



St Paul's Newsletter

Friday 14th February 2025

An update from Mr. Rubin...

How can it already be the Half Term break! It seems that Christmas wasn't that long ago at all but time flies when you are having fun and our children have been busier than ever.

There is a lot to get through in this week's edition and certainly a Royal connection as some of our children went with Ms Blake to see Queen Camilla open Mulberry Academy London Docks whilst children in Year 1 went to visit Buckingham Palace and St James's Park.

There is a note from our Chair of Governors Dr Precey about how our Federation is working with an additional Tower Hamlets school, Class 4's trip to Greenwich is featured along with an update on how children in the Early Years learnt about the Lunar New Year. Plus some beautiful pictures of our visit to Gorsefield which was such fun!

Have a great half term break and be kind to one another.

St Paul's Pupils Meet the Queen

Pupils from Year 5 recently had the opportunity to attend the grand opening of Mulberry Academy London Dock school by Queen Camilla. In the picture on the right, you can see our students with Ms Blake waving flags and beaming with excitement! It was a truly royal experience for our young learners.

Children had a fantastic time exploring this brand new school and it was a great opportunity to be able to get so close to such an important member of the Royal family.



Follow Us on X and Instagram

One of the very best ways to keep up to date with what is happening in our school is to follow us on social media. We are on X

<https://twitter.com/StPaulsCESchool> and

<https://www.instagram.com/stpaulswhitechapel/?hl=en>

Follow us – there are some fantastic photos and clips of your children.





Message from Dr Robin Precey - Chair of Governors & Rev Richard Springer Vice Chair of Governors

TO PARENTS/CARERS,

Darren Rubin (the Executive Headteacher of our Federation) will be advising the staff and governors at Christ Church CoE Primary school on Brick Lane on their strategic development, following their head teacher leaving in the February half-term. This will be for 5 days a month to be reviewed every term (up to 18 moths). Parents/carers should rest assured that planning has taken place to ensure the smooth running of the schools when he is at Christ Church.

We feel this is a great opportunity to forge links with another local school that shares our values. Apart from Christ Church benefitting from Mr Rubin's experience and skills, it will enable even more the sharing of good practice across the 3 schools. If there are any questions please email me via your school and your message will be passed to me.

*Dr Robin Precey (Chair of Governors)
Rev Richard Springer (Vice-Chair of Governors)*



Lunar New Year Update

Reception has been learning about the Lunar New Year, a major festival celebrated across China and East Asia. It marks the start of the lunar calendar and is a time for families to gather, share meals, and welcome good fortune.

Each year is linked to one of twelve zodiac animals, representing different traits. Celebrations last 15 days, ending with the stunning Lantern Festival, where glowing lanterns fill the sky. Fireworks, red decorations, and lucky red envelopes symbolise prosperity and happiness.

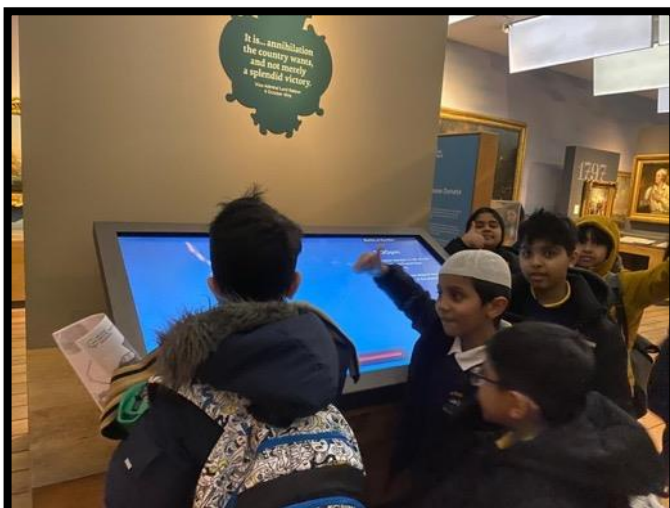
This has been a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore the traditions of this vibrant festival, which is celebrated worldwide. Gong Xi Fa Cai!



Class 4 Children Visiting Greenwich

Our Year 4 pupils went on an exciting adventure to Greenwich, where they explored the Cutty Sark and the National Maritime Museum! This fantastic trip ties into their current topic, Explorers and Adventurers, bringing history to life as they learn about famous voyages, intrepid explorers, and the incredible stories of the sea.

Visiting the Cutty Sark, one of the fastest tea clippers of its time, gave the children a real sense of maritime history, while the museum's interactive exhibits deepened their understanding of exploration.



A Message from our Election Winners

I noted in the last edition that we completed our Head Boy and Girl elections and Ms Foster has gathered their views which they share in the commentary below. Having responsibility is a huge honour and very well-deserved.

A big thank you again to Ms Foster for organising this event .



Head Girl

I am thrilled to be voted head girl. I wanted to prove to myself and to my peers that I can be responsible. I am glad I was given the opportunity to prove that I am right for the job. I will continue to set an example and be a good role model by listening to others, helping and speaking on behalf of the pupils.



Deputy Head Girl

I am so humbled to be able to support A and take on the leadership responsibilities of Deputy Head Girl. I am excited to be able to help represent the school: ensure that it is tidy and presentable, take on parent tours, and speak with our governors. I can't wait to show everyone how bright our lights can shine.



Head Boy

I was shocked and amazed to be voted as Head Boy for 2025. I have a lot of great ideas to help make this school an even greater place and my goal is to make everyone feel welcome and to bring a voice to my peers. In my speech, I promised to make a difference and I plan to keep that promise.



Deputy Head Boy

In my final year, I feel this is such a special role to have and I am very proud to be chosen as Deputy Head Boy. Out of all of Year 6, there were only four people selected. We all have a positive mindset and work well together and I will do my best to work with my team to be a role model for other pupils.



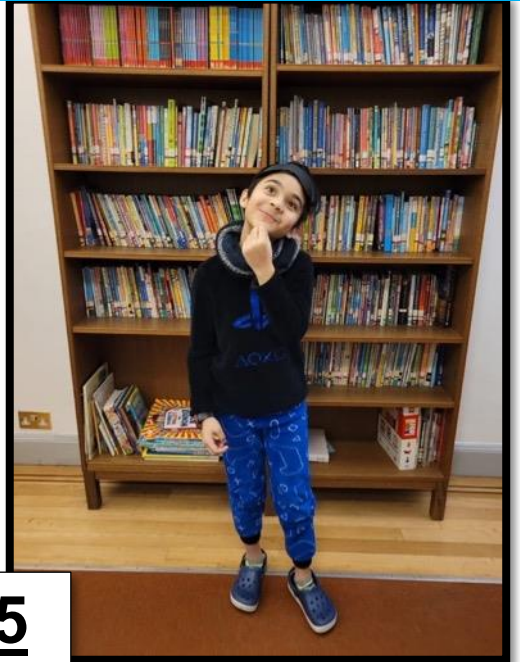


Gorsefield Adventure

Our children had an amazing time at Gorsefield, enjoying exciting activities like bike riding, orienteering, campfires, and bread-making. They embraced new challenges, tried delicious new foods, and loved the experience of sharing rooms with their friends.

A huge thank you to Ms Foster for leading the trip and to Mrs Grundy, who supported the children throughout the week, along with Ms Sandra, Ms Safia, and Ms Spencer. The children had the best time!





Gorsefield 2025





Kindness Cup Update

We are delighted to announce our latest Kindness Cup Winners! These pupils have gone above and beyond to show compassion, empathy, and kindness every day whether through small gestures or bigger efforts.

Kindness is contagious, and these pupils are setting an incredible example for their peers. Their willingness to support and encourage others reminds us all of the positive impact kindness can have on our community.

A huge congratulations to our winners! Your actions make a real difference, and we are so proud of you. Keep spreading kindness – it makes our school a better place for everyone.



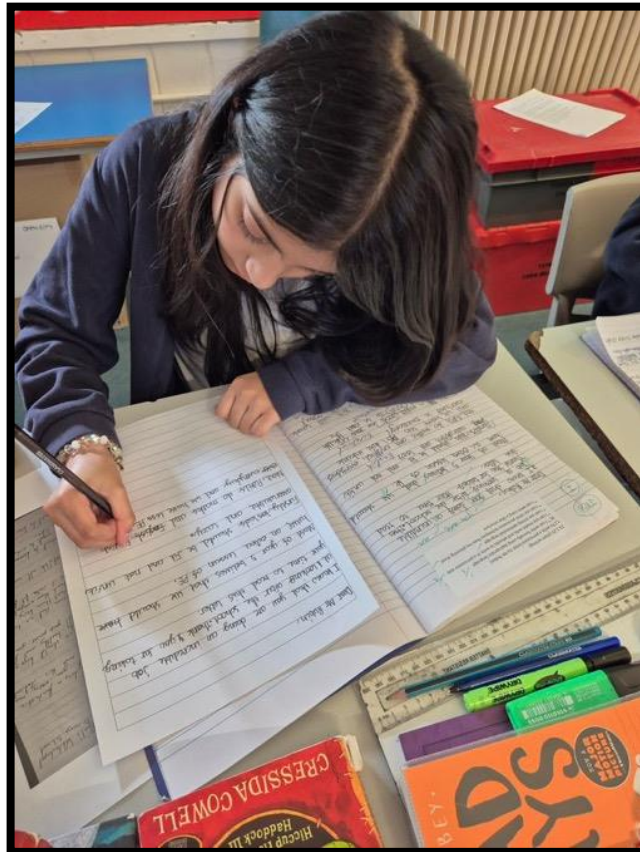


Courageous Advocacy

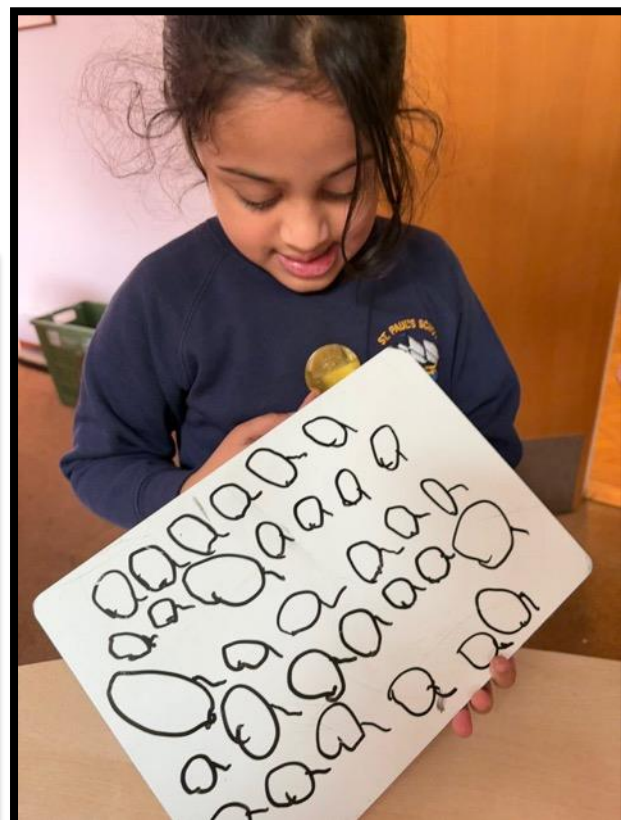
Collective worship, led by Davina, focused on the importance of community and how our children can make a difference. It was a powerful reminder that young voices can bring about change when they speak up for what matters.

Our children have been courageous advocates, playing an important role in lobbying for the repair of the pool at St George's Leisure Centre. They have shared their ideas to ensure local spaces meet the needs of local families. A key focus was the importance of a swimming pool, allowing children to stay active, develop water confidence, and learn essential life-saving skills.

By engaging with local decision-makers, the children have seen the power of their voices in action. They have learned that advocacy and community involvement can lead to real change.



Outstanding Work and Effort Across The School



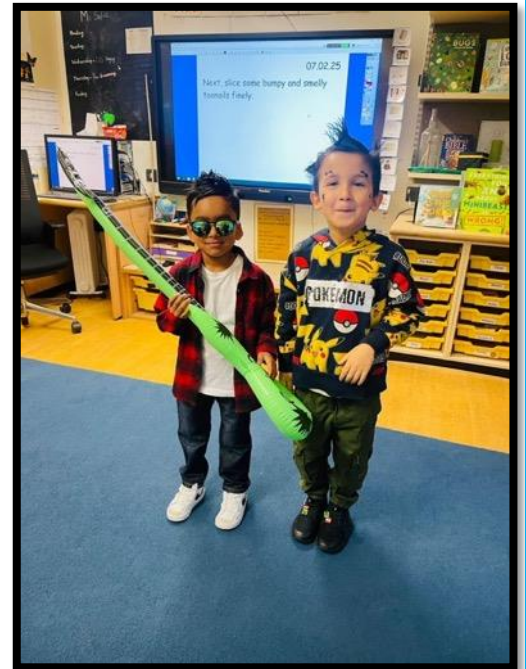


Thank you Reynolds

We are incredibly grateful to Reynolds for their generous support of our Cooking and Nutrition project. Their provision of fresh fruit and vegetables has been invaluable in helping our children develop essential cooking skills and a deeper understanding of healthy eating.

Thanks to their support, pupils across the school have had the opportunity to cook with high-quality, fresh ingredients, making learning both fun and meaningful. Over the years, this has had a lasting impact, equipping our children with important life skills that they will carry into the future.





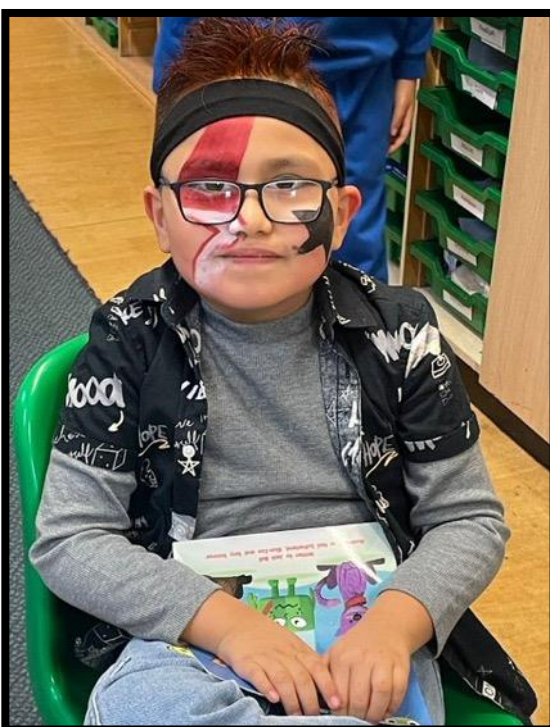
Times Tables Rock Star Day

St. Paul's has been transformed into a stage for our Times Tables Rock Stars, with pupils across the school dressed as rock legends to celebrate Maths Day! It has been fantastic to see the creativity and effort that has gone into their outfits, all in the name of maths.

A huge thank you to Ms Foster for organising such a brilliant day, Mr Bouffleur for overseeing and to our wonderful parents and carers for helping their children look so fantastic. Your support makes these events even more special!

Alongside the amazing costumes, pupils have been taking part in a range of exciting maths activities, making learning fun, engaging, and interactive. We can't wait to see their confidence in maths grow as they rock their times tables!

Well done to everyone involved—what a fantastic way to celebrate maths at St. Paul's!

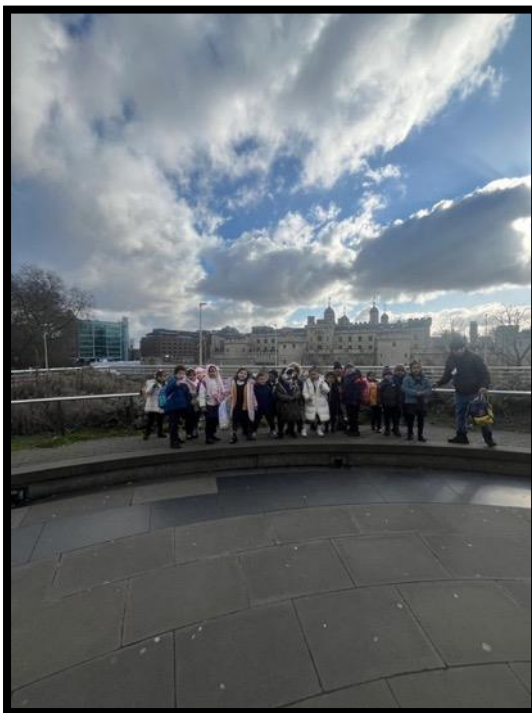


Class 1 School Trip to Buckingham Palace and St James's Park

Our Year 1 pupils had a fantastic day exploring London, bringing their learning to life with a visit to Buckingham Palace! Seeing this iconic landmark up close helped them understand its importance as the home of the King and a key part of British history.

After taking in the palace, the children had great fun in St. James's Park, where they enjoyed the beautiful surroundings, and experienced one of London's most famous green spaces.

Trips like these are so important as they help children connect classroom learning with real-world experiences, sparking curiosity and making history and geography come alive. A big thank you to our staff and parent helpers who made this trip possible. Year 1 had an unforgettable adventure, and were great!





WELCOME TO ST GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST

Dear parent/guardian,

It is our privilege to invite your child to join **St George's Youth Choir**. Places have been offered to students who have shown potential and enthusiasm in school and I hope that you will encourage your child to try out our choir and experience the many musical and social opportunities it will offer.

What is St George's Youth Choir?

St George's Youth Choir is run by St George-in-the-East Church and is proudly the first 'Choir Church' initiative in the country. We are also delighted to be a partner of St Paul's Cathedral's Choral Foundation. Striving for excellence, team spirit, fun, and amazing performance opportunities, we work to help young people grow and be the best they can be. In recent years, we have taken members to sing at St Paul's Cathedral and Kings College, Cambridge. We are an inclusive choir and we welcome children of all faiths, and none.

Where and when does the choir rehearse?

The choir rehearses weekly at **St George-in-the-East Church** on **Wednesdays** during term time from **4:00–5:00 PM**, with **snacks and socialising from 3:45 PM**. We celebrate a **monthly sung Eucharist** as part of our Wednesday evening sessions, which we warmly encourage friends and family to attend. Our unique, diverse and exciting performance schedule will be shared upon signing your child up.

How much does it cost?

With generous support from St George-in-the-East Church and a number of trust and foundations, our choir is **FREE** to join!

How do I confirm my child's place?

Places are limited, so please sign up your child as soon as possible using the following link: <https://forms.gle/H3kgGgPQVvYUYJqDZ>. A member of our team will then be in touch to confirm your child's place.

Will Bruce and Elizabeth Stout

Choir Director and Schools and Families Pastor





11th February 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to invite your child(ren) to our **Youth Study Morning** on **Thursday, 20th February, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**, with the option to stay and use the space for further revision afterward.

This event is open to any young person preparing for upcoming exams. Members of our congregation will be generously offering their time and expertise to support students in their revision. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and get help with any challenging topics.

As part of the day, we will celebrate **Mass at midday**, followed by **lunch**, which will be provided for all attendees.

If your child would like to attend, please let me know and any dietary requirements by 17th February.

We hope this will be a productive and enriching day for all who join us. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

Elizabeth Stout
Children and Families pastor
children@stgeorgeintheeast.org 07562 779 310



TOWER HAMLETS

Holiday Childcare Scheme

Bookings now open

Ages **3-13** years old

The Tower Hamlets Childcare Scheme offers Ofsted registered childcare.
020 7364 0523
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs

February scheme
 Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2025
 (5 days)



Holiday Childcare February Scheme 2025

Information for professionals

The Tower Hamlets Holiday Childcare February 2025 Scheme is now open for bookings for working parents' resident in the borough, and for vulnerable referrals. Non-working parents / carers are welcome to book places from 28th January 2025.

Scheme dates

Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2025 (5 days).

Our scheme dates are based on the Tower Hamlets school holidays.

Booking closing date: 11th February 2025 by 12pm or earlier once bookings are full.

Venue

St Mary & St Michael Catholic Primary School, Sutton Street, E1 0BD

Please support and share this information with families you feel may benefit from our scheme. To refer a child please complete our [referral form](#) and support the family to book following the steps on our [booking system](#).

More information can be found on our website www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs.

We will look forward to receiving your bookings.

Holiday Childcare Team
 Parent & Family Support Service
 Education Directorate
 London Borough of Tower Hamlets

FamiliesMatter

The Parental Engagement Team



Dads' Network Baby Massage Session

A fun session for dads and children aged under 2,
exploring the benefits and techniques of baby massage!

Booking required



**Saturday 15 February,
11am-12 noon
Meath Gardens Family Hub
1 Smart Street, E2 0SN**

Facilitated by The Parent and Family Support Service

Email: parentalengagement@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Telephone: 07858 689 243

Children's Services are offering Toileting Troubleshooting sessions in Children and Family Centres and Family Hubs for parents of children with additional needs

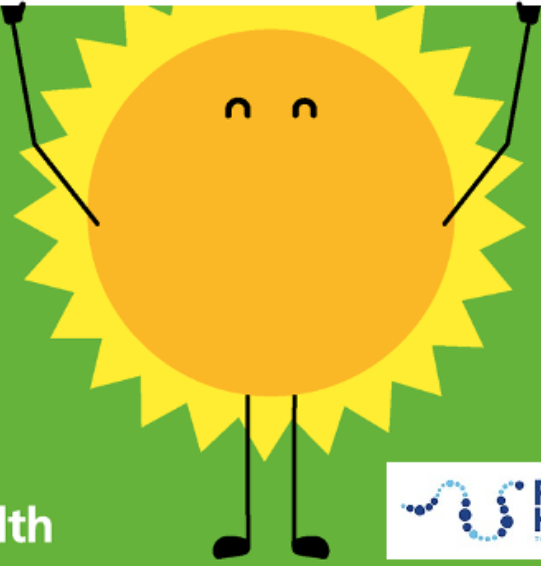


If you are interested in attending:

- 1) First attend a Toileting Workshop in any Tower Hamlets Children and Family Centres and Family Hubs.
- 2) After trialling strategies from this workshop, you feel you would benefit from further support please choose a date that suits you to book onto.

The workshops happen on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

| Month | Date | Time | Children Centres & Family Hubs |
|----------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| January | 8 th January 2025 | 1-3pm | Marner |
| February | 5 th February 2025 | 1-3pm | Ocean |
| March | 5 th March 2025 | 1-3pm | Meath gardens |
| April | 2 nd April 2025 | 1-3pm | Isle of Dogs |
| May | 7 th May 2025 | 1-3pm | Overland |
| June | 4 th June 2025 | 1-3pm | <u>Chrip Street</u> |



Young Barts Health



parents/carers.

PENALTY NOTICES

New National Framework for Penalty Notices for poor school attendance and unauthorised leave in term time are changing from 19 August 2024.



Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notices will still be issued to each parent for each absent child.

For example – 2 siblings absent for unauthorised leave in term time will result in each parent receiving two separate fines.

Term Time Leave: 5 consecutive days

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period

First Offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.

(Reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days.)

Second Offence

The second time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.

(There is no reduction for any early payment.)

Third Offence

The third time a penalty notice is issued, the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.

Fines of up to £2500 per parent, per child, can be issued by the courts.

BEHAVIOUR AND ATTENDANCE SUPPORT SERVICE

London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BJ

Email: LBTHAttendance&WelfareServiceAdmin@towerhamlets.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7364 3450

The best of London
in one borough





WRAPAROUND CARE

Our wraparound care after school club has started.

It is open every day from 3:30pm – 5:30pm and is open to everyone from Nursery to Year 6 at a cost of £8.00 per session that must be booked in advance.

Lots of activities, healthy snacks and an opportunity to have fun in the safe environment of our school.



Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality

Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or video calling Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.



Check the safety settings are turned on



Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? What about safe search and Youtube? See parentsafe.lgfl.net for more.

Get your children to show you their apps and games



You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced - they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for **Common Sense Media** reviews.

Don't try to hide news about scary things in the news



If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch **Newsround** together and talk about how they feel - there is guidance from **Childline** to help you.

Remind them of key online safety principles



There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

If you aren't sure, ASK!

Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at reporting.lgfl.net, including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).





CONTRACT CATERING SERVICES LUNCH MENU Nov 2024 - Apr 2025



| Week 1 | Monday 'Planet Earth Day' | Tuesday 'Street Food Day' | FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day' | Thursday Lebanon | Friday 'Favourites' |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| Dates | 04 Nov 2024 • 18 Nov • 02 Dec • 16 Dec • 30 Dec • 13 Jan 2025 • 27 Jan • 10 Feb • 24 Feb • 10 Mar • 24 Mar • 07 Apr | | | | |
| Option 1 | Tomato & Basil Pasta Bake | Beef, Pepper & Onion Pizza with Spicy Diced Potatoes | Chicken Sausage with Mash Potatoes & Onion Gravy | Chicken Shawarma with Lebanese Rice or Lebanese Flatbread | Cod Fish Fingers with Chips |
| Option 2 | Vegan Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges | BBQ Vegetable Strips Wrap with Spicy Diced Potatoes | Vegetable Hotpot | Falafel in Sumaq & Za'atar Sauce with Lebanese Rice | Lentil & Vegetable Dahl with Rice |
| On the side | Sliced Carrots and Peas | Sweetcorn & Green Beans | Cauliflower and Sliced Carrots | Mix Vegetables | Garden Peas and Baked Beans |
| Salads | Mixed Green Salad | Crunchy Coleslaw | Chef's House Salad | Fattoush Salad | Macedoine of Vegetable Salad |
| Dessert | Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings | Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick | Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad | Banana & Date Yoghurt | Apple & Sultana Yoghurt with Rice Krispies |
| DAILY OPTIONS: DAILY SALAD & SEASONAL FRESH FRUIT PLATTER FRESH BREAD & YOGHURTS | | | | | |

| Week 2 | Monday 'Planet Earth Day' | Tuesday 'Street Food Day' | FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day' | Thursday Ireland | Friday 'Favourites' |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| Dates | 11 Nov 2024 • 25 Nov • 09 Dec • 23 Dec • 06 Jan 2025 • 20 Jan • 03 Feb • 17 Feb • 3 Mar • 17 Mar • 31 Mar • 14 Apr | | | | |
| Option 1 | Piri Piri Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice | Italian Beef Meatballs Marinara Subroll with Cajun Diced Potatoes | Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes & Gravy | Irish Beef Stew with Champ/Colcannon Mash Potatoes | Battered Pollock Fillet or Bubble Salmon Fillet with Chips |
| Option 2 | Chickpea & Mixed Vegetable Balti with Rice | Vegetable Nuggets with Katsu Curry Sauce and Rice | Jacket Potato with Leek, Onion & Beans | Veggie Sausage with Champ/Colcannon Mash Potatoes & Gravy | Guorn Frankfurter Hotdog with Chips and Homemade Tomato Sauce |
| On the side | Green Vegetable Medley | Broccoli & Sweetcorn | Green Beans & Cauliflower | Green Cabbage & Sliced Carrots | Garden Peas and Baked Beans |
| Salads | Carrots & Cucumber Ribbons | Tomato & Pasta Salad | Chef's House Salad | Potato Salad | Crunchy Coleslaw |
| Dessert | Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings | Cheddar Cheese with Breadstick | Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad | Raspberry & Mango Fruit Fool | Apple & Banana Yoghurt Crunch |
| DAILY OPTIONS: DAILY SALAD & SEASONAL FRESH FRUIT PLATTER FRESH BREAD & YOGHURTS | | | | | |

Please Note that some dishes maybe subject to local changes to suit individual school needs



Pro Veg recognises that OUR healthy menus are environmentally friendly for humans, animals and the Planet.

All our Vegan & Vegetarian recipes are packed full of nutrition including PROTEIN & FIBRE to keep children healthy & happy.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
Every effort is made to minimise risk of cross-contamination. However, it should be noted that our food is prepared in a kitchen where known allergens may be present and therefore the risk of cross-contamination remains a risk. Please ask staff for further details regarding specific dietary requirements and/or allergens.



Contract Services CPU team were WINNERS at the Staff Awards Ceremony for "Excellent Support Services"

Fantastic FOOD IN SCHOOLS



Tower Hamlets and City
SEND IASS



Tower Hamlets & City SENDIASS **(Special Educational Needs Information, Advice and Support Service)**

The SENDIASS Team provides free and impartial expert advice to parents of children with SEND and to children and young people themselves who are residents within Tower Hamlets or City of London. Some of the ways we can support you are:

- **Attending meetings with schools/professionals**
- **Applying for an Education Health and Care Plan**
- **Mediation with the Local Authority**
- **Preparing and attending SEND Tribunals**
- **Providing information about other support services and departments**

Our team also runs workshops for parents around the EHCP process, Annual Reviews, and Secondary School Transitions.

If your query can not be resolved during the telephone consultation, we will take a referral and you will be allocated a caseworker who will contact you within 10 working days.

We have a dedicated telephone line, **020 7364 6489**, that you can call to speak to an advisor Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m-17:00 p.m.

You can also email us at:
towerhamlets&city.sendiass@towerhamlets.gov.uk

You can visit our website at:
<https://www.towerhamletsandcitysendiass.com/>



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





The Designated Members of Staff Responsible for Safeguarding and Child Protection at St Pauls are:



Darren Rubin
Executive Headteacher



Kathy Blake
Deputy Headteacher



John Boutflour
Assistant Headteacher



Rebecca Foster
Senior Leader

St John's & St Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools
Term Dates and Holidays - 2024/ 2025

Autumn Term 2024

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Staff Training | Mon 2 nd & Tue 3 rd September |
| First Day of Term | Wednesday 4 th September |
| Half Term | Monday 28 th – Friday 1 st November |
| Staff Training | Mon 4 th November |
| Second half of term | Tuesday 5 th November |
| Last Day of Term | Friday 20 th December |

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| <i>Christmas Day</i> | <i>Wednesday 25th December</i> |
| <i>Boxing Day</i> | <i>Thursday 26th December</i> |

Spring Term 2025

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| <i>New Year's Day</i> | <i>Wednesday 1st January</i> |
| First Day of Term | Monday 6 th January |
| Half Term | Mon. 17 th to Fri. 21 st February |
| Second half of term | Monday 24 th February |
| Last Day of Term | Friday 4 th April |

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Good Friday</i> | <i>Friday 18th April</i> |
| <i>Easter Monday</i> | <i>Monday 21st April</i> |

Summer Term 2025

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| First Day of Term | Tuesday 22 nd April |
| May Day Bank Holiday | Monday 5 th May |
| Half Term | Tuesday 27 th to Friday 30 th May |
| Second half of term | Monday 2 nd June |
| Last Day of Term | Tuesday 22 nd July |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Ramadan begins</i> | <i>Friday 28^h February 2025*</i> |
| <i>Eid Al-Fitr</i> | <i>Sunday 30th March 2025*</i> |
| <i>Eid Al-Adha</i> | <i>Friday 6th June 2025*</i> |

195 days including 5 staff training days - 2 staff training days to be arranged

* to be confirmed