



St John's Newsletter

Friday 14th November 2025

An update from Mr. Rubin...

I hope you had a relaxing half term break. The children have come back to school well and are working hard and having fun.

The month of November is a busy one at school. Mrs Jheeta has organised our Magnificent Month of November and there are lots of activities to keep everyone busy.

I'm delighted that we have our School Council up and running. In addition we will soon be having prefects across the school to give our children greater responsibilities. There have been a lot of exciting trips and activities to report back to you on. Thank you for your kind Harvest contributions which we redistributed to our community.

I will also be noting how respectfully our children engaged with Remembrance Day. Thank you as ever to Reverend Philippa who led such a thoughtful service.

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



Harvest Festival

Thank you to all of you for your kind donations that we redistributed across our community. Thank you also to Mrs Bahi and Mrs Jheeta for organising and to Mr Pease and Reverend Philippa and Reverend Luke for leading the service.



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

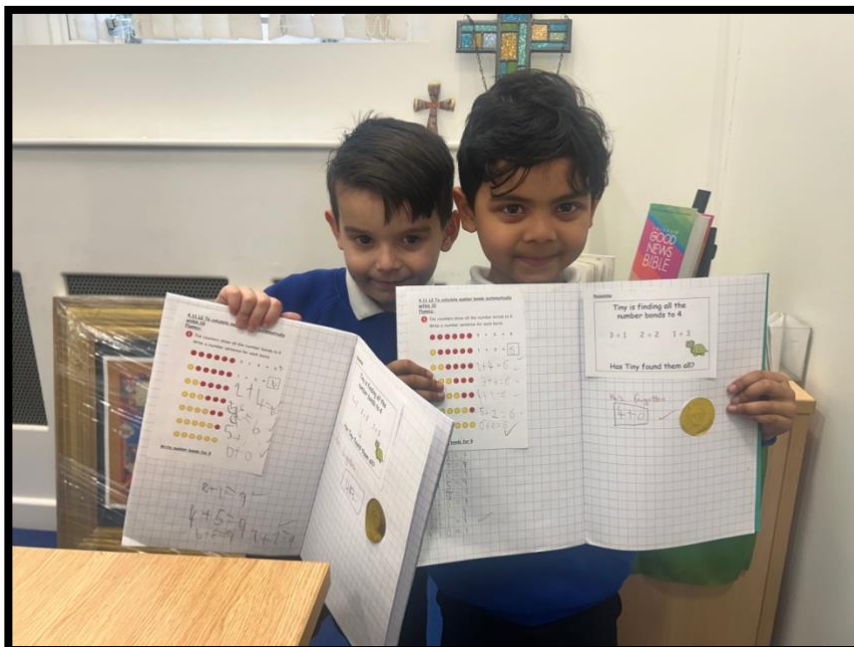
https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsbethnalgreen?igsh=NHZsODQzc2w4NHZ2&utm_source=qr

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



Artis Update

Artis is such great fun! Every Monday, our children at St John's work with the wonderful team from Artis and as you can see from the picture above, they have a fantastic time exploring their creativity. Artis is an innovative educational organisation dedicated to enriching pupils' learning experiences through creative arts and cultural engagement. Their work focuses on bringing high-quality arts programmes into our curriculum, helping children develop creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork skills. By partnering with schools like St John's, Artis also supports our staff with inspiring workshops and projects that align with our educational goals and values. This approach not only makes learning enjoyable but also boosts pupil engagement and well-being, helping to create a positive and vibrant school community where every child's unique talents can truly shine. We are delighted to see how Artis sparks imagination and confidence in our pupils each week.



Sharing Great Work

One of the very best parts of my job is when children come into the office to share their special achievements.

I was particularly impressed with these two children from Year one who brought their maths work into the office earning themselves a Golden Sticker!

Early Years Update

I am very proud of the hard work in our Early Years.

Thanks to the EYFS team and Ms Blake, who oversees Early Years Teaching and Learning across the Federation. Recently, we welcomed Fran from the borough's Early Years Team and Mark, one of our Federation Governors. They were impressed by the variety of activities, quality of teaching, and the children's enthusiasm and progress. Working together across the Federation allows us to share best practises, resources, and expertise, enriching learning for all our youngest pupils. This collaboration ensures consistency and supports ongoing improvement in EYFS provision. Together, we are laying a strong foundation for children's future development and success.





Y1 Visit The Young V&A Museum

It is very important that our children get to explore London and we are extremely lucky to have such a fantastic resource on our doorstep.

Children in Year one explored the gallery enjoying the many activities that are on offer. Did you know that this gallery is completely free so why not pop in – it's great fun and a beautiful building!



School Council Update

The votes are in, have been counted and verified, and I am delighted to welcome this year's latest cohort into our School Council. Having a School Council is important because it gives pupils a voice in school decisions and helps develop leadership skills. Soon they will be meeting our Governors and will be liaising with School Council members at St Paul's to focus on school development. Thank you to everyone who applied for their enthusiasm and commitment. A special thank you to Ms Moses for organising the election and supporting the process so smoothly.



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

EYFS & KS1 Disco	Thursday 20 th November
School Photographs	Wednesday 26 th November
KS2 Disco	Thursday 27 th November
Advent Activity Day	Friday 5 th December
EYFS Christmas Show	Wednesday 10 th December 9:45am
Christmas Fete	Friday 12 th December
KS1 Nativity for Families	Tuesday 16 th December 2:15pm
Christmas Service at St John's Church	Wednesday 17 th December – 9:30am & 7pm
Last Day of Term (2pm Finish)	Friday 19 th December



Kindness Cup

Compassion is one of our most important Values and every week our staff will identify a member of their class who has earned the Place2Be Kindness Cup. Here is a reminder of our latest winners who show great compassion to everyone and shine in everything they do.



Parent Governor Needed!

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.

Thankyou Lions Club and Mrs Jheeta

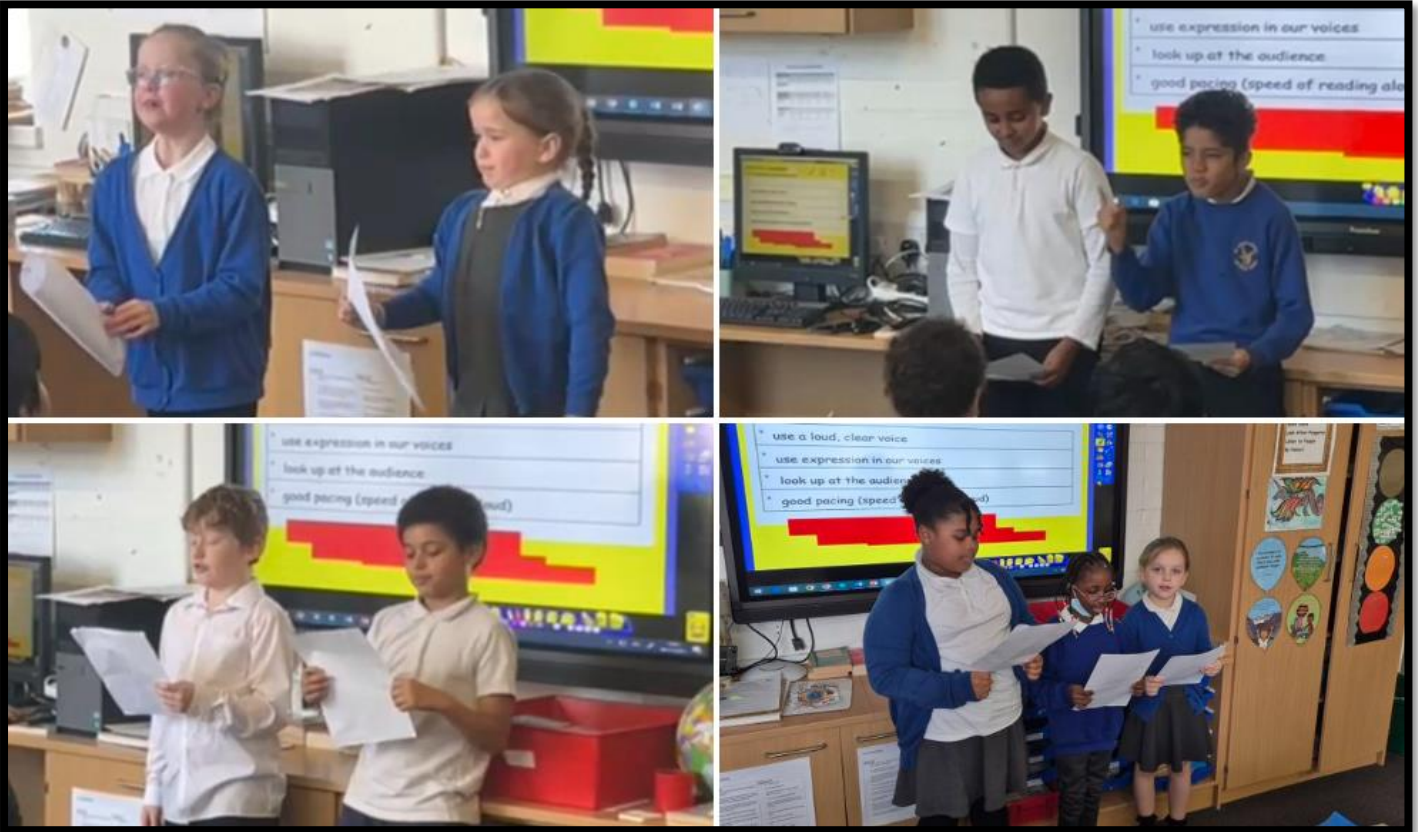
A huge thank you to Mrs Jheeta for organising the Wanstead Lions Club vision screening at St John's. We are incredibly grateful to the Lions volunteers for giving their time to carry out sight tests for our children. Early identification of any vision difficulties is so important, as it helps ensure pupils can access their learning confidently and comfortably. We really appreciate this valuable support for our school community.



Year 1 Update – Ms Moses

Year 1 pupils have been busy learning how to write clear, simple instructions by explaining how to make a jam sandwich. This activity helps them understand sequencing and the use of imperative verbs like “spread” and “cut.” Writing instructional texts develops their ability to organise ideas logically and use clear language, which supports reading comprehension and writing skills. It also encourages independence and practical life skills, making learning both fun and meaningful while building confidence in following and giving instructions.





Oracy In Key Stage 2

Oracy is vital for developing children’s communication, confidence, and critical thinking skills. It helps pupils express their ideas clearly, listen actively, and engage in meaningful discussions. Mr Boutflour recently worked with his class on performance poetry, focusing on presentation and vocal skills. The children demonstrated impressive oracy abilities, showing confidence and creativity in their delivery. This focus on oracy enriches learning across subjects and prepares pupils for effective communication in school and beyond.



Bikeability Training at St John’s

Bikeability training teaches pupils essential cycling skills and road safety, helping them navigate roads confidently and responsibly. It promotes independence, balance, and coordination while encouraging a healthy, active lifestyle. By learning to follow traffic rules and make safe decisions, pupils develop critical life skills that enhance their safety and well-being. This training supports environmental benefits by encouraging sustainable travel and reducing reliance on cars.



Remembrance

Remembrance Day is a special time when we honour and remember those who have served and sacrificed in wars to protect our freedom and peace. From Early Years through to Year 6, our pupils learn about the importance of remembering the bravery and kindness of those who came before us.

This year, all children observed the silence impeccably, showing great respect and understanding of the significance of this moment. The service was thoughtfully led by Reverend Philippa, who helped us reflect on the meaning of remembrance and the value of peace. Pupils across the school have engaged with stories, symbols like poppies, and the history behind Remembrance Day.

This collective act of remembrance encourages empathy, gratitude, and a sense of community, helping our children appreciate the sacrifices made for the world we live in today. It is a powerful reminder for all generations to cherish peace and work towards a better future.



WE ARE

**YOUTH
YOUTH
YOUTH**

WE ARE

**A YOUTH MOVEMENT IN TOWERHAMLETS
CREATING COMMUNITY AND CHANGING CULTURE**

AT ST JOHN ON BETHNAL GREEN

FREE DROP IN YOUTH SESSION
FROM 3:30-5:00PM

EVERY MONDAY TERM TIME



MAGNIFICENT MONTH OF NOVEMBER



at St John's CE Primary School
Thursday 6th November
Cake Sale

Please bring donations of cakes to the school office by 12pm on Thursday 6th Nov.

Thursday 13th November

Non Uniform Day

Donations of £1 can be made on the gate before and after school.

Wear something bright or sparkly and let your light shine!

Thursday 20th November

After School Disco - KS1 & EYFS


Thursday 27th November

After School Disco - KS2

(tuck shop will be open on both dates)

Disco tickets are priced at £4 per child and £3 for each additional sibling. Available to purchase from the school office.

Children to be collected at 5:00pm.





CONTRACT CATERING SERVICES LUNCH MENU Nov 2025 - Apr 2026



Week 1	Monday 'Planet Earth Day'	Tuesday 'Street Food Day'	FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day'	Thursday Hungary	Friday 'Favourites'
Dates	03 Nov 2025 • 17 Nov • 01 Dec • 15 Dec • 29 Dec • 12 Jan 2026 • 26 Jan • 09 Feb • 23 Feb • 09 Mar • 23 Mar • 06 Apr				
Option 1	Tomato, Basil & Mozzarella Potato Gnocchi	BBQ Veggie Chicken Tenders with Spicy Diced Potatoes	Veggie Bangers and Mash	Layered Cheesy Vegetables & Potatoes (Rakott Krumpli)	Vegetable Nuggets with Sweet and Sour Sauce & Rice
Option 2	Thai Red Vegetable Meatballs Curry with Noodles	Keralan Style Chicken Curry with Savoury Rice	Minced Beef Cottage Pie	Hungarian Beef Goulash (Pörkölt) with Mashed Potato	Cod Fish Fingers with Chips
On the side	Sweetcorn and Green Beans	Broccoli & Carrots	Braised Red Cabbage & Peas	Green Vegetable Medley	Garden Peas and Baked Beans
Salads	Mixed Bean Salad	Crunchy Red Coleslaw	Chef's House Salad	Hungarian Cucumber Salad	Asian Noodle Salad
Dessert	Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings	Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Apple & Cinnamon Greek Style Yoghurt	Dates & Banana Yoghurt
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 Brazilian	Friday 'Favourites'
Dates	10 Nov 2025 • 24 Nov • 08 Dec • 22 Dec • 05 Jan 2026 • 19 Jan • 02 Feb • 16 Feb • 2 Mar • 16 Mar • 30 Mar				
Option 1	Macaroni Cheese & Sweetcorn	Margherita Pizza with Cajun Potato Wedges	Vegetable Hotpot	Black Bean & Vegetable Stew with Rice	Mediterranean Puff Pastry Tart with Chips
Option 2	Chickpea & Vegetable Tagine with Couscous	Chicken Shawarma with Rice	Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Beef Feijoada with Rice	Battered Pollock Fillet with Chips or Jacket Potato with Tuna, Salmon & Sweetcorn Mayonnaise
On the side	Carrots and Broccoli	Vegetable Medley	Roasted Cauliflower and Green Beans	Baby Corn & Carrots	Garden Peas and Baked Beans
Salads	Beetroot & Spring Onion Salad	Carrot & Sultana Salad	Chef's House Salad	Brazilian Slaw (Salpicão Salad)	Crunchy Coleslaw
Dessert	Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings	Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Banana & Mango Fruit Fool with Toasted Coconut	Mandarin Yoghurt Crunch
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

LOOK OUT FOR OUR POPULAR THEME DAYS.

DECEMBER
Christmas Lunch

JANUARY
National Pie Day

FEBRUARY
Chinese New Year

MARCH
Eid Celebration

MARCH
World Book Day

FEBRUARY
Pancake Day



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.



Fantastic FOOD IN SCHOOLS



SCHOOL EVENSONG

A child-friendly service of Evensong,
led by St John on Bethnal Green
Primary School Choir,
ending with an all-age address

Thursdays 4.15pm



St John on Bethnal Green
200 Cambridge Heath Road
London E2 9PA

stjohnonbethnalgreen.church

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



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.



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





Let's Talk SEND

Come along to an information event for parents and carers to find out about Coproduction and help develop a Borough wide charter

For further information, contact us at:
Tel: 0207 364 4461
Email: Mark.Penn@towerhamlets.gov.uk

When: Friday 26th September 11am-12pm
Friday 24th October 10.30am-11.30am
Friday 21st November 11am-12pm

Where: Parents Advice centre, 30 Greatorex street,
E1 5NP



Information from previous Let's Talk SEND meetings on the Local Offer.

www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk/pages/local-offer/send/lets-talk-send

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



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 & 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/>



School Term Dates

25/26

Term Dates and Holidays - 2025/ 2026

Autumn Term 2025

Staff Training	Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September (2days)
Term 1	Wednesday 3rd September–Friday 24 th October(38 days)
Half Term	Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October
Term 2	Monday 3 rd November – Friday 19 th December (35 days)

Christmas break Monday 22nd December – Friday January 2nd

<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>Thursday 25th December</i>
<i>Boxing Day</i>	<i>Friday 26th December</i>
<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Thursday 1st January</i>

Spring Term 2026

Staff Training	Monday 5th January (1 day)
Term 3	Tuesday 6 th January- Friday 13 th February (29 days)
Half Term	Monday 16 th February-Friday 20 th February
Term 4	Monday 23 rd February-Friday 27 th March (25 days)

<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday 3rd April</i>
<i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>Monday 6th April</i>

Summer Term 26

Term 5	Monday 13 th April-Friday 22 nd May (29 days)
<i>May Day Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 4th May</i>
<i>Spring Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 25th May</i>
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
Term 6	Monday 1 st June- Thursday 16 th July (34 days)
Staff Training	Friday 17th July (1 day)

<i>Ramadan begins</i>	<i>18th February</i>
<i>Eid Al-Fitr</i>	<i>20th March</i>
<i>Eid Al-Adha</i>	<i>27th May</i>

195 School Days including 5 training days (1 to be arranged)



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 Johns are:



Darren Rubin – Executive Headteacher

Monday & Tuesday



John Boutflour – Assistant Headteacher

Wednesday



Bal Jheeta – Deputy Headteacher

Thursday and Friday