



# St John's Newsletter

Friday 9th May 2025

## *An update from Mr. Rubin...*

I hope you are all well. Just a short message from me this week. Our children were so thoughtful on VE Day. Thank you to Mrs Jheeta for organising such a poignant set of activities that we shared across our Federation.

Next week sees the start of the KS2 SATS tests. Our children have worked so hard and we are proud of them regardless of any outcome.

Have a great weekend and remember to be kind to one another.



### **Staffing News**

I am delighted to introduce Mr Fernandes who has made a great start as our Health Mentor.

I am so pleased to welcome back Ms Mads who has been off for a while on sick leave. She has a lot of catching up to do so do please be patient as she gets up to speed.



### **Parent Governor Update**

Huge thanks to Mr Ahmed who is stepping down from his role as Parent Governor. He has supported the school since May 2023 and we are so grateful for his wisdom, time and support. Our Governing Body has a strong focus on three core strategic functions

- Ensuring Clarity of Vision
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

Governors commit to attend regular meetings and training. Each individual Governor is a member of the Governing Body and all decisions are the joint responsibility of the Governing Body.

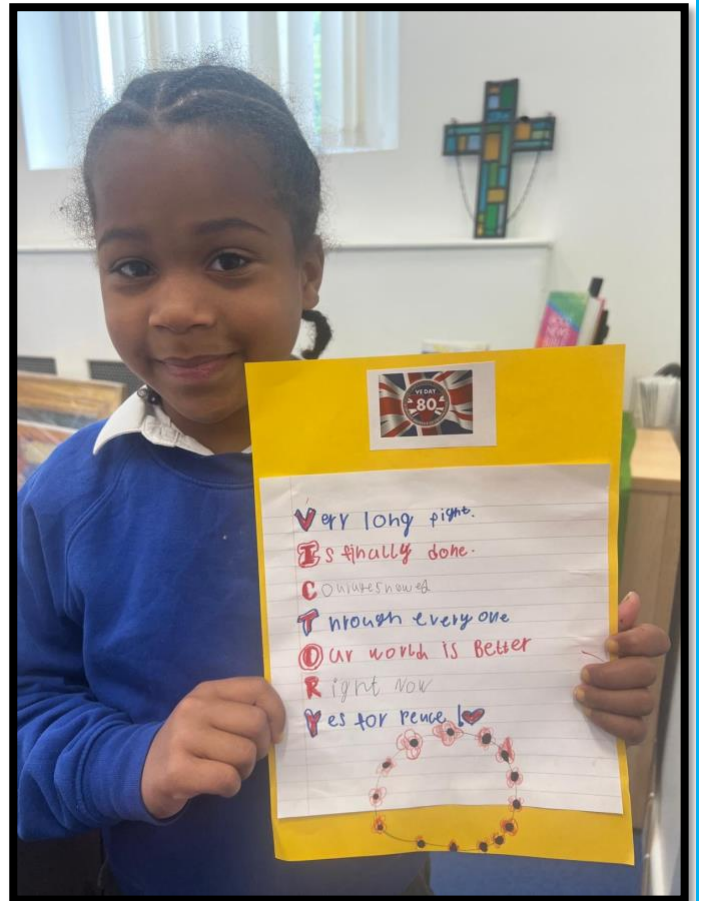
We are now looking for a new Parent Governor to join. If you could send expressions of interest to [Parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:Parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk), we will begin the process. The closing date is May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Follow Us on Instagram**

One of the very best ways to keep up to date with what is happening in our school is to follow us on social media. We are on X <https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower> and on Instagram

[https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsbethnalgreen?igsh=NHZsODQzc2w4NHZ2&utm\\_source=qr](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsbethnalgreen?igsh=NHZsODQzc2w4NHZ2&utm_source=qr)

There is some lovely content on there so if you have this platform, please take the time to have a look and follow us.



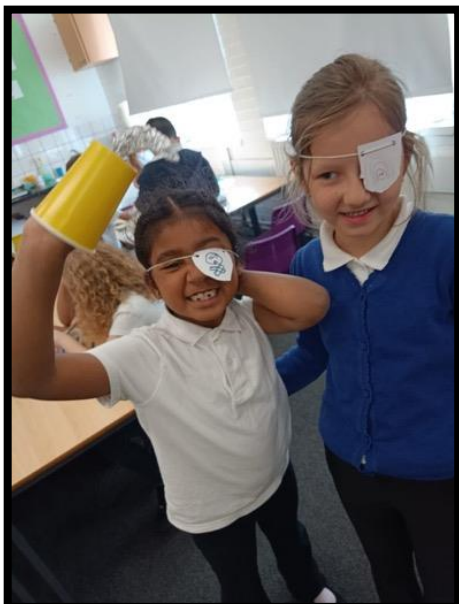
# VE DAY





### **Immersion in Texts - Year 2**

Children just love reading at St John's and I am always impressed with the ingenuity of our staff. Ms Moses decided that the best way to get our children excited about their upcoming text, 'Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs' was for the class to discover what it would be like to become pirates. You can see from the pictures that this was an extremely good strategy!





## **EYFS -** **Great things are happening!**

We have a wonderful space, great teachers and staff and our children love the Early Years!

We have a small number of spaces available but space is filling up fast. If you know families that are new to the area or friends who are thinking about sending their children into nursery, we can offer full or part time places and would love to show people around. Encourage them to contact [parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)





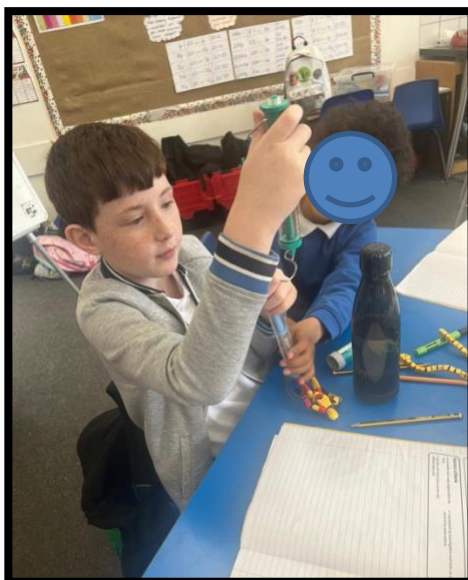
### Early Years Update

We are so proud of our children and staff in the Early Years. Recently, we had a visit from the Local Authority to come and explore the teaching and learning and they were exceedingly impressed. Thank you to Ms Shebli and Ms Kayla and the wonderful support staff we have that make our Early Years such a thriving place to be a part of.



### Forces – Year 4/5

Year 4 and 5 have been exploring the fascinating world of forces! This practical approach has helped them understand that forces are at play all around us, shaping how things move or stay still. Their curiosity and collaborative spirit during these investigations have been fantastic to see, laying a strong foundation for future scientific learning.



### **Family Dining Update**

Mixed-age lunchtimes are going well. Older and younger children eat together, helping each other choose a wider selection of food, with many trying new things. This shared meal builds friendships and kindness across the school. It's more than just lunch – it's a chance to connect and learn.



### **Collective Worship – Endurance**

Big thanks to Father Luke who came into school to lead Collective Worship helping us to reflect on the theme of Endurance, our Value of the Term. He explored the importance of perseverance in the face of challenges, drawing upon examples and stories.

Father Luke highlighted how inner strength and spirit can help us overcome obstacles and achieve our goals, even when the path ahead seems difficult. His message encouraged the children to build resilience and to support one another. Thank you Father Luke for taking the time to lead us in Worship .



# Class 3 Trip To Hampstead Heath



**ST JOHN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Bethnal Green

# NURSERY & RECEPTION

**SEPTEMBER 2025**

*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](mailto:admin@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)



[www.st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](http://www.st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)



*'Let our light shine'*

@5tJohnsTower



# Children's Services are offering Toileting Troubleshooting sessions in Children and Family Centres and Family Hubs for parents of children with additional needs

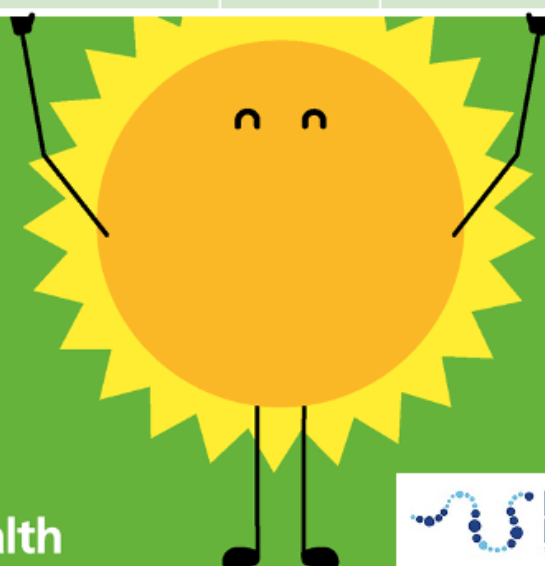


If you are interested in attending:

- 1) First attend a Toileting Workshop in any Tower Hamlets Children and Family Centres and Family Hubs.
- 2) After trialling strategies from this workshop, you feel you would benefit from further support please choose a date that suits you to book onto.

The workshops happen on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month.

| Month    | Date                          | Time  | Children Centres & Family Hubs |
|----------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| January  | 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2025  | 1-3pm | Marner                         |
| February | 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 | 1-3pm | Ocean                          |
| March    | 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2025    | 1-3pm | Meath gardens                  |
| April    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025    | 1-3pm | Isle of Dogs                   |
| May      | 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2025      | 1-3pm | Overland                       |
| June     | 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2025     | 1-3pm | <u>Chrip Street</u>            |



Young Barts Health



# Staying Safe Online Tips

## Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality

Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or video calling Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.



## Check the safety settings are turned on

Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? What about safe search and Youtube? See [parentsafe.lgfl.net](https://parentsafe.lgfl.net) for more.



## Get your children to show you their apps and games

You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced - they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for **Common Sense Media** reviews.



## Don't try to hide news about scary things in the news

If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch **Newsround** together and talk about how they feel - there is guidance from **Childline** to help you.



## Remind them of key online safety principles

There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

## If you aren't sure, ASK!


Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at [reporting.lgfl.net](https://reporting.lgfl.net), including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).



# Penalty Notices Information – New National Framework

Please read and familiarise yourself with the latest guidance from Tower Hamlets. Please note that the fines go to the local authority and that all schools receive this information to share with parents/carers.

**PENALTY NOTICES**  
New National Framework for Penalty Notices for poor school attendance and unauthorised leave in term time are changing from 19 August 2024.



TOWER HAMLETS

**Per Parent, Per Child**  
Penalty Notices will still be issued to each parent for each absent child.  
  
For example – 2 siblings absent for unauthorised leave in term time will result in each parent receiving two separate fines.

**Term Time Leave:** 5 consecutive days  
  
10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period


**First Offence**  
The first time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.  
  
(Reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days.)

**Second Offence**  
The second time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.  
  
(There is no reduction for any early payment.)

**Third Offence**  
The third time a penalty notice is issued, the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.  
  
Fines of up to £2500 per parent, per child, can be issued by the courts.

**BEHAVIOUR AND ATTENDANCE SUPPORT SERVICE**  
London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BJ  
  
Email: [LBTHAttendance&WelfareServiceAdmin@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:LBTHAttendance&WelfareServiceAdmin@towerhamlets.gov.uk) Telephone: 020 7364 3450

The best of London  
in one borough





# CONTRACT CATERING SERVICES

## LUNCH MENU

Apr 2025 - Oct 2025



| Week 1   | Monday<br>'Planet Earth Day'              | Tuesday<br>'Street Food Day'                          | <b>FREE FROM</b><br>Main Allergens<br>Wednesday<br>'Traditional Day' | Thursday<br>Sweden   | Friday<br>'Favourites'                         |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| Dates  | 21 Apr 2025 • 05 May                      | 19 May • 02 Jun • 16 Jun                              | 30 Jun • 14 Jul • 28 Jul   | 11 Aug • 25 Aug • 08 Sep                                       | 22 Sep • 06 Oct • 20 Oct                       |
| Option 1   | Margherita Pizza with Baked Potato Wedges | Spaghetti Bolognese                                   | Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes & Gravy                            | Swedish Beef Meatballs with Dill Cream Sauce & Mashed Potatoes | Cod Fish Fingers with Chips                    |
| Option 2   | Cauliflower & Chickpea Korma with Rice    | Potato & Rainbow Vegetable Frittata with Garlic Bread | Jacket Potato with Vegemince Bolognese                               | Swedish Cheese Pie with Mashed Potatoes                        | Mexican Bean Vegan Roll with Chips             |
| On the side  | Peas & Sweetcorn                          | Cauliflower & Broccoli                                | Carrots & Sweetcorn  | Green Beans & Mashed Swede with Carrots                        | Peas & Baked Beans                             |
| Salads   | Mixed Green Salad                         | Apple & Cucumber Salad                                | Chef's House Salad   | Cucumber, Red Onion and Dill Salad                             | Crunchy Coleslaw                               |
| Dessert  | Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings          | Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick                        | Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad   | Blueberry Fruit Fool   | Strawberry & Banana Yoghurt with Rice Krispies |
| DAILY OPTIONS: DAILY SALAD & SEASONAL FRESH FRUIT PLATTER FRESH BREAD & YOGHURTS |   |   |  |  |  |

| Week 2   | Monday<br>'Planet Earth Day'         | Tuesday<br>'Street Food Day'   | <b>FREE FROM</b><br>Main Allergens<br>Wednesday<br>'Traditional Day' | Thursday<br>Singapore                         | Friday<br>'Favourites'                                     |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Dates  | 28 Apr 2025 • 12 May                 | 26 May • 09 Jun • 23 Jun   | 07 Jul • 21 Jul • 4 Aug  | 18 Aug • 1 Sept • 15 Sept                     | 29 Sept • 13 Oct • 27 Oct                                  |
| Option 1   | Neapolitan Pasta Bake                | Crispy Southern Fried Chicken Fillet Burger with Baked Potato Wedges | Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes & Gravy                               | Singapore Chicken Stir Fry with Noodles       | Bubble Crumb Fish Bites or Bubble Salmon Fillet with Chips |
| Option 2   | Jacket Potato with Spicy Mixed Beans | Roasted Vegetable Lasagne  | Aloo Chaat with Rice   | Guorn Dippers with Rendang Curry Sauce & Rice | Cheese & Broccoli Quiche with Chips                        |
| On the side  | Green Beans & Sweetcorn              | Broccoli & Baked Beans   | Spring Cabbage & Carrots   | Mixed Vegetables                              | Peas & Baked Beans   |
| Salads   | Mixed Green Salad                    | Beans & Chilli Salsa Salad   | Chef's House Salad   | Cucumber Raita                                | Crunchy Coleslaw   |
| Dessert  | Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings     | Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick                                       | Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad   | Yoghurt                                       | Tropical Fruity Yoghurt                                    |
| DAILY OPTIONS: DAILY SALAD & SEASONAL FRESH FRUIT PLATTER FRESH BREAD & YOGHURTS |                                      |  |  |   |  |

Please Note that some dishes maybe subject to local changes to suit individual school needs

### Chef Hassane Presents

Two dishes packed full of flavour, from two parts of the globe, that you will enjoy this season, Swedish Beef Meatballs and Singapore Chicken Noodles, or as ABBA said Mama Mia!!!



Enjoy and eat healthy!  
HASSANE X



**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**  
Every effort is made to minimise risk of cross-contamination. However, it should be noted that our food is prepared in a kitchen where known allergens may be present and therefore the risk of cross-contamination remains a risk. Please ask staff for further details regarding specific dietary requirements and/or allergens.

NEW AWARD



Pro Veg recognises that OUR healthy menus are environmentally friendly for humans, animals and the Planet.



All our Vegan & Vegetarian recipes are packed full of nutrition including PROTEIN & FIBRE to keep children healthy & happy.

Fantastic FOOD IN SCHOOLS

St John's CE Primary School  
Bethnal Green

# BREAKFAST CLUB

8:00 - 8:45am Monday- Friday



Our Breakfast Club is available to all St John's pupils from Nursery to Year 6 for only £1 when arriving before 8:30. After 8:30 our Breakfast Club sessions are completely **FREE** of charge to all.

**magic  
breakfast**  
fuel for learning



[www.stjohns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)



[admin@stjohns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)



020 8980 1142

Find us on



# Bethnal Green Junior Choir



**Wednesdays 3.45-4.30 pm**

St. John on Bethnal Green

Primary School,

Peel Grove, E2 9LR

**Years 3-6 welcome**





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](mailto:towerhamlets&city.sendiass@towerhamlets.gov.uk)**

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



# Proposed School Term Dates 25/26

## School term dates 2025/26

| Period          | Dates   |
|-----------------|---|
| Term 1          | Monday 1 September 2025 to Friday 24 October 2025 (40 Days) |
| Half term       | Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025            |
| Term 2          | Monday 3 November 2025 - Friday 19 December 2025 (35 Days)  |
| Christmas break | Monday 22 December 2025 to Friday 2 January 2026            |

### Autumn Term 2025

| Period       | Dates  |
|--------------|--|
| Term 3       | Monday 5 January 2026 to Friday 13 February 2026 (30 days) |
| Half term    | Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026         |
| Term 4       | Monday 23 February 2026 - Friday 27 March 2026 (24 Days)   |
| Easter break | Monday 30 March 2026 to Friday 10 April 2026               |

### Spring term

| Period    | Dates   |
|-----------|---|
| Term 5    | Monday 13 April 2026 - Friday 22 May 2026 (except May Day Bank Holiday on 4 May 2026) (29 Days) |
| Half term | Monday 25 May 2026 - Friday 29 May 2026 (spring bank holiday on 25 May)                         |
| Term 6    | Monday 1 June 2026 – Wednesday 22 July 2026 (38 Days)   |

### Summer Term 2026

**St John's & St Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools**  
**Term Dates and Holidays - 2024/ 2025**

**Autumn Term 2024**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Staff Training      | Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> & Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup> September       |
| First Day of Term   | Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September                       |
| Half Term           | Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November |
| Staff Training      | Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> November                              |
| Second half of term | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November                          |
| Last Day of Term    | Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December                          |

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <i>Christmas Day</i> | <i>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December</i> |
| <i>Boxing Day</i>    | <i>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December</i>  |

**Spring Term 2025**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <i>New Year's Day Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January</i> |   |
| First Day of Term                                   | Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January                          |
| Half Term   | Mon. 17 <sup>th</sup> to Fri. 21 <sup>st</sup> February |
| Second half of term                                 | Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February                        |
| Last Day of Term                                    | Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April                            |

|                      |                                     |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Good Friday</i>   | <i>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April</i> |
| <i>Easter Monday</i> | <i>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April</i> |
| Staff Training       | Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> April          |

**Summer Term 2025**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| First Day of Term                             | Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April  |
| May Day Bank Holiday                          | Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May  |
| Half Term                                     | Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May   |
| Second half of term                           | Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June   |
| Pentecost Church                              | Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June   |
| Service (@ St John's<br>Bethnal Green Church) |   |
| Last Day of Term                              | Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July (& Koinonia End of Year Church<br>Service at St John's on Bethnal Green – 9:30AM |
| Staff Training                                | Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> July   |

*Eid Al-Adha* *Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025\**

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**