



St Paul's Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

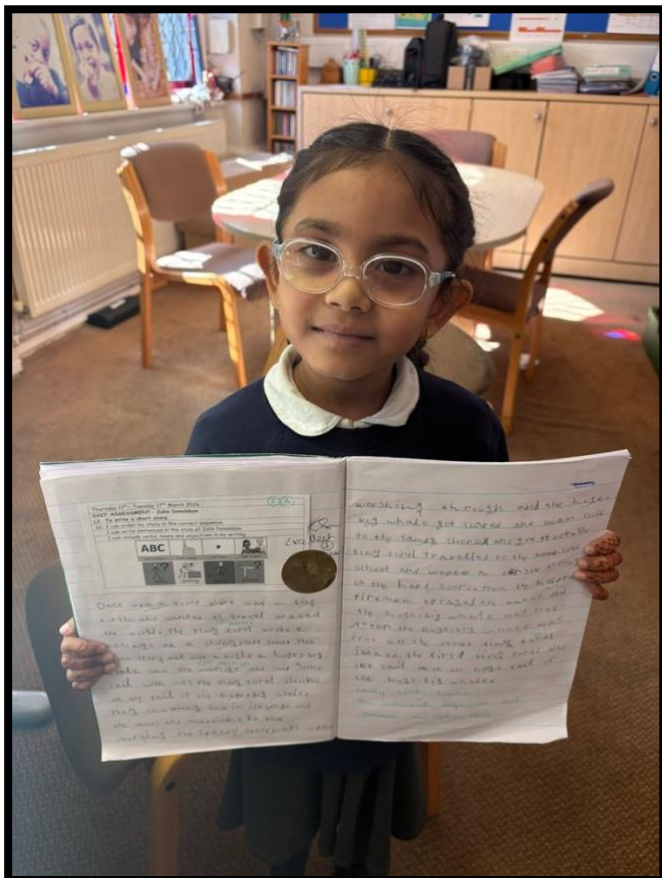
An update from Mr. Rubin...

This has been a very swift half term, yet you will see from this edition of the newsletter that we have packed so much in. I hope all of our families and friends who celebrated Eid had a wonderful time.

It has been a meaningful period of reflection, with Ramadan, Eid, Lent and Easter falling so close together. It makes me incredibly proud of our school community and the way we embrace difference and show respect for one another.

In Federation news, St John's has received its Ofsted report and has done very well. My thanks go to the brilliant Senior Leadership Team and staff here, who work so closely with our colleagues in Bethnal Green and demonstrate the true strength of collaboration. You can read the report here <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50298293>

Enjoy the newsletter. Have a wonderful Easter and remember to be kind to one another.



Quality Writing

Our children continue to produce exceptional writing, built on the strong foundations we prioritise across the school. It is a joy to see their confidence grow as they share their work, with this moment capturing a pupil proudly earning a Headteacher Golden Sticker for their efforts. A fine example of the care, pride and high standards our children bring to their learning every day.



Our Winter Fair raised a total of £1500! Thank you so much!



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

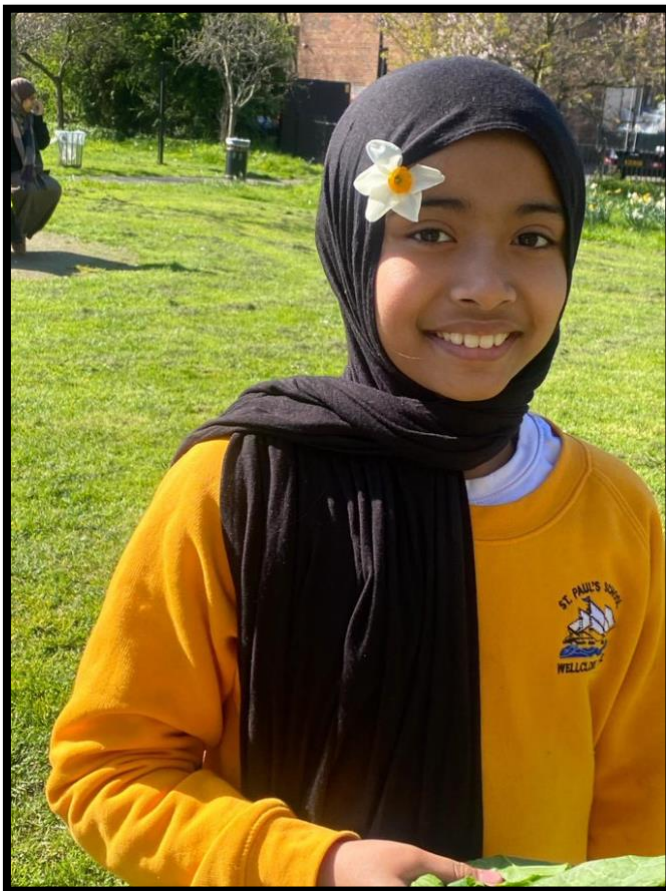
<https://www.instagram.com/stpaulswhitechapel/?hl=en>

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



Class 4 Art Update

For their Art Day this term, Year 4 visited Swedenborg Gardens to collect leaves, flowers and foliage, which the children then took back to their classroom to create layered botanical prints. The children learnt so many art skills and produced incredible work. It was wonderful to see the children engaging so thoughtfully with the natural environment and using it as inspiration for their creativity. Experiences like this help to bring learning to life and deepen their appreciation of both art and the world around them.





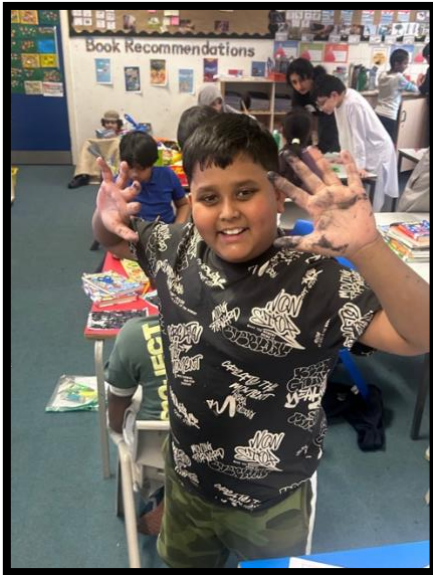
Easter Service at St George in the East

Huge thanks to Ms Elizabeth and Father Richard for leading such a joyful and inclusive Easter Service at St George in the East Church.

These services are always a highlight of the term, bringing our community together in a way that is both meaningful and full of warmth. We reflected on the Easter story and its message of hope, new life and renewal, which was beautifully brought to life for the children.

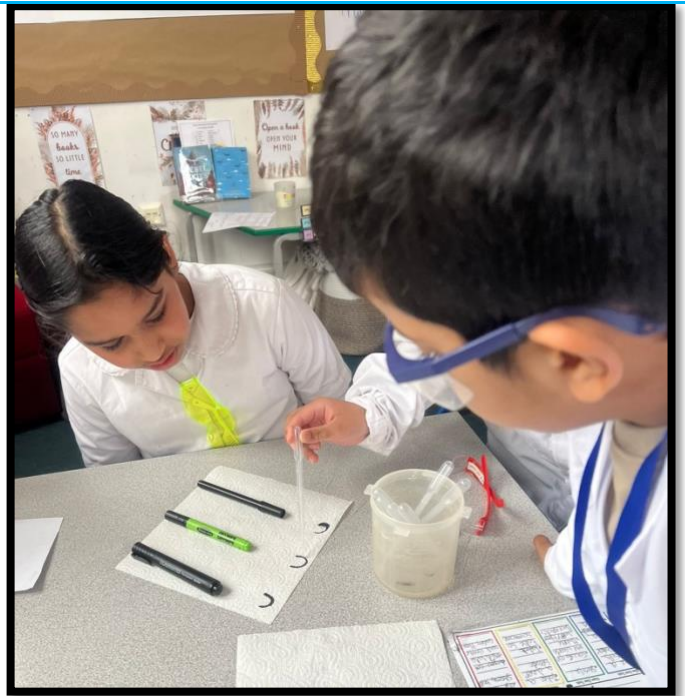
There was, of course, plenty of fun along the way, including the much-anticipated annual egg and spoon race. Ms Blake thanked all members of our school community, and it was wonderful to see the children waving palms, symbolising peace, victory and new beginnings. Mr Bruce led us in song and the whole church was filled with energy and joy.





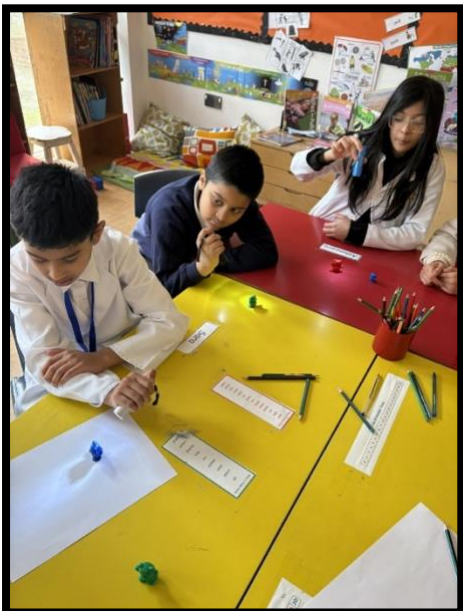
Eid Party Pictures & Easter Activities





Science Wow Day!

Our children learnt so much and had such incredible fun during our Science Day. They worked well in their mixed year groups and were curious and engaged in the science experiments and activities that they took part in. We were so impressed with their questioning and investigation skills and their thoughtful answers when trying to work out what would happen next! They enjoyed hypothesising, exploring different materials and reactions, and recording their observations carefully. It was fantastic to see them making predictions, testing ideas, and reflecting on their results, just like real scientists. The children's enthusiasm for discovering how things work really shone throughout the day! A big thank you to Mrs Reader for organising all of the activities and to all our staff for working so enthusiastically to make sure our children had such a meaningful day.





Athlete day - Victoria Ohuruogu, a 2024 Olympian bronze medal winner

How lucky were we for such a prestigious visitor! Victoria was great fun and the children loved taking part in the sports challenges – it was so interesting to learn about how she became an Olympian and she grew up in East London which made her background so familiar to our children's! Victoria was such an inspiration and we are very thankful for her visit. Thank you for all your fundraising efforts too and thanks to Mrs Reader again for organising.





Cooking and Nutrition Update

We would like to thank Reynolds Foods for all the support they give to our cooking and nutrition programme. Their generosity helps our children develop important practical skills from chopping and measuring to following recipes and working safely in the kitchen. More importantly it gives them the confidence and knowledge to make healthy choices in their everyday lives. Our children absolutely love taking part in these sessions exploring new ingredients, trying different foods and learning to create delicious nutritious meals. This fantastic programme truly helps our children let their light shine giving them skills, independence and enthusiasm that will last a lifetime.



World Book Day 2026

As always, our wonderful children and staff took World Book Day very seriously, arriving at school in fantastic costumes and showing great imagination, with so much effort clearly put into every outfit. The children had such fun and it was especially lovely to come together for a whole school assembly celebrating reading, including our teachers taking part in a 'story swap'. Thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support and for the effort that goes into creating such brilliant costumes. Reading remains at the heart of everything we do, laying the foundations for success across the curriculum and beyond.





Iftar Event

A very special Iftar event took place at St Paul's during Ramadan as part of 'Cable Street Conversations', a project led by St George in the East and the East London Mosque that brings people together from different faiths. It was a warm and welcoming evening, bringing together members of our community to share food, conversation and understanding.



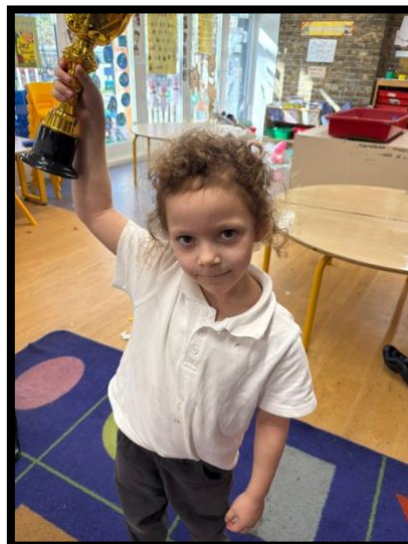


Cross Teach Easter Assembly

Thank you so much to Cross Teach, who delivered a powerful assembly focusing on the Easter Story and the importance of love and justice. The children responded brilliantly to the questions, and a big thank you to our pupil volunteers. It was a thoughtful and engaging experience that encouraged reflection across the whole school community

Kindness Cup

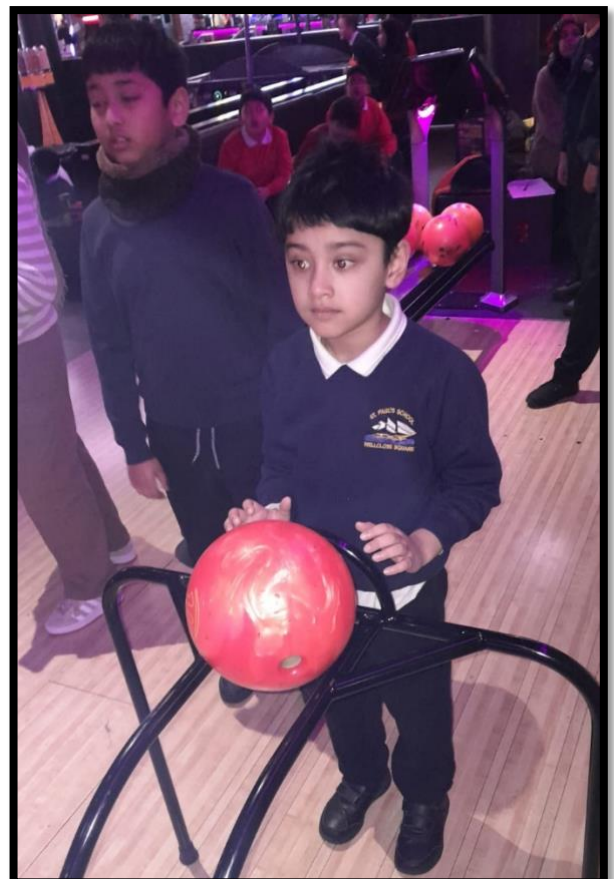
Compassion is one of our most important values and every week, our staff will identify a member of their class who has earned the Place2Be Kindness Cup. Our latest winner is so kind and shows great compassion to everyone, shining in everything she does. She consistently demonstrates thoughtfulness in her actions and is always ready to support her peers. We are incredibly proud of the example she sets for others across the school.



Tower Hamlets Panathlon Tenpin Bowling event!

Some of our children took part in a Ten Pin Bowling competition. They did brilliantly and had a fantastic day! Events like this help build teamwork, confidence, and resilience. It was wonderful to see the children supporting each other and showing great sportsmanship.

Experiences like the Tower Hamlets Panathlon inspire a love of sport and encourage everyone to challenge themselves.





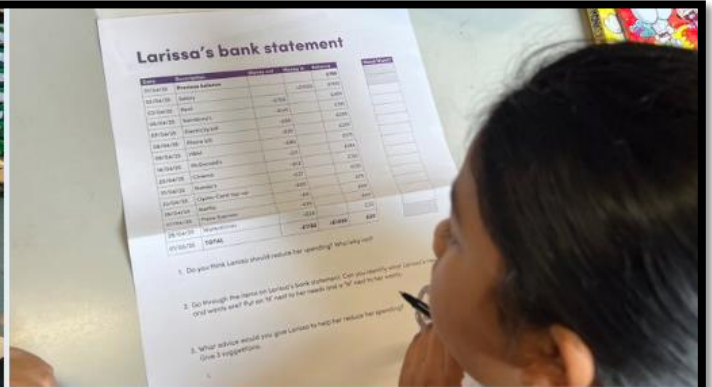
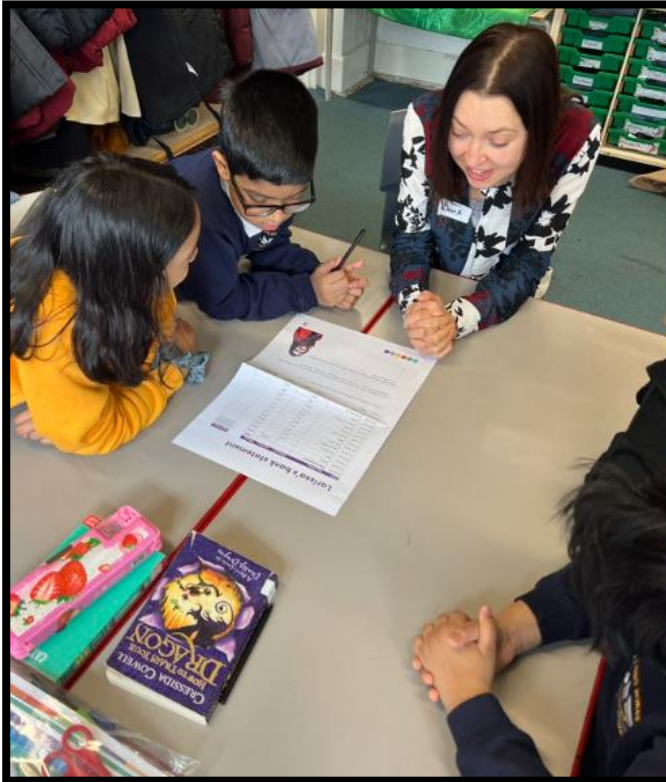
Tennis Sessions

Some great tennis sessions for Y1, Y2, and Y3! Thank you to Alex Scally from Courtside Tower Hamlets for leading such fun and engaging sessions. Our children absolutely love taking part in these sporting activities, which help them stay active, build teamwork, and develop important skills like focus and resilience. Providing high-quality sports opportunities at our school is so important for their physical health, confidence, and enjoyment of trying new things. It's wonderful to see them so enthusiastic and motivated!



Year 5 Update

Year 5 had a busy and exciting day! They started with another session of their financial literacy workshop, where they explored the difference between needs and wants, learned how to budget money wisely and discussed ways to make smart financial choices. The children really engaged with the activities, asking thoughtful questions and sharing their ideas about managing money responsibly. In the afternoon, they enjoyed a refreshing swimming session, putting their energy and skills to the test in the pool. It was fantastic to see them balancing learning and physical activity, showing curiosity, confidence, and determination throughout the day.



Footballing Fun!

Our year 4 children also took part in a great football competition at English Martyrs School. The children played brilliantly, working as a team and representing our school values with pride on the pitch. We are so proud of their sportsmanship and the way they supported one another throughout the tournament. A huge thank you goes to Coach Idris and Mr Hussain for taking them along and coaching them so effectively. It was another wonderful day of sport for St Paul's.





Congratulations to our First Gold Award Winner of The Academic Year!



Oracy Update

Thank you as always to Ian Graham, our ex Chair of Governors, who still commits his time to St Paul's to teach our Y6 children about debating and presentation skills! We are so grateful! The children learn so much from these sessions!

Key Dates Coming Up: (Do check the calendar on the website too)

School Reopens
EY Parent/Carer Open Morning
Parent/Carer Open Afternoon
May Day Bank Holiday
Last Day of Term

Monday 13th April
Wednesday 15th April
Monday 27th April (1pm Onwards)
Monday 4th May
Friday 22nd May



CONTRACT CATERING SERVICES LUNCH MENU Nov 2025 - Apr 2026



Week 1	Monday 'Planet Earth Day'	Tuesday 'Street Food Day'	FREE FROM Main Allergens Wednesday 'Traditional Day'	Thursday Hungary	Friday 'Favourites'
Dates	03 Nov 2025 • 17 Nov • 01 Dec • 15 Dec • 29 Dec • 12 Jan 2026 • 26 Jan • 09 Feb • 23 Feb • 09 Mar • 23 Mar • 06 Apr				
Option 1	Tomato, Basil & Mozzarella Potato Gnocchi	BBQ Veggie Chicken Tenders with Spicy Diced Potatoes	Veggie Bangers and Mash	Layered Cheesy Vegetables & Potatoes (Rakott Krumpli)	Vegetable Nuggets with Sweet and Sour Sauce & Rice
Option 2	Thai Red Vegetable Meatballs Curry with Noodles	Keralan Style Chicken Curry with Savoury Rice	Minced Beef Cottage Pie	Hungarian Beef Goulash (Pörkölt) with Mashed Potato	Cod Fish Fingers with Chips
On the side	Sweetcorn and Green Beans	Broccoli & Carrots	Braised Red Cabbage & Peas	Green Vegetable Medley	Garden Peas and Baked Beans
Salads	Mixed Bean Salad	Crunchy Red Coleslaw	Chef's House Salad	Hungarian Cucumber Salad	Asian Noodle Salad
Dessert	Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings	Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Apple & Cinnamon Greek Style Yoghurt	Dates & Banana Yoghurt
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 Brazilian	Friday 'Favourites'
Dates	10 Nov 2025 • 24 Nov • 08 Dec • 22 Dec • 05 Jan 2026 • 19 Jan • 02 Feb • 16 Feb • 2 Mar • 16 Mar • 30 Mar				
Option 1	Macaroni Cheese & Sweetcorn	Margherita Pizza with Cajun Potato Wedges	Vegetable Hotpot	Black Bean & Vegetable Stew with Rice	Mediterranean Puff Pastry Tart with Chips
Option 2	Chickpea & Vegetable Tagine with Couscous	Chicken Shawarma with Rice	Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Beef Feijoada with Rice	Battered Pollock Fillet with Chips or Jacket Potato with Tuna, Salmon & Sweetcorn Mayonnaise
On the side	Carrots and Broccoli	Vegetable Medley	Roasted Cauliflower and Green Beans	Baby Corn & Carrots	Garden Peas and Baked Beans
Salads	Beetroot & Spring Onion Salad	Carrot & Sultana Salad	Chef's House Salad	Brazilian Slaw (Salpicão Salad)	Crunchy Coleslaw
Dessert	Fruity Yoghurt Bar with Toppings	Cheese with Breadstick	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad	Banana & Mango Fruit Fool with Toasted Coconut	Mandarin 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

LOOK OUT FOR OUR POPULAR THEME DAYS.



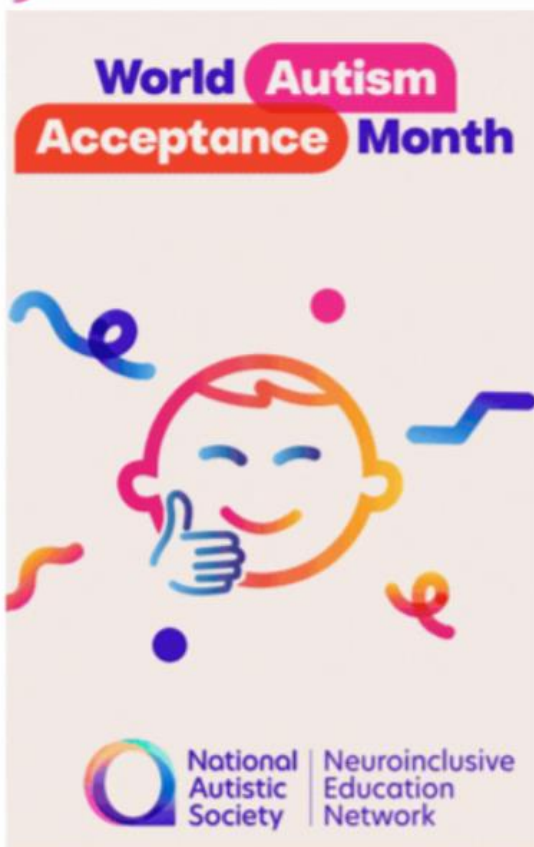
IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

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.



Fantastic FOOD IN SCHOOLS

Coffee Morning with Phoenix Outreach




Join us for a relaxed Parent Coffee Morning this Autism Acceptance Month. Come along for a warm drink, friendly conversation, and a supportive space to connect with other parents and carers.

Together we'll celebrate neurodiversity, build understanding, and support one another as a community.

 Date: Tuesday 14th April 2026

 Time: 10am - 11am

 Location: Training Suite 1, Phoenix Upper School, South Building, Paton Close, E3 2QD

Drop in, meet other families, and help us mark Autism Acceptance Month with connection, understanding, and good coffee.

Let us know you are coming along by sending an email to training@phoenix.towerhamlets.sch.uk



What's On at St Margaret's House for Children and Families: Easter Holidays and Summer Term 2026

Join us for free holiday workshops, a low-cost performance for families and find out about our weekly term-time activities

Young people



Tickets: Free

FREE Crafterschool Easter Holiday Workshops

These sessions help young people engage creatively in a collaborative piece of art that will be exhibited somewhere round the St Margaret's House site

Free to attend thanks to funding from the Tower Hamlets Mayor's Community Fund.

Venue: The Studio at St Margaret's House, 15 Old Ford Road

Dates & Time:

- Tuesday 7th April, 10am-12noon
- Wednesday 8th April, 2-4pm
- Friday 10th April, 10am-12noon

Young people



Tickets: from £5

Snow White, Rose Red, Bear Brown – family show

Snow White and Rose Red – sisters, twins, best friends – have lived in the forest since they were Babes in the Wood. Brought up by their hardworking mother to be kind, caring and forest fluent...if sometimes a little over enthusiastic in their deeds!

Venue: Mulberry Hall, St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Road

Date: Saturday 11th April

Times: 11am and 1.30pm

Running Time: 55 minutes

Suitable for children 4+ and their families

St Margaret's House Arts and Wellbeing Centre, 21 Old Ford Road, E2 9PL

www.stmargarethouse.org.uk / email Lara@stmargarethouse.org.uk




Supported using public funding by

**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Penalty Notices Information – New National Framework

Please read and familiarise yourself with the latest guidance from Tower Hamlets. Please note that the fines go to the local authority and that all schools receive this information to share with 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: L.BTHAttendance&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.





WE ARE

**YOUTH
YOUTH
YOUTH**

WE ARE

**A YOUTH MOVEMENT IN TOWERHAMLETS
CREATING COMMUNITY AND CHANGING CULTURE**

AT ST JOHN ON BETHNAL GREEN

FREE DROP IN YOUTH SESSION
FROM 3:30-5:00PM

EVERY MONDAY TERM TIME





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/H3kgGgPOVuYUYjqDZ>. 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



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).





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:



Mr Rubin
Executive Headteacher



Ms Blake
Head of School



Ms Foster
Senior Leader

St John's & Paul's Whitechapel CE Primary Schools Term Dates and Holidays - 2025/ 2026

Autumn Term 2025

Staff Training	Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September (2 days)
Term 1	Wednesday 3 rd September – Friday 24 th October (38 days)
Half Term	Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st October
Term 2	Monday 3 rd November - Friday 19 th December (35 days)

Christmas break Monday 22nd December– Friday January 2nd

Christmas Day Thursday 25th December
Boxing Day Friday 26th December

Spring Term 2026

Staff Training	Monday 5th January (1 day)
Term 3	Tuesday 6 th January -Friday 13 th February (29 days)
Half Term	Mon. 16 th to Fri. 20 th February
Staff Training	Friday 27th February (1 day)
Term 4	Monday 23 rd February – Friday 27 th March (24 days)

Good Friday Friday 3rd April
Easter Monday Monday 6th April /

Summer Term 2026

Term 5 Monday 13th April – Friday 22nd May (29 Days)

May Day Bank Holiday Monday 4th May
Spring Bank Holiday Monday 25th May
Half Term Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Term 6 Monday 1st June – Friday 17th July - 2pm (35 days)

Ramadan begins 18th February 2026
Eid Al-Fitr 20th March 2026
Eid Al-Adha 27th May 2026

190 School Days, 5 Staff Training Days (1 as a twilight)