

# St. John's N20 Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020



HEALTHY SCHOOLS LONDON



Dear Parents and Carers,

Black History Month has officially been launched in school! This is a special time where the children will be developing their knowledge and understanding of black history, culture and heritage. It is also a learning opportunity where we can fully promote our British values; democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of people from other faiths and cultures, and of those who have different beliefs. It is a special time where children and adults can learn about important historical events and also to celebrate the lives of positive black role models and the inspirational contributions they have made – and continue to make – to our country and our communities. This week, the children have been learning about a wide variety of amazing black British people that have included: Richard Stokes (first black man to join the British armed forces), Walter Tull (English professional footballer and British Army officer of Afro-Caribbean descent), Lilian Bader (first British black woman to join the RAF), Steve McQueen (filmmaker), John Archer (first black mayor in a London borough), Nadiya Hussain (TV chef and author), Tessa Sanderson (six-time Olympian in the javelin) and the wonderful Sir Trevor McDonald (newsreader, journalist and TV presenter) ..... and there are another two weeks of exciting Black History Month learning opportunities still to come. Also this week, many children have been walking, scooting and riding their bicycles to promote healthy and safer travel during Walk to School Week. Well done to all those children who took part and to those who received a special reward; wear your badges with pride! At St John's we have many children who are passionate environmentalists. In Year 5 yesterday, and as part of National Clean Air Day, the children were developing their understanding of the effects of air pollution, how they can help to minimise the risks and they made their own pledges for the future. Finally, in Collective Worship this week I continued to focus on Genesis 1:27 – we are all made in God's image – and shared the story of the inspirational and talented cellist, Skehu Kanneh-Mason and his equally talented brothers and sisters. The message was that we are all equal in the eyes of God, we can achieve so much if we trust in Him, and with personal determination and a growth mindset, great things can happen. Have a restful weekend, be safe and God bless.

Ms Mitri

## Nurture Encourage Challenge through Christ



Builders' workshop in YR

## Foundation

Reception have had an action-packed week learning about autumn. They went on an 'autumn walk' in the school grounds and gathered lots of treasure. They also enjoyed their first week in their new outdoor art studio. Nursery have been continuing their learning on vehicles and different modes of transport. This has included number matching activities and matching Numicon. The children have also enjoyed a learning walk, listening for sounds in the environment.

Ms Stylianou



## Achievements



<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Teddy</b> – having excellent behaviour and being helpful <b>Arthur</b> – always doing the right thing and enjoying his learning
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Iliana</b> – being a super helper and always enjoying her learning <b>Jan</b> – enjoying his lunches and trying something new every day
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Alex</b> – listening to the teacher and responding positively to feedback <b>Callen</b> – reminding children about the 'wise owl' when calming them down.
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Otis</b> – having an amazing attitude towards his learning and challenging himself with his writing <b>Jessie</b> – persevering when things are challenging – well done!
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Isabel</b> – showing excellent concentration, effort and independence in all of her learning <b>Elinor</b> – having an excellent understanding of the rock cycle
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Daisy</b> – completing fantastic computing learning and being a brilliant talk partner <b>Evangeline</b> – writing an imaginative poem and concentrating on her learning
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Aiyanna</b> – producing a beautiful piece of learning on Black History month <b>Ada</b> – using her initiative and being independent and really mature
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Sophia</b> – making a fantastic effort with her arithmetic learning <b>Jayden</b> – completing a heartfelt piece of PSHE learning

## Handwriting

Next week, we will be starting a whole school handwriting challenge. Children will receive handwriting books in Years 1, 2 and 3 and handwriting will be taught in small bursts. The challenge will be measurable against each child's individual progress. More information is to follow on this!

*Ms Stylianou*



## School Lunches

As the children have been so amazing at adapting to even their school lunches being affected by Covid-19, receiving them in a specially packed box in the classrooms, it has been decided to introduce treat items to the daily menu for dessert. Whilst fresh fruit will still be offered to every school lunch child every day, they will also be given an additional dessert item. Once formalised, this will be included on the lunch menu. The new items will be served from Monday and we are expecting them to comprise a cake, biscuit or cookie or small tub of ice cream.

## School Safe Scheme

As the mornings and evenings are getting darker, please would all Year 6 parents/carers remind their child about how to keep themselves safe when walking to and from school; please explain the importance of reporting any incident where they do not feel safe/comfortable to a trusted adult as soon as possible. Please inform the school of any such incidents so that they may be communicated to families of other school children both in our school community and in those of neighbouring schools, enabling everyone to be vigilant. Thank you.

## Donations for Harvest

As we are unable to hold a traditional Harvest service this year, nor can we accept donations of goods in school, we would like to ask that you consider giving a financial donation instead to the Finchley Foodbank – a fantastic local charity that helps the homeless and those in need. An online donation will enable you to support those who are suffering without putting yourselves at any risk by visiting a populated centre with donations of goods. Please use the link below to make your donation; it would be very much appreciated.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/displayCharityCampaignPage.action?charityCampaignUrl=Finchleyfoodbank>

## Class Fund

This is a polite reminder that we are continuing to collect a voluntary contribution of £5 per child per half term to be used for miscellaneous projects – such as for resources for the Topic Days that are currently being enjoyed. The money is collected by class and allocated evenly across the school. All contributions are gratefully received and the donation has been set up on SchoolMoney for further ease. Many thanks!

## House Points

The House Point totals for the week are as follows:

<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>St David</b>	<b>217</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>St Andrew</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>164</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>156</b>



## Drop off and Collection

We would like to politely remind parents and carers that they must not arrive earlier – or later – than their allotted ten minute slot at drop off and collection times. 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. Likewise, if you are late, you are increasing the numbers of people around the school at any one time. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

## Keep in touch

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Love Respect Truthful Thankful Forgiveness Hope

