richard for organising our annual strategic away day.

I led an update on our Federation Improvement Plan, sharing the outcomes from the recent survey on wraparound care. We also discussed the outcomes of our recent staff wellbeing survey.

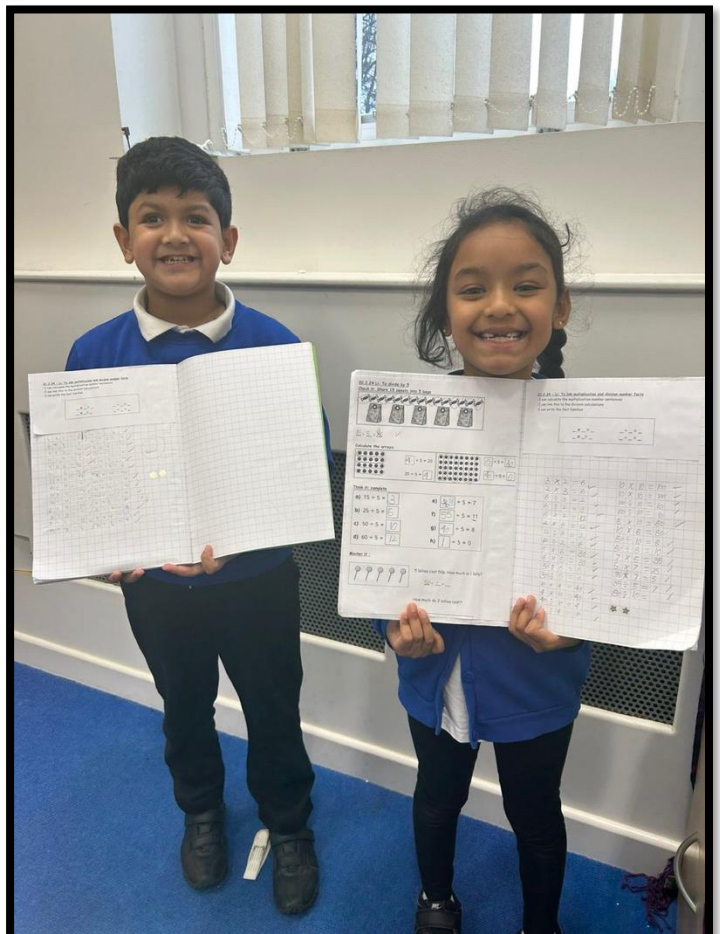
Dr Precey led a skills audit and shared his thoughts on the strategic value of the work governors do and how we can make it even more strategic.



Sharing Great Work

You can see the pride emanating from these two children in Class Two who were so pleased to share their impressive maths work with me earlier in the week.

Just outside my office, we have a new display that features outstanding work from the term. It is a showcase of the hard work our children complete and I look forward to sharing it with you .





Class 6 Studying Macbeth

Children have been studying this Shakespearian classic looking at the various dilemmas facing Macbeth exploring the various emotions he experienced through drama. You can see how our students have captured the emotion.



Competition Money Spent Wisely

Just before Christmas, I wrote informing you of our competition winner in Class 2 who won £500 for the school with his winning Christmas card design.

After much deliberation and thought, some of the money has been invested in a brand new rug for his class to enjoy. What a selfless act, full of kindness for everyone in his class to benefit from.

Bethnal Green

JUNIOR CHOIR

... welcomes new members!



Wednesdays, 5-6pm

**St. James the Less Church
St. James's Avenue, Bethnal Green,
London E2 9JD**

Completely free of charge!

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