



St John's Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025

An update from Mr. Rubin...

Another action packed newsletter. School shows no sign of slowing down as we move towards the end of term. It will not surprise you to read that there is always a lot happening.

Last week our Leadership team across the three schools I lead came together to plan strategically for the year ahead. Do check the end of year dates for what is coming up. Don't forget the Summer fete on 11th July.

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



Values Update – Koinonia

In the last edition, I noted the Value or the Term we are focusing on is Koinonia - our community and how we 'Let Our Light Shine' by looking after everyone in our St John's family. From helping friends in the playground to looking after someone when they feel poorly. From making sure a child has breakfast if they are in school late to providing food for our families. We are a school that cares.

Staffing Update

We will be saying goodbye at the end of the academic year to three members of staff: Miss Pink has worked with us for eight years and I am grateful for her hard work and versatility. I am pleased to say that she will be continuing to work in Tower Hamlets. We are also sorry to be seeing Ms Kayla leave who has worked so hard in our Early Years. In addition, we also say goodbye to Ms Palmer who has successfully completed her ECT induction with us. We wish them all well.

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=NHZsODOQzc2w4NHZ2&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.



Online Safety Update

Thank you to Ms Moses who organised some valuable online safety workshops for parents and children across our entire Federation.

The Breck Foundation does incredibly important work dedicated to educating students and adults about the risks of online grooming and exploitation. Parents from across the federation were able to attend these workshops. This shared learning strengthens our collective approach to online safety, reinforcing our commitment to student well-being in the digital age.

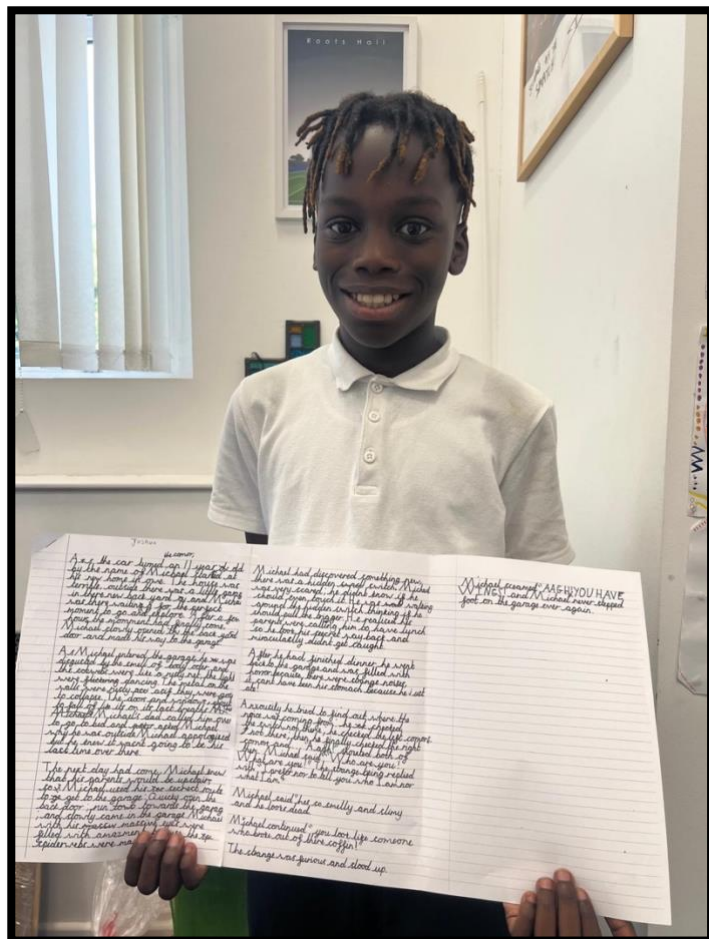




Debating

Our Year 6 students recently showcased impressive oracy skills at the Federation Debating Tournament. Huge thanks go to Ian Graham for coaching the children and our Governors, Anthony and Giles, for expertly adjudicating the event. Developing these vital skills now will greatly benefit the students as they grow.





Writing Update

Hopefully you can use the zoom feature on your device to hone in on this high-quality piece of writing from one of our students.

This is an outstanding piece of writing which has been developed through many stages of editing coupled with quality teaching and learning. This work showcases all of the many processes as well as being a good example of perseverance.

I hope you can also notice the high quality presentation. Look at the neatness and the handwriting – a testament to the pride children take in their work.

The focus on the entire writing journey – from the initial planning phase to end product sets the standard of writing at St John's and shows how much effort our children put into their writing.

St John's wins Lunchtime Accolade

I'm delighted to announce that St John's has won the Fantastic Food in School award for all the hard work we have put into transforming lunchtime and introducing our popular Family Dining Service.

Changing our lunchtime culture was important for several reasons. Family dining encourages positive interactions, teaches social skills and helps maintain that strong sense of community (there is that word again!)

Lunchtime is transitioning to a shared enjoyable experience, not just about eating but building relationships and healthy habits.

We couldn't be prouder of this achievement and what it means for our school. Thank you to everyone involved.



School Council Update

Our School Councils in St Paul's and St John's took an important trip to the Mayor's office, giving them a direct look at democracy in action. They learned about local government decisions, how different viewpoints are considered and the process of representing their communities.

It reinforced how much more we can achieve when our schools collaborate; pooling ideas and efforts makes a real difference. After a productive learning session, they even got to enjoy a ride on the cable car, rounding off a very informative day. Big thanks to Ms Blake and Ms Moses from St John's for organising.



Key Dates Coming Up: (Check the calendar on the website too)

EYFS Sports Day

Sports Day

Y6 Evening Performance

Y6 Morning Performance

Summer Fete

Y6 School Journey

EYFS Graduation

Year 6 Graduation

Last Day of Term

Wednesday 9th July

Thursday 10th July

Thursday 10th July

Friday 11th July

Friday 11th July – 2 – 5pm

Monday 14th – Thurs 17th July

Friday 18th July 9:30am

Friday 18th July 2:15pm

Monday 21st July (& Koinonia End of Year Church Service at St John's on Bethnal Green – 9:30am)



The poster is a vibrant green with a black border, filled with colorful illustrations of summer items like sun, sunglasses, beach balls, books, and food. At the top left is the 'LOVED TOWER HAMLETS' logo. In the top center is the 'idea' logo with 'Library Learning Information' underneath. At the top right is the 'TOWER HAMLETS' logo. The main title 'SUMMER OF FUN 2025' is in large, bold, pink and white letters, with 'AND READING CHALLENGE' in blue below it. The text 'There are lots of free activities for children and young people across the borough this summer as part of the council's Summer of Fun programme.' is in pink. Below that, in black, is 'The Summer of Fun Reading Challenge is part of a jam-packed Summer of Fun programme 2025. Visit other Summer of Fun activities in the borough, for a chance to collect stamps and win a variety of amazing prizes.' Further down, in pink, is 'Pick up your Summer of Fun booklet at any Idea Store or Library.' At the bottom center is a QR code. The bottom right corner features a stylized pink castle illustration.

LOVED TOWER HAMLETS

idea
Library Learning Information

TOWER HAMLETS

SUMMER OF FUN 2025

AND READING CHALLENGE

There are lots of free activities for children and young people across the borough this summer as part of the council's Summer of Fun programme.

The Summer of Fun Reading Challenge is part of a jam-packed Summer of Fun programme 2025. Visit other Summer of Fun activities in the borough, for a chance to collect stamps and win a variety of amazing prizes.

Pick up your Summer of Fun booklet at any Idea Store or Library.



Playground Proms

Music brings everyone together and I am ever so grateful to Mrs Bahi for organising this event in our school. You can see in this picture how engaged our children were and in another session, music filled the playground for everyone in our local neighbourhood to enjoy. The energy and enjoyment were incredible!



Parent Governor Needed!

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

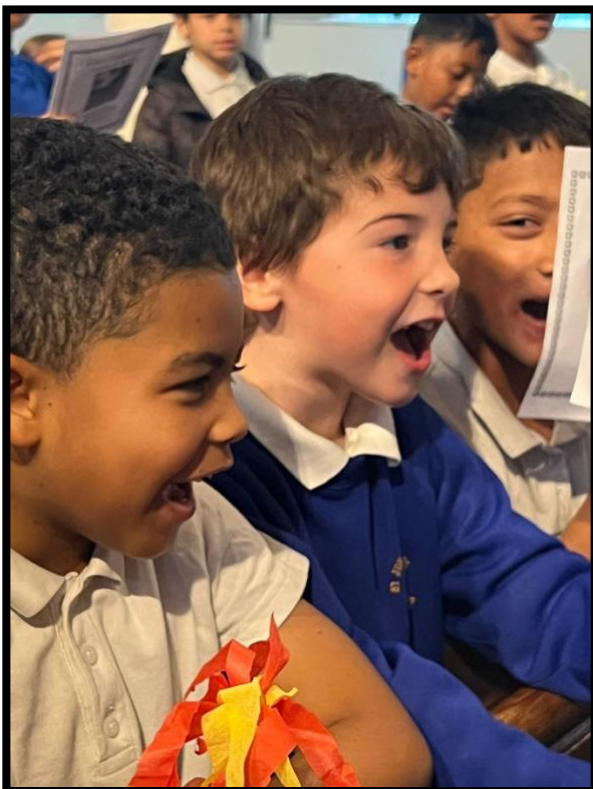
- Ensuring Clarity of Vision
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

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, we will begin the process.



Pentecost Service at St John's Bethnal Green Church





Class 3 Assembly





ST JOHNS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

COME & JOIN US FOR OUR

SUMMER FETE



**FRIDAY BIG
11TH JULY PLAYGROUND
2pm-5pm**



£1 ENTRY PER FAMILY

INCLUDING

**Bouncy Castle, Ice Cream Van, Cake Stall,
Food & Drink, Face Painting, Hook-a-
Duck, Inflatables and more**

**SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT
1:45PM ON FRIDAY 11TH JULY**

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



www.st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk



'Let our light shine'

@5tJohnsTower



Get your Child Ready for Nursery & School

With the Early Help & Children and Families Service.

Is your child ready for nursery or school? We can help your child learn how to:

- ✓ Put on their coat
- ✓ Use the toilet by themselves
- ✓ Focus and listen
- ✓ Make friends and talk to others
- ✓ Try new things
- ✓ Talk about their feelings



Join our Support Sessions below :

Each session is free and easy to join!

- 1 Toilet Training:** Helpful tips to support your child to be toilet ready.
- 2 Healthy Lifestyle:** Healthy snacks, daily physical activity, and how to stay happy and healthy
- 3 Routines:** Help plan your child's day so they feel safe and adjust easily as things change.
- 4 Learning through Play:** How it helps children learn and develop new skills
- Independence Skills:** The skills children need to do things on their own when starting school.



For more information, speak to a member of staff today.

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/earlyhelp

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 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, 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 Telephone: 020 7364 3450

The best of London
in one borough





CONTRACT CATERING SERVICES LUNCH MENU Apr 2025 - Oct 2025



Week 1	Monday 'Planet Earth Day'	Tuesday 'Street Food Day'	FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day'	Thursday Sweden	Friday '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 'Planet Earth Day'	Tuesday 'Street Food Day'	FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day'	Thursday Singapore	Friday '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



admin@stjohns.towerhamlets.sch.uk



020 8980 1142

Find us on





Who's in Charge Programme at LEAP 2024/2025



As a parent/carer you may be feeling any of the following:

Helpless Hopeless Guilty Powerless

Isolated Anxious Despair

Shame Blamed

Aims of the programme

To achieve the goals, these aims have been identified for the programme.

Feelings

- ☐ Reduce parents' feelings of isolation.
- ☐ Challenge parents' feelings of guilt.

Thinking

- ☐ Create the belief in the possibility of change.

Behaviours

- ☐ Clarify boundaries of what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour.

Attitudes

- ☐ Explore anger, both children's and parent's.
- ☐ The impact of anger on behaviour.

Assertiveness

- ☐ Encourage parent's assertiveness.

Self-care

- ☐ Highlight the importance of parental self-care.
- ☐ Encourage self-care.

Our aim is to provide a safe and supportive environment for parents, offering valuable insights, practical strategies, and empowering concepts. We understand the challenges parents face in addressing challenging behaviour and strive to equip them with the tools necessary for positive change.

For further information please call **Denise Foster (Family Support Lead) 07724 024 925**
denise.foster@londoneastap.org.uk

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

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

INSET DAYS Monday 1st – Tuesday 2nd September 2025
First Day back – 3rd September 2025

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

Term Dates and Holidays - 2024/ 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Staff Training	Mon 2 nd & Tue 3 rd September
First Day of Term	Wednesday 4 th September
Half Term	Monday 28 th – Friday 1 st November
Staff Training	Mon 4 th November
Second half of term	Tuesday 5 th November
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 th December
Christmas Day	Wednesday 25 th December
Boxing Day	Thursday 26 th December

Spring Term 2025

<i>New Year's Day Monday 1st January</i>	
First Day of Term	Monday 6 th January
Half Term	Mon. 17 th to Fri. 21 st February
Second half of term	Monday 24 th February
Last Day of Term	Friday 4 th April
Good Friday	Friday 18 th April
Easter Monday	Monday 21 st April
Staff Training	Wed 30 th April

Summer Term 2025 (More dates to be added)

First Day of Term	Tuesday 22 nd April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May
Half Term	Tuesday 27 th to Friday 30 th May
Second half of term	Monday 2 nd June
Eid Al-Adha	Friday 6 th June 2025
Pentecost Church Service (@ St John's Bethnal Green Church)	Wednesday 11 th June (9:30am)
Evensong (@ St John's)	5pm
Swimming Gala	Thursday 12 th June
Bethnal Green Church)	Wednesday 2 nd July 5pm
EYFS Sports Day	Wednesday 9 th July
Sports Day	Thursday 10 th July
Summer Fete	Friday 11 th July – 2 – 5pm
Y6 School Journey	Monday 14 th July
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 22 nd July



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