



# St Paul's Whitechapel Newsletter

[www.st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk](http://www.st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk)

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

It has been a long and tiring term, sadly with no end in sight to the disruption caused by the Covid virus. The cautious approach that we adopted seems to have been effective up until now, although we had to close Year 1 today due to Covid-related staff shortages. I am very grateful to the school community for backing us and to the staff for their continued commitment.

It is a shame that we have had to take our Christmas shows and Nativity online, but I hope you enjoy watching your child's performance online. I am sure you will agree that they are excellent.

St John's School had its Ofsted inspection at the end of November and the report should be released at the end of this week. St Paul's School is due its own inspection at any time. It would be lovely if you could share your views of our school. All you need is an email address and then you can click on the link <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views> If you need some help with this, Janice, our parent liaison officer will set up some workshops to go through it.

Best wishes, *Mr Bennett*



Caterpillar Class making their own Christmas Tree.

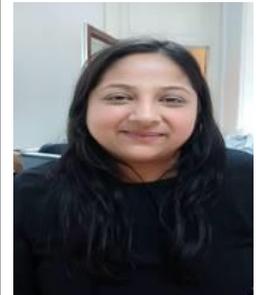
P.S. I'd like to thank Ms Blake for her help with this Newsletter and its new format.

## Staff News

We say goodbye to Ms Tuck who has been covering our Year 2 class at the end of the week and has also been providing interventions and covering staff planning time.

We are very pleased to announce that Ms Abrahams, who will already be familiar to the school community, will be taking over the Year 2 teaching responsibilities.

We are also delighted to welcome back Janice Hill, who most of you will know. Janice will be helping with parent support and already has some courses planned for the new year...if conditions allow. Look out for more information.



## A lot has happened...

...since our last Newsletter and you can find some highlights in this newsletter. But we are very pleased to say that our staff and children have been raising lots of money for good causes. In October we raised **over £1,000** for McMillan's Coffee Morning Appeal (see top right & top left). Special thanks to Ms Khan for organising and Ms Rehena and Ms Sharena for their help.

Meanwhile our Cultural Day raised £118, which was split between the Children's Trust and the PDSA (bottom right and left) and £236 for Children In Need.



649 followers and counting! Keep up to date with the school @StpaulsCESchool. It is the best way to get the latest information on what is happening in at St Paul's!



## Year 5 & Year 6 Football competition!

Some of our Year 5 and Year 6 girls were selected to take part in a football competition. They played well and were brilliantly behaved.

They also were lucky enough to meet West Ham player Tameka Yallop and were all given West Ham Scarves – what a great day!

## Remembrance Day at St Paul's

The school observed a two-minute silence at 11 am on 11<sup>th</sup> November, to mark Remembrance day. Fr Richard led a very poignant assembly and children took part in activities, such as making these beautiful wreaths of red poppies.

'Lest we Forget'.



## EARLY YEARS NEWS

Our Early Years children have been doing some fantastic learning this term. We especially love our outdoor space where we use many skills. Sharing, listening, taking turns, solving problems and critical thinking.

We are very thankful to the Splash Project, DTSquared and Harry Hill for giving us such an amazing space for our learning.



## Oracy Skills

We are grateful to Ian Graham, our ex-Chair of Governors, and friend of the school, who has been to St Paul's to work with Year 6. We have been listened to his advice and our oracy presentation skills are really improving!



## Cooking & Nutrition

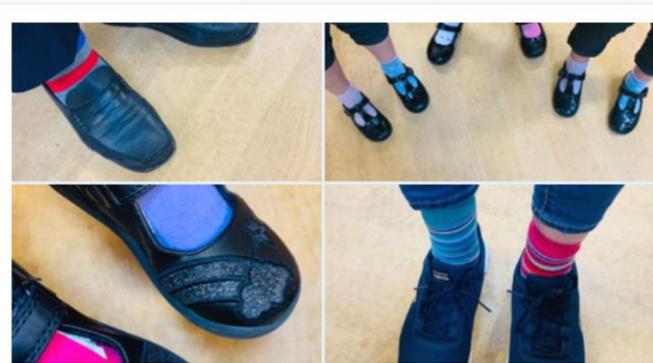
Some great learning takes place in our kitchen pod. It's not only a place where we cook amazing food but also children participate in some excellent investigative work, such as finding healthier alternatives to fizzy, sugary drinks!

## Anti-bullying week 2021

We started the week with our 'Odd Socks Day' (below left) which linked in with a great assembly created by our School Councillors.

Thank you to them and to OpenView Education who came to St Paul's to run some anti bullying workshops (below right) based on the theme - 'One Kind Word!'

The children learnt lots about kindness and friendship and the importance of tolerance and respect for each other!



Once again, the St Paul's School bees have been hard at work producing award-winning honey.

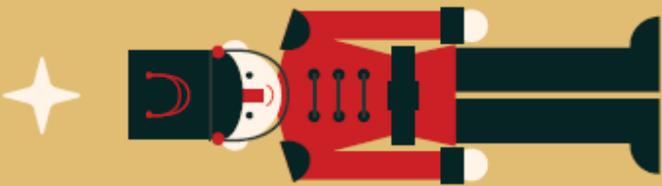
The School Apiary Shield was first awarded to us in 2019 - there was no contest in 2020 - and this year St Paul's won for the second time!



## Bee kind!



VICTORIA PARK



## NATURAL FESTIVE DECORATIONS

CREATE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS  
DECORATIONS

CREATE YOUR OWN NATURAL  
DECORATIONS USING TWIGS, FEATHERS  
AND MORE.

JOIN US AT THE V&A

FOR  
ENQUIRIES: [VICTORIAPARK@TOWERHAMLETS.GOV.UK](mailto:VICTORIAPARK@TOWERHAMLETS.GOV.UK)



WEDNESDAY  
22 DECEMBER  
1030AM -  
1230PM



# PARISH CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 12th December  
5pm

Community carol-singing with seasonal treats  
and winter drinks.

St George  
TOWERHAMLETS  
east



**Thoughts of suicide can be frightening and confusing. The Community Hub provides you with a safe space to talk and someone to guide you to support services in your local area.**



If you are concerned you can speak to someone or you can access the **Safe Connections App** using the QR code.



**0300 561 0115**

## Fatherhood & mental wellbeing

### A free webinar aiming to:

- Support the transition of becoming a dad
- Discuss common experiences & concerns
- Offer tips to support wellbeing



Please self-refer on

<https://towerhamletstalkingtherapies.nhs.uk/get-started/>

To register for this webinar you must be a resident or have a GP in Tower Hamlets

## SCHOOL CHOIR

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

#### Autumn Term 2021 (70 days)

Last Day of Term Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
*Christmas Day Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December*  
*Boxing Day Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December*

#### Spring Term 2022 (58 days)

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

#### Summer Term 2022 (64 days)

First Day of Term Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April  
Staff Training Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April  
May Day Bank Holiday Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
Half Term Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June  
Second half of term Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Last Day of Term Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

*Ramadan begins Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April\* 2022*  
*Eid Al-Fitr Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May\* 2022*  
*Eid Al-Adha Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020*

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

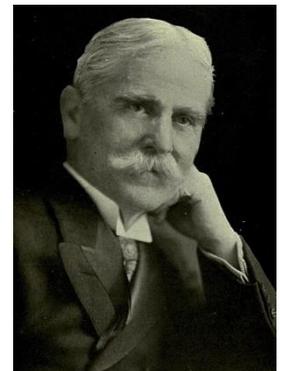
\* to be confirmed



Our choir sang Christmas carols beautifully by the Tower of London. We received generous donations from the public and raised lots of money for Place2Be. Special thanks to our friend, and choir leader, Tom Daggett!

### Final Thought

*"I am thinking of you today because it is Christmas and I wish you happiness, and tomorrow because it will be the day after Christmas, I shall still wish you happiness and so on through the year. I may not be able to tell you about it every day, because I may be far away; or because both of us may be very busy; or because I cannot even afford to pay the postage on so many letters, or find the time to write them, but that makes no difference, the thought and the wish will be here just the same. Whatever joy or success comes to you will make me glad without pretense, and in plain words, goodwill to you is what I mean, in the spirit of Christmas."*



Henry van Dyke