

# HEADTEACHER'S NEWS SUMMARY NEWSLETTER



**'The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned' Isaiah 9:2-6**

The season of advent is upon us as this Sunday will be the first Sunday in the period of Advent when we think about how as Christians we prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. During the period of Advent, we will be relating to the themes of hope, peace, joy and love which are symbolized by the Advent candles on our Advent wreath (one lit each Sunday of Advent and in our Celebration Assembly every Friday in the lead up to Christmas).

We are also sending home a postcard that was illustrated by Ela in Yr.4 showing all the different services that will be taking place in the parish of St. John and St. Luke this Christmas. Please do try to make the effort to attend some of these services as your children will really enjoy them, especially the Christingle on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm in St. Luke's Church and A Blue Christmas on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm.

We are currently supporting the parish of St. John and St. Luke with their Christmas raffle and tickets will be on sale very morning for the next two weeks. Tickets are £1, please do try and support our parish as our entire school community is very well supported by our parish, especially by Mother Mitzi.

Please note that all clubs finished this Thursday and will start again the week beginning the 15<sup>th</sup> January. We will be sending out the information regarding the booking details for all clubs next term with our next Newsletter on Friday 15 December. Please book these as soon as you receive the message as all clubs are very popular but are limited to certain numbers. It is important that all pupils are collected on time from this Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> December as all staff are required in meetings and have many assessments to complete before Christmas. **We will be implementing our Late Collection Policy so any child who is collected late, there will be a charge applied.**

**Please note that now as clubs have finished, all pupils who are not in a PE lesson, must be in the correct school uniform. This also includes Friday as we are no longer having track suit Friday. We are noticing that the standard of presentation of our pupils has really declined and we need to address this. If your child doesn't have PE on a Friday, they must be in their school uniform. This will be very tightly monitored from this Monday.**

We have finally come to end of NOVEMBER where we really made every effort at lunchtime to support CUT YOUR CARBON Month. I am so impressed with all pupils in KS1 & 2 for making every effort to eat everything that is on their tray, even if they had seconds! We have drastically reduced the level of waste in the dining hall and we will continue to ensure that this standard is maintained.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9am - Pathways Assembly with a focus on humility – parents are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm – Carol Service at St. John's Church for all pupils

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am – Nativity for Ruby Class at St. John's Church

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm Christmas Parties for all classes.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to the above events.

Have an enjoyable weekend, Best Wishes, Mrs. Notley

**Week Beginning Monday 4 December 2023****Monday****Assessment week**

8.00am Breakfast Club

**Tuesday**

8.00am Breakfast Club

**Wednesday**

8.00am Breakfast Club

During school Keyboard

During school Recorder

**Thursday**

8.00am Breakfast Club

**Friday**

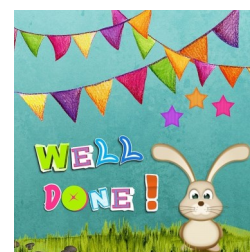
8.00am Breakfast Club

9.00am Celebration Assembly

**Catriona Father's Writing Competition Winners 2023**

Reception Class	Ava
Year 1	Ariah
Year 2	Zara
Year 3	Mila
Year 4	Adrian
Year 5	Alicia
Year 6	Amelia

Overall Winner—Amelia, Year 6

**AUTUMN 2023**

Starts	Monday 4 September
Half-term	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October
Ends (1.00pm)	Wednesday 20 December
INSET DAY	Friday 1 September
INSET DAY	Monday 30 October
INSET DAY	Friday 24 November

**SPRING 2024**

Starts	Monday 8 January
Half-term	Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February
Ends (1.00pm)	Thursday 28 March
INSET DAY	Monday 19 February

**SUMMER 2024**

Starts	Monday 15 April
Half-term	Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May
Ends (1.00pm)	Wednesday 24 July
INSET DAY	Friday 28 June
Bank Hols	Monday 6 May

**AUTUMN 2024**

Starts	Tuesday 3 September
Half-term	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November
Ends (1.00pm)	Friday 20 December
INSET DAY	Monday 2 September
INSET DAY	Monday 4 November
INSET DAY	Friday 29 November

Please remember that any of these dates may alter because of changing circumstances. On INSET days the school is closed to pupils.

# NOTICES

## After School Clubs

Autumn Term 2023 After School Clubs have now finished for this year.

With our next fortnightly newsletter on Friday 15 December, details for Spring Term 2024 After School Clubs will be sent out. As usual this is a first come first served basis.

Any requests sent before the newsletter has been emailed will not be accepted.

## Manor Adventure Payments

The next instalments for our School Journey to Manor Adventure in June 2024 were due yesterday. Please ensure that this is being kept up to date.

## Attendance for the week

**RUBY CLASS** have the highest attendance this week and will be allowed to come into school in non-uniform on Monday 4 December in recognition for their achievement this week for the most attendance this week.



### This Week's Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Week</u>
Ruby	97.5%
Sapphire	95.9%
Diamond	94.7%
Emerald	87.7%
Overall	94.0%

## Nursery & Reception Admissions 2024

- If your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, you will be applying for them to start a primary school in September 2024. Reception admissions—complete online [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk)
- Complete our supplementary form, which can be found on the school website or collect them from the school office.
- Return the supplementary form to the school office as soon as possible.
- The closing date for on-time applications is 15 January 2024.

## Breakfast Club

- Starts at 8.00am (please do not bring children any earlier, they will not be allowed in)
- Please ring the Breakfast Club bell
- If you require breakfast for your child, please ensure you are at school by 8.10am
- Breakfast Club account should always be in credit (either weekly, monthly or termly) £3.50 per day
- Any changes to the days your child is attending, please leave a message on the Breakfast Club line.

## Absent Procedures

Please may we remind parents/carers of the following if your child is absent.

- Please telephone or email the school office on the morning your child is absent.
- On the return of your child's absence a letter with an explanation needs to be brought into school or you can email the school with the reasons.
- If your child is absent for more than 3 days then we do require medical evidence, otherwise this will be an unauthorised absence.

## School Uniform

This can be purchased from Smiths Schoolwear, 155-157 Lancaster Rd, Enfield EN2 0JN.

If you would like to purchase a school tie or water bottle, this can be purchased from the ParentPay shop, where the link is located on our homepage of the school website or please use the link below.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=783>

### RUBY CLASS

This week Ruby class started our festive celebrations; we have decorated our tree, transformed our grotto and visited the Christmas experience. Thank you to Louis' Mummy and Vienna's Mummy for helping us!

The children enjoyed their picnic in the church and the experience was a chance for them to apply their knowledge about The Nativity story. Nativity rehearsals are underway, characters have been decided and songs are being practised.

Next week, we are visiting the church to think about our staging – it is a very exciting time in Ruby class. We will also be writing our letters to Santa Claus and posting them in the post box by Strayfield Road. Fingers crossed it gets to Santa on time!

A reminder that next week (6<sup>th</sup> December) you have the opportunity to come in and see our maths activity set-up. If you can make it, this will run from 9-9:30am. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mrs Gatward, Ms Dall'Aglio, Mrs Dall'Aglio & Ms Shivarova [lucy.gatward@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk](mailto:lucy.gatward@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk)

### SAPPHIRE CLASS

An eventful and exciting week for Sapphire with our class Collective Worship and an enjoyable immersive Christmas Experience at Enfield Town Community Church, which the children have relished.

**Please note: This family event is open to the public for a nominal price on Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 9:30am -12:00pm.**

**English** – The children are developing into amazing writers; they are now applying their skills and passion in producing a narrative about the Nativity Story. The children have benefited from our educational trip to the church in consolidating their learning about the story of the first Christmas. Please ask your child about the characters and events that they have learnt about.

**Maths** – We have been learning about measurements, comparing lengths and heights of different objects, using <, > and = symbols. Let your Child have a look around the house measuring objects' height and length.

**Science** – Animals including humans is the unit for this half term exploring the basic needs for animals, including humans, for survival. The children have been learning about classification looking at the similarities and differences between living things.

**Religious Education** – We started learning about the symbolism of Light for Christians during the festive season, Christmas. We are exploring the spirituality of Light relating to Jesus The Light of the World. We have had a great discussion about the difference between 'physical' and 'spiritual' light.

In **PSHE**, we are developing our self-confidence and awareness of others around us, being all different, yet similar in many ways. **Geography**: The focus this half term is on Seasons, learning all about the changes we observe throughout the seasons' life cycle.

**Always proud of you Sapphire, thank you for the smiles**

Ms Chebbi, Miss Creed, Mrs. Hargate & Mrs. Hocyk [asma.chebbi@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk](mailto:asma.chebbi@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk)

### DIAMOND CLASS

A big thank you to all parents who came to our collective worship and witnessed the remarkable improvisation from all of Diamond Class with our song. Other than the technical difficulties, our assembly went smoothly, and I hope you came away having learnt something new. As always, the children are fascinated with new topics and really enjoy deep discussions which is lovely to see.

An additional thank you to those parents who spent their morning with us learning some Maths work. Please refer back to the sheets I gave out at Parent's evening to help your child at home with the key areas in Maths.

We have been looking at rivers in Geography this week and in particular looking at the River Thames from source to mouth. I know it is not always possible but, taking a trip to see the River Thames will really help put their learning into perspective.

I was thoroughly impressed with our entries into Caitriona Fathers competition. There were some really heart-felt entries all about what life was like in the trenches during the first World War. The 2014 Sainsbury's advert really captivated them, and we spoke about what message they were trying to show throughout.

As a result, we have set up for Christmas in Diamond Class and spent some time decorating a bauble and writing a word that signified what Christmas meant to us. Coming up with 30 different words was a challenge but teamwork really shone through here and the tree looks beautiful. Some stand out words are sharing, together and peace.

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any issues and I hope you have a lovely weekend even though the temperatures are freezing.

Miss Anderson, Miss Bates & Miss Ozgen [lauren.anderson@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk](mailto:lauren.anderson@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk)

### EMERALD CLASS

In English this week we have been focusing on our Catriona's writing based on the story title 'Lost'. We had some fantastic stories created, judging them was very tricky indeed as lots of children had really put their heart and soul into their piece of writing. The winners were announced in assembly today and I am sure are on the newsletter somewhere else.

In science we have continued to focus on electricity with the children learning about insulators and conductors and what materials conduct electricity and which ones insulate.

In maths we have had a statistics week, where the children gathered data earlier in the week, created bar graphs and pie charts and then moved onto finding the mean, median, mode and range of a set of numbers. They have done really well this week in maths.

Our PSHE lessons, which I know are some children's favourite focused on bullying, both indirect and direct. We had some really inciteful discussions about this, the hardest question was how do we stop bullying, although the children came up with some great answers.

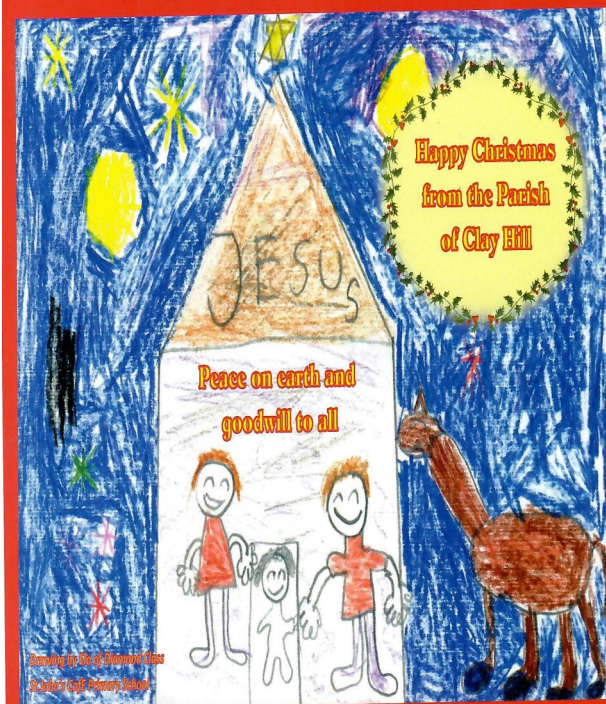
We will be making biscuits on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> so please make sure you speak to your child by the end of next week as they will know what they are going to make and will need some ingredients.

I hope you manage to have a relaxing weekend.

Mr Law, Mr Pople & Miss Alagee [joe.law@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk](mailto:joe.law@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk)



Date List for Autumn Term 2023		
DEC		
1/12	After School Clubs finish for the term	
4/12	Assessment Week	
11/12	Open Morning for prospective parents	9.00am
11/12	Pathways Assembly—parents are welcome to attend	9.00am
13/12	Carol Service at St John's Church for KS1 & KS2	2.00pm
13/12	Ruby Class' Nativity at St John's Church	9.15am
19/12	Christmas Jumper Day (donation of £2) and Christmas Lunch	
19/12	Class parties and Father Christmas to visit	1.00pm
19/12	Nursery end of Autumn Term 2023	
20/12	End of Autumn Term	1.00pm



**Parish of Clay Hill**  
 ST JOHN & ST LUKE  
 CLAY HILL

Vicar: Mthr Mitzi James  
[www.clayhillparish.org.uk](http://www.clayhillparish.org.uk)

☎ 020 8363 6055  
 🐦 [twitter.com/ClayHillParish](https://twitter.com/ClayHillParish)

✉ [thr.mitzi@clayhillparish.org.uk](mailto:thr.mitzi@clayhillparish.org.uk)  
 📘 [www.facebook.com/clayhillparish](https://www.facebook.com/clayhillparish)

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## Christmas Services

**A Blue Christmas**  
Saturday 16 December 4.00pm St John's

**Nine Lessons & Carols Service**  
Sunday 17 December 7.00pm St John's

**Christingle**  
Sunday 24 December 4.00pm St Luke's

**Midnight Mass**  
Sunday 24 December 11.30pm St Luke's

**Christmas Day Eucharist**  
Monday 25 December 10.30am St John's

We wish everyone living  
in the parish a  
**HAPPY CHRISTMAS**  
and every blessing for  
the **NEW YEAR**

*St John's Church*  
Junction of Strayfield Road and  
Theobalds Road, EN2 9JF

*St Luke's Church*  
Junction of Browning Road and  
Phipps Hatch Lane, EN2 0HL



At  
 St John's Church  
 Strayfield Road  
 9:00am  
 Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month  
**Come  
And See**



At  
 St Luke's Church  
 10:00am  
 Every **First Sunday** of the  
 Month  
**Come  
And See**