

Spring Newsletter

Happy Easter & Mubarek Kareem

The return to school since 8th March, has seen good levels of attendance and the extra week has helped children to settle. Now we have a two-week break which the staff have certainly earned and will offer them a chance to recharge. Hopefully, by delaying our holiday we have also been able to ensure that families can enjoy the relaxed lockdown and our Muslim families can spend the first week of Ramadan together.

So, it only remains for me to wish you all a safe, peaceful holiday.

T Bennett

Click here for an Easter message from Bishop Sarah, the Bishop of London:

<https://www.ldbs.co.uk/bishop-sarah-shares-a-message-of-thank-you/>



Welcome to our arrivals from Shapla School



When St Paul's School reopened on 8th March, we welcomed a number of new pupils from Shapla School. These joined those who had already joined in September 2020 and they will be joined by others in September 2021.

Former Shapla pupils now represent more than 10% of our numbers.

We hope they have all settled in well; I have been very impressed with the children's attitude to work and their behaviour.

I would have liked Shapla School to have stayed open for a year or two longer or for St Paul's School to oversee these pupils. Unfortunately, Tower Hamlets Education did not agree to this, but we will continue to admit as many children as we are able to.

If any former Shapla parents would like to speak to me I can be contacted by email at:

parents@st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk

or come and see me on the gate in the morning or at the end of the day.

T Bennett

St Paul's Staff News

During the latter stages of the lockdown, our staff team was joined by Mr Harry Jarvis, who provides class cover in KS2. Mr Jarvis worked at St John's School last year and has been to St Paul's previously. Ms Suhena Begum continues to volunteer in Year 1. Finally, I'm sure you'll join us in sending our best wishes to Ms Bassi, who has been unwell recently.

Important Dates In The Newsletter

Thursday 1st April: School closes for the Easter Holidays at normal end of day times.

Tuesday 6th April: School food bank.

Tuesday 13th April: School food bank.

Monday 19th April: School reopens at normal start of day times.

Monday 26th April: School closed for an INSET Day.

If you wish to contact the school, email us at:

parents@st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk

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More School News & Information

Red Nose Day Raises over £400!



With Year 3 isolating during the official Red Nose day, we decided to hold ours on Friday 26th March. An added bonus of using this date was that the Sainsbury's store in Leman Street donated lots of Red Noses and other merchandise which we were able to sell. Thank you to everyone who took part and, if you haven't already seen it, take a look at our jokes video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/SjuRjvIOim4>

Sainsbury's

Parent/ Carer Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who took part in our recent surveys.

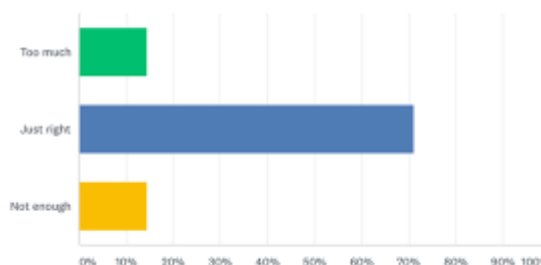
Across the Federation there were 91 responses for the 'Home Learning' survey (57 from St. Paul's) and 74 responses (42 for St. Paul's) for the 'Communication During Lock-down' survey.

Mr. Bennett presented the findings to our Governing Body last Thursday. We will send the results to you in our next newsletter.

Q5

The amount of work my child(ren) was asked to do at home was?

Answered: 90 Skipped: 0



Free Rapid Covid Test Kits

Did you know you can collect 2 sets of 7 rapid covid tests for checking children and family members at home during this time.

These are the places listed on the council website for collecting the tests:

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ignl/health_social_care/health_and_medical_advice/Coronavirus/Rapid-Covid-19-test.aspx

Test kits can be collected from:

Toynbee Hall, 28 Commercial Street, E1 6LS – 11am to 8pm

Burcham Street Community Centre, 56 Burcham Street, E14 0SH – 10am to 7pm

Tramshed Community Centre, Digby Street E2 0LS – 10am to 7pm

Watney Market Idea Store, E1 2FB – 2.30pm to 9pm

Jack Dash House, 2 Lawn House Close, E14 9YQ – 2.30pm to 9pm



St John's & Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools Term Dates and Holidays - 2021/ 2022

Autumn Term 2021 (71 days)

Staff Training	Wednesday 1 st September
First Day of Term	Thursday 2 nd September
Half Term	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October
Staff Training	Monday 1 st November
Second half of term	Tuesday 2 nd November
Last Day of Term	Friday 17 th December
Christmas Day	Saturday 25 th December
Boxing Day	Sunday 26 th December

Spring Term 2022 (58 days)

New Year's Day	Saturday 1 st January
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd January
Staff Training	Tuesday 4 th January
First Day of Term	Wednesday 5 th January
Half Term	Mon. 14 th to Fri. 18 th February
Second half of term	Monday 21 st February
Last Day of Term	Friday 1 st April
Good Friday	Friday 15 th April
Easter Monday	Monday 18 th April

Summer Term 2022 (63 days)

First Day of Term	Tuesday 19 th April
Staff Training	Friday 30 th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May
Half Term	Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 rd June
Second half of term	Monday 6 th June
Last Day of Term	Friday 22 nd July
Ramadan begins	Saturday 2 nd April* 2022
Eid Al-Fitr	Monday 2 nd May* 2022
Eid Al-Adha	Saturday 9 th July 2020

190 School Days, 5 Staff Training Days (2 to be arranged)

* to be confirmed

Dates agreed by the governing body on Thursday 25th March.

Tower Hamlets Healthy Lives Families Update



National Trust Easter Crafts

[Find out more here](#)

Have you considered organising a healthier alternative to a chocolate Easter Egg hunt this Easter? The National Trust have created an instructional video which demonstrates how to create traditional Easter Eggs vibrant with colours from natural dyes.

The secret is to use vegetables with strong colours such as onions, red onions, red cabbage and even spices such as turmeric. You will require white or pale eggs, a saucepan, a chopping board, a knife and a vegetable or spice with strong colour. A fun activity to do as a family, but remember to supervise younger children when cutting the vegetables!



Tower Hamlets Together

The Borough have created a two-minute film to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped keep Tower Hamlets healthy, safe and supported — from key workers and volunteers, to everyone who stayed at home, got tested, self-isolated and took the vaccine when it was their turn.

[WATCH HERE](#)

Easter Card ideas

If you were looking to create some cute and easy to make Easter cards with your children this Easter, then the 5-Minute Fun website has 5 inspiring designs, which use items that you are likely to have at home. The designs include a sheep made of cotton wool, rabbit card, Easter chick and a colourful Easter egg card:

<https://www.5minutefun.com/easy-easter-cards-to-make/>



Hopscotch in a Hurry 60 Second Challenge

How many times can you complete the hopscotch grid and run back to the start in 60 seconds?



Each time you complete a hopscotch grid, run back to the start and you will score a point.



Youth Sport Trust: 60 second Physical Activity

Are you looking to get fit as a family over Easter and are you ready for a challenge? Give these 60 second physical activity challenges a try.

They have been designed using a compete against yourself approach, focusing on resilience and perseverance. Can you achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold for each challenge? A free tracking sheet is provided to record your best attempts. There are 25 different challenges, new for 2021!

[START HERE](#)

Family Fun!

Ideas to support learning, play and well-being

How many words

Develop your child's reading, spelling and writing skills. Give them a word on a piece of paper and ask them to make as many new words they can from it. At first use words at your child's level, then as they get more confident use longer and more complex words.

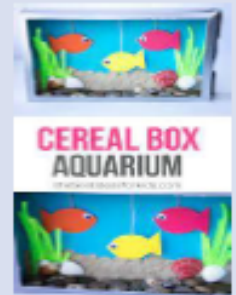


Managing emotions

We all experience different emotions in our every day lives. This is part of being a healthy person. However, some emotions can be difficult to manage and so it is important to recognise these feelings and talk about them. Talking about our feelings makes us feel better and more balanced.

Cereal box art

Most people have a cereal box in the cupboard, don't throw it away, use it for art. Give it to your child with pens, paint, paper, anything you have at home to decorate and help them to make something to play with, something useful or just something to look at. Arts and crafts support positive mental health. Use the opportunity to talk to your child about how they are feeling.



Enjoy the outdoors

Now the weather is improving try and up your family activity levels. Go for a walk through the boroughs parks, at the moment they are filled with beautiful spring flowers. Being around nature has a positive effect on mental health, increasing happiness and reducing stress.

Produced by
The Parental Engagement
Schools and Family Team



FamiliesMatter

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www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/parentfamilysupport

World Book Day Prizes



Well done to the following children were chosen as winners of a £10 Book Token, for their World Book Day costumes:

Caterpillars: Saarah

Butterflies: Valeria

Year 1: Kaisan

Year 2: Peter

Year 3: Sulaiman

Year 4: Hania

Year 5: Rano

Year 6: Mersiha

St John's & Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools Term Dates and Holidays - 2020/ 2021

Spring Term 2021 (59 days)

Last Day of Term

Thursday 1st April

Good Friday

Friday 2nd April

Easter Monday

Monday 5th April

Ramadan begins

Monday 12th April

Summer Term 2021 (58 days)

First Day of Term

Monday 19th April

Staff Training

Monday 26th April

May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 3rd May

Half Term

Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Second half of term

Monday 7th June

Last Day of Term

Friday 23rd July

Eid Al-Fitr

*Thursday 13th May 2021**

Eid Al-Adha

*Tuesday 20th July 2021**

190 School Days, 5 Staff Training Days (1 to be arranged)

* to be confirmed

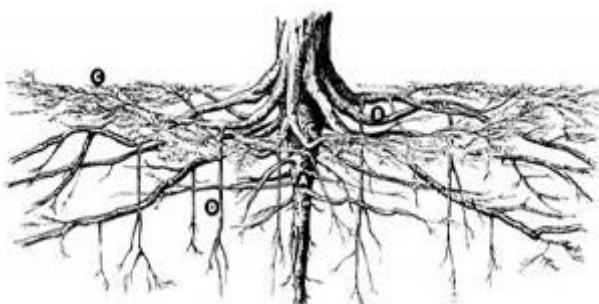
St Paul's' Wellbeing Activity Day



Here are some of the activities from Years 1, Year 5, Year 3 and Butterflies classes. See our Twitter feed for more!

A message from the governing body

We would like to extend our deep gratitude to our key worker parents and carers who have continued to go out to work over the past year despite the risks.



Final Thought

"Storms make trees take deeper roots"

Dolly Parton

