



St John's Newsletter

Friday 8th March 2024

An update from Mr. Rubin...

I hope you all had the opportunity to read our SIAMS report. So many people have commented that it is such an accurate reflection of our school. I have been wanting to improve the signage in our school for a while now so I will think about how these statements can be displayed so our local community knows what a lovely school we truly are.

There is no time for standing still as we forge ahead towards Easter and Ramadan. Our children have been working hard on their debating and presentation skills, singing in our choir, focusing in class, representing our school in sports and helping our local community who are not fortunate enough to have homes of their own.

I hope you enjoy reading what your children have been learning and experiencing over the last couple of weeks. Mrs Jheeta shared the pictures of World Book Day. As ever, your efforts were incredible!

Have a lovely weekend and be kind to one another.



Debating

Thank you so much to Mr. Ian Graham for giving up his time to coach our children on their debating skills. Children had to prepare arguments for and against the merits of a three day weekend. Debating is a rather complicated skill to master. Not only do you have to prepare your arguments, you have to listen carefully to what the opposition side is saying so you can think of intelligent rebuttals.

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





Kindness Cup Updates

Another week passes and another very worthy winner of our Kindness Cup. This is what Ms Moses wrote about this student in Class 2. I am sure that you will agree it is simply lovely:

'I am so impressed with this person's ability to emphasise and be understanding of other peoples' feelings. He joined us with very little English. But despite this, he has shown that he has an enormous heart.'

Whenever someone is feeling sad or upset in the classroom - he makes sure that he brings them to my attention.

Often he will find a way of comforting someone if he sees that they are sad. He frequently goes to look for a tissue or find a teddy bear and makes sure that they are feeling better. He does this just to make sure that they are ok.'

Evensong at St James The Less

Our choir were in action once again as they performed at the Evensong service at St. James the Less church recently.

Our children were excellent and the choir got a special mention in our recent SIAMS report. They show a real commitment to choral music and singing and the congregation were incredibly impressed.

As ever, thank you to Mrs Bahi and our incredible choir who joined Jonathan. Places are available and if you would like your child to join in, please email the school or speak to Mrs Bahi.



Value of the Term: Forgiveness

Forgiveness is our Value of the Term. Reflecting on why forgiveness is important helps us understand how we might have hurt others and can encourage us to apologise. We learnt about Nelson Mandela who despite years of incarceration chose to forgive his captors instead of being angry. We learnt how he used this value as a tool to bring about change towards a fairer society.

Early Years Update

Children in the Early Years are making the most of their new space. As ever they are extremely busy learning and exploring. In the pictures below you can see the children out on a mini beast hunt, focusing on their artwork, collaborating in maths and enjoying the outdoor space.



Aziza Mustafa Zadeh

Aziza Mustafa Zadeh (born December 19, 1969) is an Azerbaijani singer, pianist, and composer who plays a fusion of jazz and mugham (a traditional improvisational style of Azerbaijan) with classical and modern influences.

Aziza was born to musical parents, who first noticed her connection with music when she was only eight months old: her father was at the piano playing in the mugham style, which evokes very sad emotions, and she was moved to tears.

As Aziza grew older, her interest in music grew. She began studying classical piano at an early age and released her debut album in 1991. Aziza has since released several more albums and performed in many countries with various jazz artists.

Aziza's music is very varied and evokes many emotions. See if you can work out who in our lovely school comes from Azerbaijan over the fortnight.

Genre: Jazz & Jazz Fusion



Composer of the Fortnight

Having enjoyed the music of Luis Enrique over the last fortnight, we move on to Aziza Mustafa Zadeh, a singer, pianist and musician from Azerbaijan

Thank you Mrs Bahi for always selecting such a vibrant mix of musicians for us to enjoy.

Family Dining Service at St John's

Plans are in motion to think about how we can further improve the lunchtime experience at St John's. I would like to begin the transition towards a family style service. This involves the children having the food they eat for school dinners placed in the middle of the table and older children serving them. We have been doing this at St Paul's for a while now and it is very successful encouraging the children to try different things, be kind to one another and be responsible. I will share more details in the weeks to come.

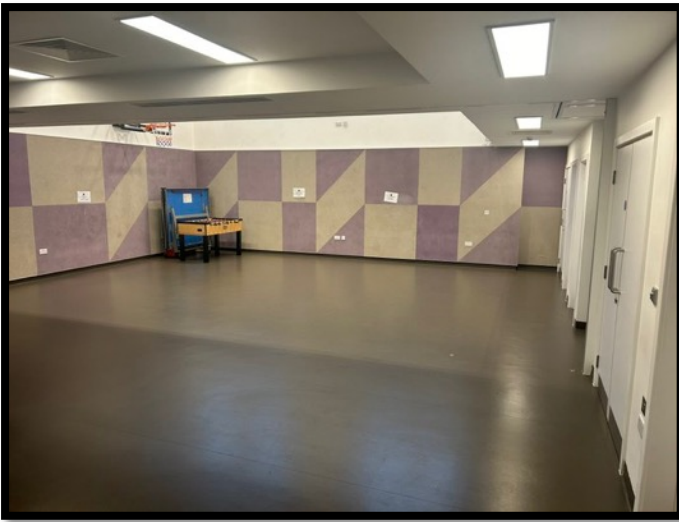
Year Three and Four Hard at Work



Librarian Update

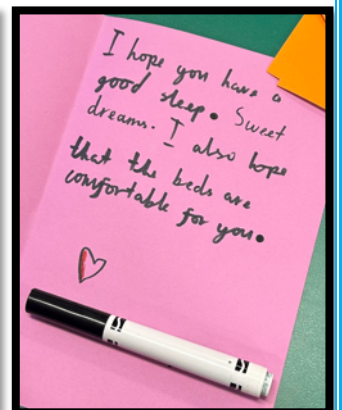
As you enter the main school, the first thing that you notice is our school library which is enjoyed by our whole school community. Thank you to Ms Carly and our librarians who in the pictures below were spending their breaktimes making the library look so lovely for the whole school





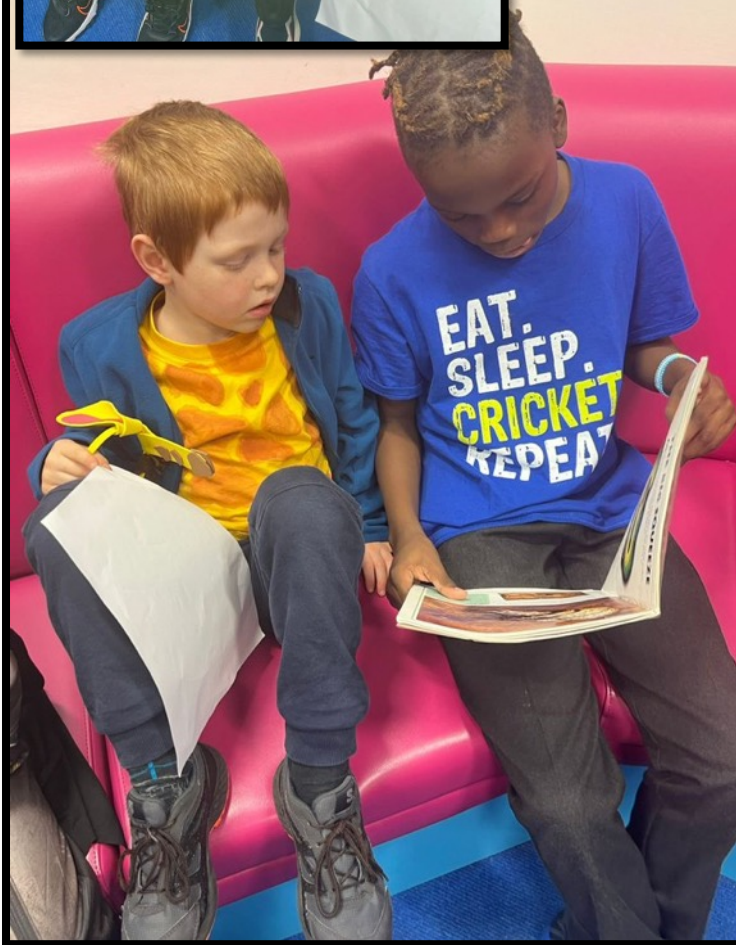
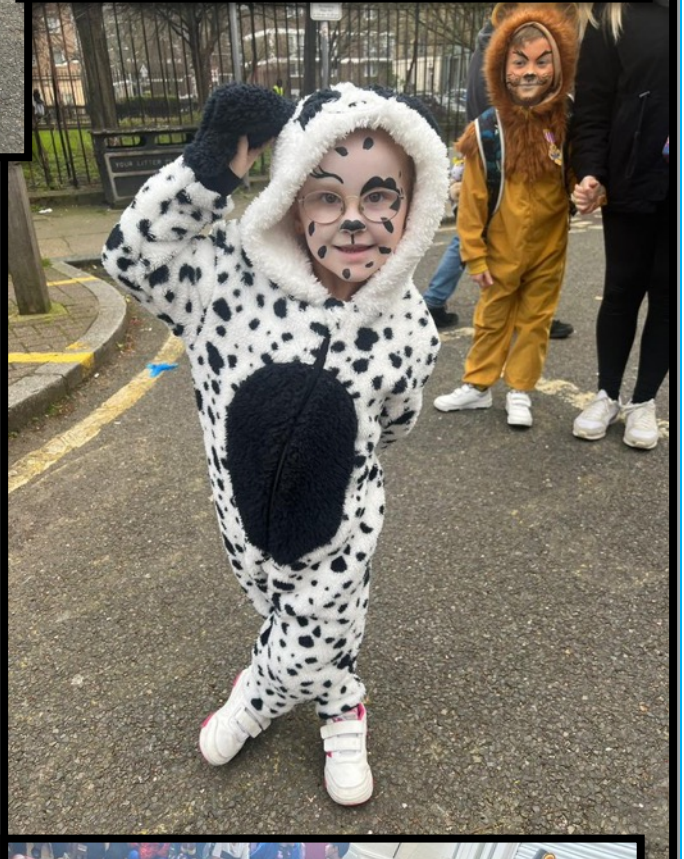
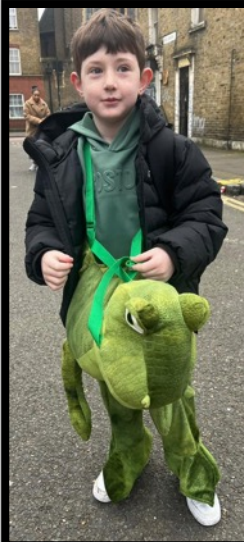
Helping the Homeless

Children in Class 5 and 6 gave up their time last week to help support people that do not have a home. We visited the Beehive Café in Bethnal Green and helped transform the empty hall you can see in the top left picture to a room full of comfortable beds with a space to eat an evening meal. Children also made cards for the guests to enjoy. Thank you to our children for giving up their time for others.



World Book Day 2024 @ ST John's





DO SOMETHING FUNNY FOR MONEY

QR code sticker
goes here

SCAN HERE TO DONATE

WHAT?

Wear something red or polka dots.

WHEN?

Friday 15th March 2024

WHERE?

St. John's Primary School

Get more posters at comicrelief.com/downloads



Red Nose Day is an initiative of Comic Relief, operating name of Charity Projects, registered charity in England & Wales (326568) and Scotland (SC039730) and company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (01806414), registered address 6th Floor, The White Chapel Building, 10 Whitechapel High Street, London, E1 8QS.



FRIDAY 15 MARCH

Children's activities with St Margaret's House

Click on the photos to find out more on our website.

Term-time activity:

Crafterschool:

Weekly Wednesday Arts and Crafting Workshops for Children to have fun, learn skills, and be mindful.
Suitable for children in School Year 1 to Year 5.

Spring Term: running until Wednesday 27th March

Summer Term: Weds 24th April – Weds 3rd July (no session Weds 29th May)

Time: 3.30-5.30pm

Location: The Create Place, 29 Old Ford Rd.

Session fee: £3 per child (£5 for two siblings)



Crafterschool

£3 per session

Wednesdays 3.30-5.30pm

Low-cost arts & crafts sessions
For children in School Years 1-5

When: Wednesdays during term-time
Where: The Create Place, St Margaret's House, E2 9PJ

Easter holiday activities & events:

FREE Comedy workshops: Hilarity Academy

Join us over the Easter holidays for Hilarity Academy - a free, fun workshop for young people to learn and engage in the skill of making people laugh. These workshops include learning how to tell jokes, creating sketches, writing stand-up material, and clowning!
Suitable for children in School Year 3 to Year 6

Easter Holiday Dates and Times: 2pm - 4pm

Monday 8th April, Tuesday 9th April, Thursday 11th April

Location: The Tramshed Community Hub, Digby Street, E2 0LS



HILARITY ACADEMY

Free holiday activities

COMEDY WORKSHOPS

2pm - 4pm
Monday 8th April
Tuesday 9th April
Thursday 11th April

School Years 3-6
Tickets: Free, booking essential
Where: Tramshed, Digby Street, E2 0LS

Performance: Du Iz Tak

Date and times: Saturday 6th April, 11am & 1.30pm

Running time: 35 minutes

Ages: 3+

Told through the language of insects, *Du Iz Tak?* is a story about the cycle of life and all its impermanence. Come and peer into a miniature world of little puppets to see a delightful group of friends exploring their ever-changing home.

Adapted from the award-winning and beautiful book by Carson Ellis, *Du Iz Tak?* is an enchanting, unusual and magical theatre show for young families.

Location: The Mulberry Hall, St. Margaret's House, E2 9PL

Tickets: £5 / £7 / £9



Du Iz Tak?

Saturday 6th April
11am & 1.30pm
Tickets: £5-9
Ages: 3+

The Mulberry Hall,
St. Margaret's House
E2 9PL

A Tiny Tale Told by Tiny Critters (about Big Ideas)



Tower Hamlets and City
SEND IASS



Tower Hamlets & City SENDIASS

(Special Educational Needs Information, Advice and Support Service)

The SENDIASS Team provides free and impartial expert advice to parents of children with SEND and to children and young people themselves who are residents within Tower Hamlets or City of London. Some of the ways we can support you are:

- **Attending meetings with schools/professionals**
- **Applying for an Education Health and Care Plan**
- **Mediation with the Local Authority**
- **Preparing and attending SEND Tribunals**
- **Providing information about other support services and departments**

Our team also runs workshops for parents around the EHCP process, Annual Reviews, and Secondary School Transitions.

If your query can not be resolved during the telephone consultation, we will take a referral and you will be allocated a caseworker who will contact you within 10 working days.

We have a dedicated telephone line, **020 7364 6489**, that you can call to speak to an advisor Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m-17:00 p.m.

You can also email us at:
towerhamlets&city.sendiass@towerhamlets.gov.uk

You can visit our website at:
<https://www.towerhamletsandcitysendiass.com/>



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