

St John's Newsletter

Friday 4th April 2025

An update from Mr. Rubin...

The end of the term is here, and what a busy one it's been! A huge thank you to our amazing staff team for their dedication in ensuring our children receive an outstanding primary education.

This newsletter is once again filled with exciting updates on the children's activities. Be sure to check out the affordable dining options on page 12.

On page 2, we say farewell to Malcolm, who will be with us for one more week when we return.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break. We look forward to welcoming you back for the Summer term on Tuesday, April 22nd.

Enjoy a restful break, a joyful Easter, and remember to be kind to one another.



A Change in the Seasons

It always makes me happy when classes head out on a school trip. The recent spell of lovely weather has provided the perfect conditions for the many trips our children are currently enjoying. These outings offer valuable opportunities to apply learning in real-world settings, build independence and spark curiosity.

Class Three recently took advantage of the sunshine on a local science trip where they explored and classified a variety of plants.

Experiences like this bring the curriculum to life and help children make lasting connections between what they learn in the classroom and the natural world around them. We look forward to more outdoor learning in the weeks ahead

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 <u>https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower</u> and

on Instagram

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.



<u>Thank you</u> For Everything Mr Malcolm

I wrote to the school community last month to let you know that sadly Mr Malcolm will be leaving us. Mr Malcolm has touched so many peoples' lives motivating and encouraging them. His enthusiasm is limitless and he always brings a smile to our faces. I wanted to thank Malcolm for everything he has done for us. His ability to remember all the children that he has worked with past and present is both astonishing and heartwarming. There is only one Mr Malcolm so he is impossible to replace .We do have a good plan in place which I will be sharing with you in the next newsletter. I know how important sport and exercise is for our pupils and we will build on the legacy Malcolm has left us. Good luck Mr Malcolm!

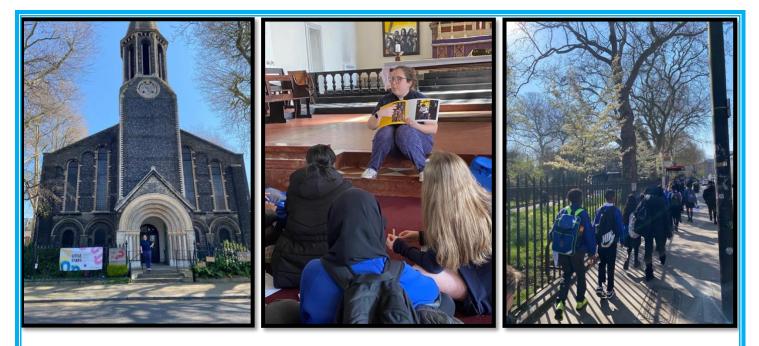














St John's Inaugural Annual Pilgrimage

Classes four, five and six recently took part in a thoughtful pilgrimage journeying through the key events of Holy Week. Each stop offered time for reflection and a deeper understanding of the Easter story. The children engaged with great respect and maturity. A big thank you to Mrs Bahi for organising such a meaningful and memorable experience for all. The pilgrimage truly brought the significance of Holy Week to life for our pupils.









Easter and Eid Celebration

We celebrated both Easter and Eid with our children, who looked amazing in their festive outfits.

A wonderful party was enjoyed by all, filled with joy, laughter, and the spirit of community. What a memorable occasion!









Y4/5 Geography Update

As part of our geography learning this term, children have been exploring the fascinating country of Kenya, with a particular focus on its capital city, Nairobi. They've been learning about its culture, landmarks, wildlife and climate.

To bring their learning to life, pupils created beautiful persuasive posters designed to encourage tourists to visit the city. These were full of colourful illustrations, powerful adjectives and convincing arguments about why Nairobi is such an exciting destination. This project has not only deepened their understanding of a different part of the world but also helped them develop key skills in research, writing and presentation. It's been fantastic to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic, applying their geography knowledge in creative and meaningful ways.





Class 6 Visit London Buddhist Centre

Year 6 visited the London Buddhist Centre and were warmly welcomed by Ms Ticher, a great friend of the school. She spoke about the life of the Buddha, his teachings and the importance of the Sangha. Pupils also explored the challenges of following the Eightfold Path. It was a thoughtful visit that deepened their understanding of Buddhist beliefs and practices.







Magic Breakfast Update

Recently, we held a special assembly to celebrate our partnership with Magic Breakfast, highlighting the importance of starting the day with a healthy, nutritious meal. The children enjoyed learning about how breakfast fuels their bodies and minds, helping them to concentrate and learn throughout the day. We're incredibly grateful to Mrs Jheeta, who organises our breakfast provision so brilliantly, and to all the staff who work hard each morning to create such a warm and welcoming start to the day.

Breakfast Club continues to be a popular part of school life, offering bagels, cereal and fruit in a friendly environment. It's just £1 per day and is free to all children from 8:30am. For many families, it's a great way to support a smooth start to the day and make sure children are ready to learn.

Author Abiola Bella Visits

We were delighted to welcome author Abiola Bello to St Paul's for an inspiring visit. Abiola, known for her books '*The Lost Princess*' and '*The Legacy of a Dreamer*,' captivated our pupils with her engaging storytelling and insightful discussion about writing.

The packed hall included friends from Christ Church, creating a beautiful atmosphere of shared learning and excitement.

Abiola's visit included a book signing and a special reading, giving children the opportunity to interact directly with the author and learn about the creative process behind her stories.

This visit is yet another example of how our close relationship with Christ Church and our federation benefits our children, providing them with unique experiences that broaden their horizons and nurture their love of reading and creativity.

Thank you to Mr.Boutflour for organising this.





School Councillors Meet Dr Precey and Father Richard

As part of our continued focus on pupil voice and leadership, we were thrilled to welcome Dr Precey and Father Richard, our Chair and Vice Chair of Governors, to meet with our school councillors from St Paul's and St John's. The children took their role seriously and asked some brilliant, challenging questions, giving our governors a real grilling! They were eager to find out more about what governors do, the decisions they help make, and how they support our schools behind the scenes. In turn, our school councillors proudly explained their own roles and how they represent the views of their classmates. It was a fantastic exchange that demonstrated how even our youngest pupils are developing a strong sense of leadership, curiosity and responsibility. Thank you to Ms Blake and Ms Moses for organising.



Governors Strategic Away Day

Our Governing body recently met to discuss the Federation. In particular Governors focused on the sustainability of smaller schools and how we can work effectively together. They also explored how they can use their expertise to support the school moving forward. We are so grateful to all our Governors who give up their time to support the school.





Early Years Update

Our Early Years children have been making the most of the beautiful weather, spending plenty of time learning and playing together outside.

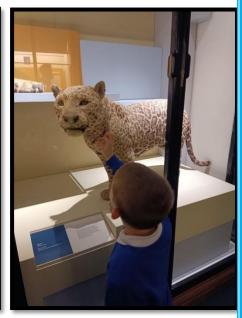
Whether exploring the mud kitchen or playing in the sand or sharing stories in the shade, the children have shown wonderful collaboration and curiosity. Outdoor learning supports physical development, encourages creativity and helps children build friendships through shared play.











Year 2 Visit The Natural History Museum









Class 4 & 5 Visit Young V&A Museum



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

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

Outdoor

play

020 8980 1142 🙆

admin@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk

www.st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk 🌐

'Let our light shine'

@5tJohnsTower 🕅



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025



moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

BURGER KING

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

BILLS

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult, Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

ZIZZI

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

CAFE EIGHTY NINE @ THE RANGE

Kids eat free Sat 5th April - Mon 21st April 2025

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

SIZZLING PUBS Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

WHITBREAD INNS 2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE 2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

IKEA Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

PREZZO

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

COCONUT TREE

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm -6pm from Monday 7th – Sunday 27th April 2025

PIZZA HUT

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, until 3pm daily with a £10 spend

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

MORRISONS Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

LAS IGUANAS Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

 TABLE TABLE

 2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

HUNGRY HORSE Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

THE REAL GREEK Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

SA BRAINS PUBS Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

Copyright of MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



FREE Half Term Activities - Circus

Join us for free two-hour sessions of our regular circus club over three days during the Easter holidays.

This programme is free to attend thanks to funding from the Tower Hamlets Mayor's Community Fund.

Dates/Times: Monday 7th April, 10am-12noon, Wednesday 9th April, 10am-12noon, Thursday 10th April, 2-4pm Venue: The Crypt at St John on Bethnal Green



£5 (Pay Less), £7 (Standard), £9 (Pay More)

Shoe Baby

A magical puppet show! A fantastical sing-a-long adventure with a baby who takes to the sea, the air and the zoo all in a shoe!

Shoe Baby is adapted from the book by Joyce Dunbar. Aimed at 2-6 year olds.

Date: Saturday 12th April Time: 11am and 1.30pm Venue: St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Rd, E2 9PL

Join our Family Activities WhatsApp Group to keep updated with these and all our upcoming events



Scan this code or click on this **link** to join





Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND 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 1st Wednesday of each month.

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

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Young Barts Health

Supporting you, for a brighter future

Family Hubs

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.

Mindful C Give to others Get

Be

Be Active Get reative

Connect

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 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.

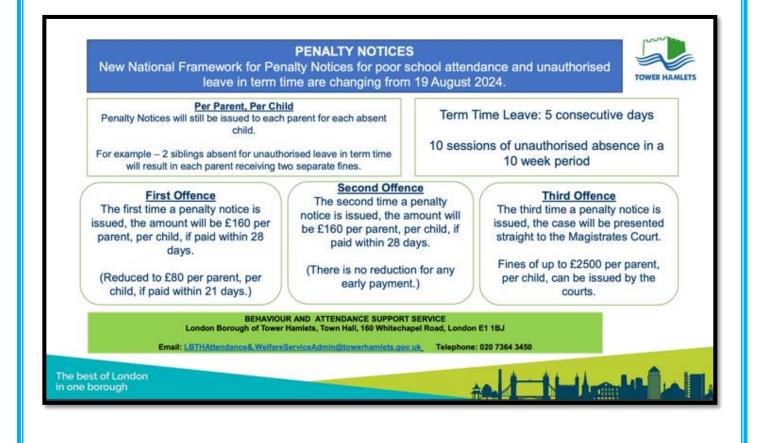
Remind them of key online safety principles

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!



<u>Penalty Notices Information – New</u> <u>National Framework</u>

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.



A Potato & Rainbow Vegetable Fritatta with Garile Brad	Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day' 30 Jun • 14 Jul • 28 Jul • 1 Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Swedish Beef Meatballs with Dill Cream Sauce &	
A Spaghetti Bolognaise	Roast Chicken with Roast	Swedish Beef Meatballs with Dill Cream Sauce &	
Potato & Rainbow Vegetable Fritatta with		with Dill Cream Sauce &	
Vegetable Fritatta with		Mashed Potatoes	Cod Fish Fingers with Chips
Garric Bread	Jacket Potato with Vegemince Bolognaise	Swedish Cheese Pie with Mashed Potatoes	Mexican Bean Vegan Roll with Chips
Cauliflower & Broccoli	Carrots & Sweetcorn	Green Beans & Mashed Swede with Carrots	Peas & Baked Beans
Apple & Cucumber	Chef's House Salad	Cucumber, Red Onion	Crunchy Coleslaw
th Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Blueberry Fruit Fool	Strawberry & Banana Yoghurt with Rice Krispies
AILY SALAD & SEASONAL F	RESH FRUIT PLATTER	FRESH BREAD & YOG	HURTS 🔘
	FREE FROM		
	Main Allergens		
' 'Street Food Day'	'Traditional Day'	Singapore	Friday 'Favourites'
ay • 26 May • 09 Jun • 23 Jun	• 07 Jul • 21 Jul • 4 Aug • 18	Aug • 1 Sept • 15 Sept • 29	ə Sept • 13 Oct • 27 Oct
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
icy Roasted Vegetable Lasagne	Aloo Chaat with Rice	Quorn Dippers with Rendang Curry Sauce & Rice	Cheese & Broccoli Quiche with Chips
Broccoli & Baked Beans	Spring Cabbage & Carrots	Mixed Vegetables	Peas & Baked Beans
Beans & Chilli Salsa Salad	Chef's House Salad	Cucumber Raita	Crunchy Coleslaw
th Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Yoghurt	Tropical Fruity Yoghurt
AILY SALAD & SEASONAL F	RESH FRUIT PLATTER	FRESH BREAD & YOG	iHURTS 🔘
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you will Beef IMP	ORTANT	AWARD An	friendly for mans, animals nd the Planet.
Mama Mia!!! INFO Every e	RMATION: ffort is made to se risk of cross-	BRONZE	
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Bethnal Green Junior Choir



Wednesdays 3.45-4.30pm

St. John on Bethnal Green Primary School, Peel Grove, E2 9LR

Years 3-6 welcome





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.towerhamletsandcity sendiass.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 Mo		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 bre	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					

195 days including 5 staff training days (to be confirmed)

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

Autumn Term 2024

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

Christmas Day Boxing Day Wednesday 25th December Thursday 26th December

Spring Term 2025

New Year's Day Monday 1st January

First Day of TermMonday 6th JanuaryHalf TermMon. 17th to Fri. 21st FebruarySecond half of termMonday 24th FebruaryLast Day of TermFriday 4th April

Good Friday Easter Monday Staff Training *Friday 18th April Monday 21st April* Wed 30th April

Summer Term 2025

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

Eid Al-Adha 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 <u>at St John's are:</u>



Darren Rubin – Executive Headteacher

Monday -Wednesday



Bal Jheeta – Deputy Headteacher

Wednesday – Friday