



St Paul's Newsletter

Friday 8th December 2023

An update from Mr. Rubin...

It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas at St Paul's! We recently had our Advent Collective Worship where children learnt about the different weeks of Advent, starting with 'hope'. The Christmas Nativity rehearsals are in full flow and children are fine tuning their Christmas songs ready to perform to you. Ms Blake and her team are working hard to prepare for the Winter Fayre and I am very grateful to those volunteers who have already given up their time to prepare. Dates of events can be found on Page 5.

Despite the festivities, we continue to work hard. Ms Foster recently presented to our Governing Body about all of the exciting things that she has been planning and preparing for in maths. Ms Blake recently held an open morning on the importance of Early Reading and our phonics programme and Ms Robinson and Ms Ali have been focusing on fine tuning our Foundation Subjects. I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend and be kind to one another.



Advent

The children listen and contribute so thoughtfully during Collective Worship. Elizabeth has been doing an amazing job explaining the period of Advent in the Christian Calendar. We have now lit the second candle, which represents 'peace'.



Parent Governor Email Information

If you would like to contact Mahmud or Shamaila we have set up an email address for any queries which our office team can pass on to them. The email address is :

parent_governor@st-pauls.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Reading Update

Reading is so important at St Paul's and developing a love for reading begins for our pupils as soon as they enter our Nursery class. We were grateful to have Ms Blake explain to parents and carers the importance of reading, the provision in school and how we teach phonics and guided reading in the Early Years and Key Stage 1. Mr. Boutflour will be meeting parents/carers shortly after Christmas to discuss how we deliver reading in Key stage 2.

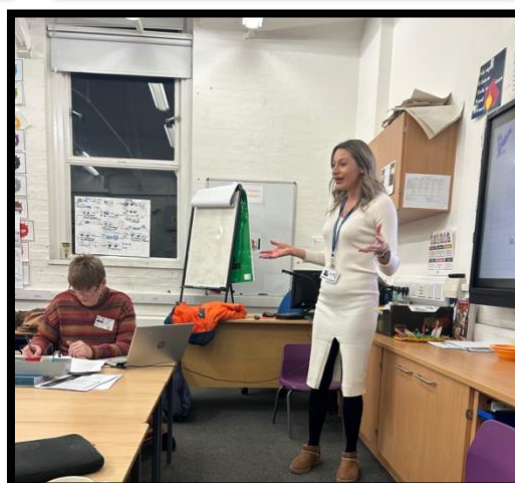
You will notice that reading is at the forefront in our school. I noted in a previous edition, how grateful we are to Laura, our school librarian who runs clubs and interest groups to nurture and encourage reading. The first thing you will see when you enter our school is the library and we believe it is a comfortable area to relax and read a book. In the pictures below you can see some of our Year four children enjoying the library. In addition you can see some of the parents/carers who attended Ms Blake's presentation.



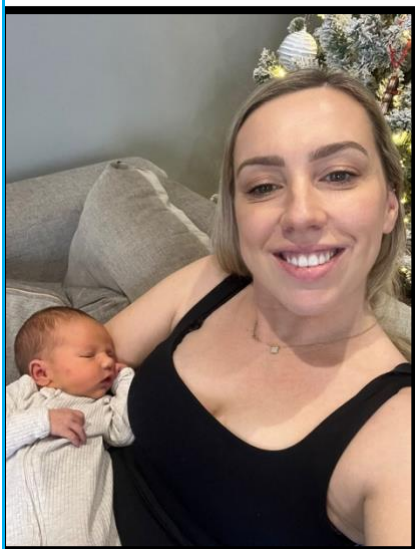
Maths Update

A big thank you to Ms Foster who gave a great presentation to our Governing Body last Thursday about the changes she is implementing in maths.

She spoke about the importance of 'real life' maths which enables our children to conceptualise mathematical problems. She also discussed children's positive attitude towards the subject.



Last Day of School Friday 22nd December at 2pm.



Congratulations Mrs Reader

Mrs Reader and baby Rory are both doing well and settling into a lovely routine at home.

We wish them lots of love and look forward to meeting the gorgeous little one when the time is right.



Reading Partners Update

I am absolutely delighted to report that we have recommenced our reading partner programme with local businesses. Four volunteers from our friends at the Investment Company FSCS have committed to giving up their time to read with our pupils at lunchtime.

Before Covid, we had a lot of volunteers reading with our children so I am hoping that this is the start of things to come.



Thank You Leigh and Rowena

A big thank you to Ms Leigh and Rowena who is one of our Governors (and a reading partner at St John's) Leigh has been working extremely hard getting the Single Central Record up to date which makes sure that everyone who works with children in our building has had the relevant security checks. Rowena has the job as Safeguarding Governor of overseeing this and gave up her time to come in and spend some time with Ms Leigh checking. Following that, Rowena and I checked that our devices are filtering and blocking appropriate material so that our children are safe online.





Oracy Update

A big thank you to Mr. Ian Graham, our former Chair of Governors who for the last month, has given up his time to come into St Paul's and St John's to work with our children in Class six to help them improve their presentation skills.

Mr. Graham, was a Partner at Trowers and Hamlins law firm for 28 years and was one of the leading lawyers in Social Housing. We are so fortunate that he has given up his time to coach our children as he is very busy in retirement, often coaching graduates in presentation skills.

Speaking to Ms Foster, the advice that Ian has imparted on our children has been so helpful and after each session, the children have focused and improved their skills. Later in the year, Ian will be back to coach debating skills to the children and we are looking forward to that very much!



Scholastic Book Fair

Lots of our families came to our Book Fair this week to take advantage of the half price book offer.

There were some excellent purchases and the hall was extremely busy.

Thank you to Miss Taybah and Mr Boutflour for organising.

Christmas Dates for your Diary

Thursday 14 th December	Winter Fayre (now at 2pm)
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Church Service – whole school
Sunday 17 th December (All welcome)	Christmas Service at St George in the East – 5pm
Monday 18 th December	Art Day
Wednesday 20 th December	EYFS Nativity AM
Thursday 21 st December Christmas Lunch	Christmas Performances (am)
Friday 22 nd December	School Finishes at 2pm



Year Six Decorating the Tree

Thank you to Year 6 children and Ms Foster who did such a good job of decorating the tree this year. Please note that if you would like the Christmas Tree from the 22nd December (minus the decorations) please let the office know and you are welcome to take it home with you.

Please Join us for
St Paul's Primary School's
Winter Fayre

Thursday 14th December
2pm – 3:30pm In the school Hall

Festive Food Face Painting Tombola/Raffle

Bake Sale

Lucky Dip

Henna

Bouncy Castle





CHOIR CHURCH



**Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm
in the school hall**

Learn new songs, practice singing
performance and technique.
Themed crafts, activities & games,
Once a month sing and serve in the
school service.

Trips



DISCOVER
FOOTBALL
JUST PLAY

Football Training

£6.00
PER SESSION

YOUTH AGE

5-7

WEDNESDAY
TERM TIME ONLY

4:45-5:45 PM

ST PAULS WHITECHAPE PRIMARY SCHOOL
E1 8GN

PLEASE USE BACK GATE

BOOK VIA HAPPITY



FOOTBALL@STGEORGEINTHEEAST.ORG

St
George
—in-the—
east

CHRISTMAS

at St. George-in-the-East

**Children's Community Christmas
Party**

Saturday 9th December || 10.30am - 12.30pm
Nativity Themed Music, Craft and Games

Neighbourhood Carol Service

Sunday 17th December || 5 - 6.30 pm
Family Friendly Carols and Festive Treats

Christmas Vigil Mass

Sunday 24th December || 9pm
*Vigil of Lights and Solemn Eucharist, with
String Quartet*

Christmas Day Mass

Monday 25th December || 9.30am
Family Mass with Carols and Festive Drinks

St
George
—in-the—
east



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 Paul's are:



Darren Rubin
Executive Headteacher



Kathy Blake
Deputy Headteacher



John Boutflour
Assistant Headteacher

St John's & St Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools

Term Dates and Holidays - 2023/ 2024

Autumn Term 2023 (75 days)

Staff Training	Mon 4 th & Tue 5 th September
First Day of Term	Wednesday 6 th September
Half Term	Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th October
Second half of term	Monday 30 th October
Last Day of Term	Friday 22 nd December

Christmas Day Monday 25th December
Boxing Day Tuesday 26th December

Spring Term 2024 (54 days)

<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Monday 1st January</i>
Staff Training	Monday 8 th January
First Day of Term	Tuesday 9 th January
Half Term	Mon. 12 th to Fri. 16 th February
Second half of term	Monday 19 th February
Last Day of Term	Thursday 28 th March

Good Friday Friday 29th March
Easter Monday Monday 1st April

Summer Term 2024 (66 days)

Staff Training	Monday 15 th April
First Day of Term	Tuesday 16 th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May
Staff Training	Friday 24 th May
Half Term	Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st May
Second half of term	Monday 3 rd June
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 23 rd July

*Ramadan begins Sunday 10th March 2024**
*Eid Al-Fitr Tuesday/ Wednesday 9th/ 10th April 2024**
*Eid Al-Adha Sunday/ Monday 16th/ 17th June 2024**

195 days including 5 staff training days

* to be confirmed