



St John's Newsletter

Friday 20th December 2024

An update from Mr. Rubin...

As we approach the Christmas break, I wanted to say a big thank you to our whole school community for everything they do. You will see in this edition everything the children have been experiencing and enjoying. Performances, trips, parties and excellent teaching and learning.

Our foodbank will be open on New Year's Eve – do reserve a slot for that if you need and should you require any help or support, do email us on parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Enjoy the newsletter, have a lovely Christmas and be kind to one another.



Nativity

We are so proud of our children in Reception Class. A big thank you to Ms Shebli and her team who organised everything and put on such an incredible performance. Thank you to all our parents and carers for attending – the children did so 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=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.

Thank you to the Bethnal Green Town Hall Hotel!

Our Value Koinonia captures the importance of community. It is so important for our children to understand the importance of making a positive contribution in the area that they live, work in and learn. We are so grateful to our neighbours at the Town Hall hotel who have been so supportive. They transformed their reception into a grotto so our children could meet Father Christmas, provided a room and delicious food for our Christmas party for our older children and sponsored our Christmas card competition. We are very lucky to have such wonderful neighbours!





Choir Members Entertain the Public

What a fantastic opportunity for members of our school choir to entertain staff and guests at the Bethnal Green Town Hall hotel. A big thank you to Mrs Bahi for organising the event. Our children were absolutely incredible and the staff and clients at the hotel were so impressed.



Kindness Cup Winners

Every week we celebrate Kindness. Here are three children who have recently been added to the Kindness Tree Display. Remember, Kindness and Compassion is at the heart of everything we do, and it's wonderful to see it celebrated in such a meaningful way.





Thank You for Everything Mr Smee

As we approach the end of another successful term, I want to take a moment to recognise the incredible contributions of Mr Smee, who will be leaving us at Christmas to take up a new role closer to home.

Mr Smee joined our school just before the challenges of the Covid period, and despite the disruption, he quickly became an integral part of our community. His kindness, empathy, and unwavering dedication have been a tremendous support to pupils and staff alike. From his inspiring science lessons, which sparked curiosity and a love for discovery, to his ability to make learning engaging and enjoyable, Mr Smee's impact has been both meaningful and lasting.

While we are very sad to see him go, we fully understand his decision to work closer to home and spend more quality time with his family. We are incredibly grateful for all that he has brought to our school and wish him every success in the future.

Thank you, Mr Smee, for your hard work, passion, and care. You will always be part of the St. John's family, and your legacy will remain with us. Best of luck as you begin this exciting new chapter!

Register with our Food Bank

Our Food bank will once again be open over Christmas on Tuesday 31st December. If you would like a slot, please email parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk and Ms Feruja will email back a time for you to come and collect.



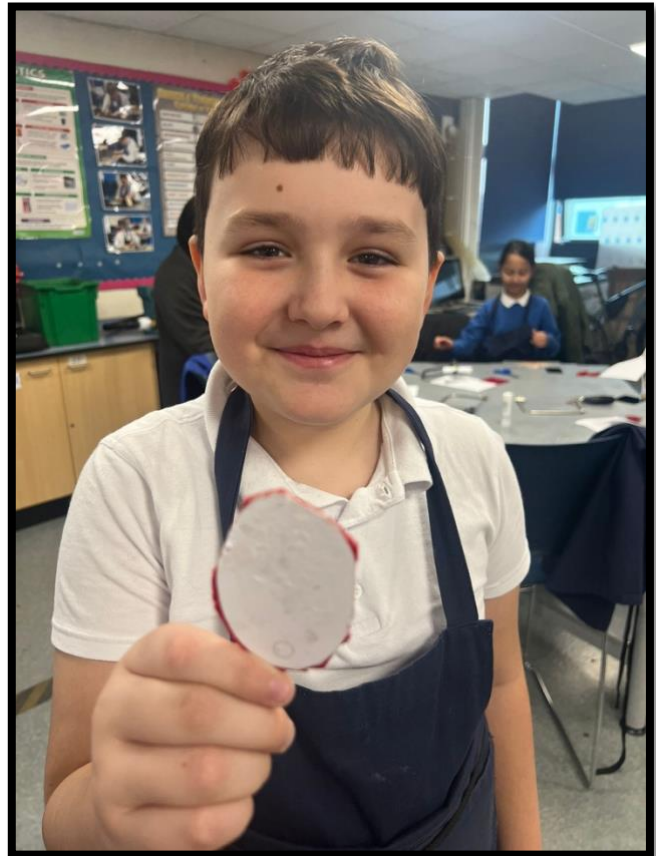
Christmas Church Service at
St John's on Bethnal Green





Thank you Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

We would like to extend our thanks to Mulberry Academy Shoreditch for generously allowing us to utilise their classroom space and providing invaluable teacher support for our pupils in Design and Technology. This collaboration has opened up a wealth of opportunities for our students to engage in hands-on learning experiences that enhance their understanding of design principles and technological applications. The access to specialised resources and expert guidance has significantly enriched our curriculum, enabling pupils to explore their creativity and develop practical skills that are so helpful in order to excel in this subject.



St John's Foodbank – Reserve a Slot!

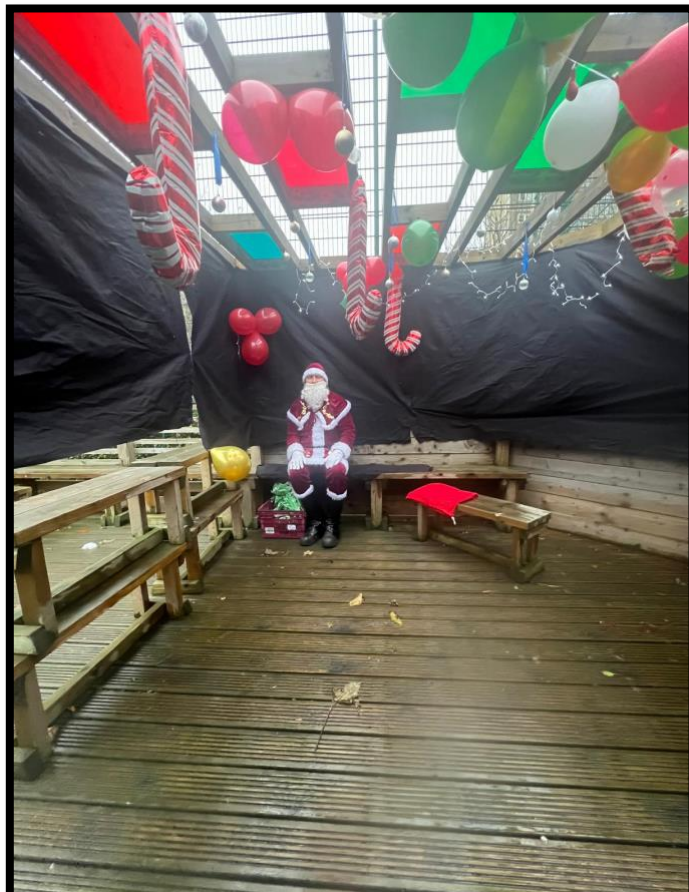
Our food bank will once again be open during the Christmas holidays on 31st December from 10:30 am, providing support to families during this festive season. We are incredibly grateful to The Felix Project and Reynolds Grocers for their generous donations of healthy food, as well as contributions from the Hygiene Bank, which will help ensure that our families have access to nutritious meals and hygiene products. If any families would like to secure a slot for the food bank, please email parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk and we will email you back with a time slot to collect your crates of produce.





Christmas Fayre

Huge thanks to Mrs. Jheeta, Ms Carly and the entire staff and our parent/carer volunteers for their exceptional efforts in organising this year's Christmas Fayre. Despite the chilly weather, the event was a resounding success, bringing our school community together in a festive spirit. One of the highlights of the day was undoubtedly the visit from Santa and the raffle was once again a very popular event with the huge 50 inch television the star prize. Thanks to Ms Leigh for organising such amazing prizes! It was heart-warming to see families enjoying the various activities and stalls, creating lasting memories that embody the true essence of the holiday season. Thank you all once again for making this event so memorable!



CKC Winter HAF (sports and activities)

Tower Hamlets Residents only
HAF CODE NEEDED

**FREE ACTIVITIES
+ FREE HOT LUNCH**

Time	Age
11:30am - 3:30pm	8 to 16
(open for boys and girls)	

23rd, 24th, 27th, 30th, 31st
: December 2024
2nd, 3rd : January 2025

- Table Tennis
- Pool
- Indoor Badminton
- Boxing
- Indoor Football
- Indoor Archery
- Table Cricket
- Board Games
- Arts & Crafts
- PS5 & VR games



Scan for Registration
limited space only



CKC Community Hub
104 Cavell Street, London E1 2JA
ckc.hub@ckc.london



Supported by

Lateral



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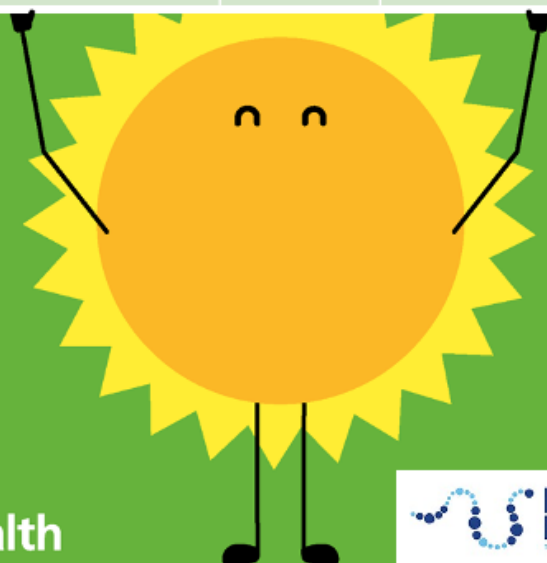


ckc.london

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	<u>Chrip Street</u>



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



"The school's desire, through its vision, to be a beacon of hope to its community, is a living reality. The vision is inspirational."

SIAMS - Feb 2024



St John's CofE Primary School
 Bethnal Green
'Let Our Light Shine'

"Staff have high expectations of pupils. They expect pupils to do their best by working hard. Pupils respond well to this challenge and enjoy learning new things."

Ofsted - Nov 2021



FREE

NURSERY PLACES
FULL TIME & PART TIME AVAILABLE

Breakfast Club available to all
 Nursery children from 8am onwards.

Contact our school office for more information.

 020 8980 1142

 Peel Grove,
Bethnal Green

 admin@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk

 www.stjohns.towerhamlets.sch.uk

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 3.45-4.30pm

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.towerhamletsandcitysendiass.com/>



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

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

Spring Term 2025

New Year's Day Monday 1st January

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

<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Friday 18th April</i>
<i>Easter Monday</i>	<i>Monday 21st April</i>

Summer Term 2025

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
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 22 nd July

<i>Ramadan begins</i>	<i>Friday 28^h February 2025*</i>
<i>Eid Al-Fitr</i>	<i>Sunday 30th March 2025*</i>
<i>Eid Al-Adha</i>	<i>Friday 6th June 2025*</i>

195 days including 5 staff training days - 2 staff training days to be arranged

* 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