

# St. John's N20 Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020



HEALTHY SCHOOLS LONDON



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have ended our school week with a hive of historical and geographical excitement throughout the school. We have Henry VIII visiting the Year 6 classroom (a.k.a Mr Bishop), Roman soldiers, Egyptian mummies, ship-wrecked pirates, climate change investigators and strange aliens; the children are having a wonderful time and it has been so lovely to listen to them talking excitedly about the plethora of learning experiences they have had today. Thank you to all of the parents for providing such amazing costumes and also the teachers for their efforts in planning and resourcing such wonderful lessons. During lockdown, many families across the country decided to purchase dogs as they recognised this time as an ideal opportunity to train a new addition to the family. As a huge dog lover, I absolutely appreciate the wellbeing benefits of having an adorable pooch in the home. We have, however, noticed an increase in dogs in and around the school site. I would like to politely request that families do not bring their dogs to school as there are some children who are particularly scared when they see them. As a dog lover, you may not fully understand these emotional responses but, if it was someone holding a pet snake, for example, then you may then appreciate how they are feeling. I have also noticed that, when family dogs are in and around our school site, the children get particularly excited and crowd around; this could be quite frightening for the dogs, particularly if they are puppies. This week, both of our Collective Worship virtual services with Revd. Lynn on Tuesday and myself on Thursday encouraged the children to reflect on our school Bible scripture: 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' - Philippians 4:13 - and how we should put our trust in God when we face challenges and need to find our inner superhero. This reading is so appropriate to all aspects of our lives, but even more so in these challenging times. So as always, I would like to encourage all our families to take every precaution to stay safe!

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

Ms Mitri



**Nurture Encourage Challenge through Christ**

## Suspected Covid-19-related illnesses

Please would all parents and carers be particularly mindful about their children's health before sending them in to school. Whilst we are aware that there will soon be many runny noses around that are part of the usual seasonal colds, please remember that, if children display any of the symptoms related to Covid-19, you must keep them at home for 10 days; this time can be reduced if they have a Covid-19 test which proves to be negative. Key symptoms include a temperature of 37.8<sup>0</sup> or more, a persistent dry cough and a loss of taste or smell. A persistent dry cough is considered to be one that does not produce mucus, lasting longer in your throat than usual, and with multiple episodes of coughing. We would also like to remind you that, if another member in the household develops any symptoms of Covid-19, your child must isolate for 14 days; again, this time can be reduced by having a test. Please keep us informed.

Due to the necessity to adopt the utmost precautions with this virus, we will be required to send your child and any siblings home should they display any of the Covid-19 symptoms in school. Please do not feel we are being judgemental in any way about the child's presence in school that day - we are aware that such symptoms can materialise during the day, but we must act with the safety of the whole school community in mind. In addition, if your child is absent with any suspected Covid-19 related illness, please be aware that we will be performing follow-up welfare calls. Do not be alarmed or concerned by these calls; as this is such a virulent illness, we would like to keep as up-to-date as possible with the health of any children who may have developed the illness.

## Achievements

		
<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Florence</b> – settling in so well and enjoying all activities <b>Reis</b> – being very helpful and a kind friend	
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Children are still settling in</b>	
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Henry</b> – independently practising his letter formation in the writing area. <b>Sienna</b> – contributing well to a class discussion about the brain	
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Lawson</b> – being kind and supportive to new members of our class <b>Ava</b> – always having a growth mindset and always trying her best	
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Kara</b> – participating superbly in Collective Worship <b>Viki</b> – having excellent listening skills and being an independent learner	
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Romeo</b> – being enthusiastic about all of his learning and always trying his best <b>Maritsa</b> – putting lots of effort in to her learning	
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Daniel</b> – being a delightful member of Year 5 <b>Anoushka</b> – using her growth mindset to learn from her mistakes in Maths.	
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Amalie</b> – having an excellent learning attitude and being a caring friend. <b>Ronela</b> – putting maximum effort in to all of her learning.	

### Covid-19 useful links

The following link gives the government advice about attending out-of-school settings during the Covid-19 outbreak:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

General up-to-date guidance on Covid-19 can be found at the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

PHE regularly updates a Q&A blog:

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

The World Health Organisation also issues guidance:

<https://www.who.int>

### Foundation

We have now welcomed in all of our Reception children so our Foundation rooms are bustling with activities and excitement. Those who have previously been in our Nursery have enjoyed taking on a supportive role in helping our newer children; it's excellent to see such good peer support. It has been particularly exciting to see the children familiarising themselves with their new surroundings and taking on board a new set of routines; we are very proud of how well they have all managed! Many of the children will be very tired after their first full week and we wish you all a relaxing weekend!

*Ms Stylianou*

### Class Fund

This year, we are continuing to collect a voluntary contribution of £5 per child per half term to be used for miscellaneous projects. The money will be collected by class and allocated evenly across the school. All contributions will be gratefully received and the donation has been set up on SchoolMoney for further ease. Many thanks!

### Collection

We would like to politely remind parents and carers that they must not arrive earlier than their allotted ten minute slot at collection time. Our staggered timings have been put in place to ensure a steady flow of people in and out of the collection areas, thereby helping everyone to apply social distancing as far as is possible; if you are early, the waiting stems the flow and also blocks the parents who have arrived at the correct time. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

### Maintenance Fund

We are now collecting payments for our voluntary Maintenance Fund; we really appreciate every contribution that you make – all payments are invaluable to the school. Amounts payable are £80 for a single child and an additional £40 per child thereafter. Payments may be made online via SchoolMoney, or by standing order. Thank you.

### Our Bible Scripture

Every aspect of school life at St John's is driven by Christ and, consequently, our school's Mission Statement is rooted in Christian narrative. Our school's Bible scripture, which inspires and supports this statement, is found in the New Testament in Philippians verse 4 chapter 13:

***"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me".***

### Sanitiser, handwash and tissue donations!

We are desperately in need of more supplies of sanitiser and handwash; our children and staff are being fantastic at following advice and washing their hands regularly but it means that we are working our way through an enormous quantity of hand-care products. In addition, as we are now entering runny-nose season, we are desperately in need of boxes of tissues. All donations of sanitiser, handwash and/or tissues would be gratefully received. Thank you to those parents and carers who have already been so generous in this way.

### Virtual Curriculum Meetings

We hope you found the curriculum PowerPoints narrated by our class teachers useful and informative. These are still available in the Google Classrooms and a curriculum pack is also being emailed out to all families. Please email the office if you have any questions you would like to ask your class teacher.

### House Points

The House Point totals for the week are as follows:

<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>St David</b>	<b>214</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>204</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>St Andrew</b>	<b>187</b>



### Keep in touch

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Love Respect Truthful Thankful Forgiveness Hope

