



Believing in the worth of every individual, we are a nurturing, Christian sanctuary of learning, where all can flourish. We aspire for everyone to achieve heights of success, to deepen courage and to experience breadth of creativity, knowing the joy of God's love.

LIVING OUR VISION

Autumn 2 2021

Dear Parents,

As the autumn term draws to a close and we focus on the holiday season ahead, I would like to take this opportunity to say how inspiring and fun this term has been. The staff have been working extremely hard to ensure that gaps created by the last two years of disrupted learning are being filled. Here Year 3 can be seen completing their maths work on the carpet.



Staff have been creatively delivering our themed curriculum, building on the children's interests and engaging them in meaningful, fun learning. In the photographs, Year 2 are burning London, after learning about The Great Fire of London and Year 3 are rowing their Viking longboat to a steady beat in their music lesson.



We have restarted some trips and look forward to more next term. We have sung lots of carols, including our school Advent song. More recently our youngest children have taken part in our nativity play and others in a concert. All of these opportunities have enriched, not only the children's experiences at school, but also the lives of others: our choir sang at St Marks' Senior Fellowship Group.

Thank you to the parents and carers who have supported their children, helping with events, including our Christmas Fair, the nativity, parents evening and our parent workshops. It makes all the difference for the children to know that you are there for them. Our Christmas Fair raised over £1,400 which will be used to support trips and visitors throughout the coming term.

Our charity this year is St Luke's Hospice. The children took part in a sponsored Santa dash last week to raise money for the hospice. We are still collecting donations but so far we have raised nearly £1000. Donations to both causes are still welcome.

The end of a school term often brings changes. We look forward to welcoming Ms Licata as a teacher in Year 5. However we are sadly saying goodbye to our Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Slingsby who is moving out of London with her family. Natalie has been at John Keble School for 10 years and has impacted on the lives of so many children. We wish her all the best as she moves on. Ms Hawker will be supporting in Year 5. We also say goodbye to Ms Bentley in Year 2. Mr Martin will be teaching in the interim whilst we recruit a quality teacher.



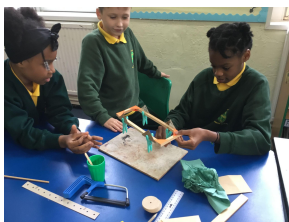
During the last few weeks, we have been lighting our advent candles in assembly and we have learnt how the word advent means 'to come'. Last week Father Andrew taught us that John the Baptist was called to prepare people for the coming of God. In both assembly and Mass, we have thought about how we are preparing for Christmas, the birth of Christ. Prayer Spaces ran. Children had the opportunity to explore different themes at Christmas and engage in prayer in different ways. Looking around us in this time of advent however, it seems to be a time of indulgence, materially, socially and economically. Ironically during advent, we seem to have less time to make room for God, as there are expectations placed on us by society to prepare for the perfect celebration. When we look back at the birth of Jesus, it was far less than a perfect story in a worldly sense with a teenage mother, a very long journey, nowhere to stay, visitors, shepherds – outcasts in that time - and wise men who made a detour to see Herod. Jesus was then a refugee for the first few years of his life. In the gospels, there is no mention of the perfect tree, snow, decorations, turkey, crackers, cards. Christmas is not about the perfect experience, but about God sending his own son. Because He so loved the world, He sent His only son to live among us, so that everyone might have eternal life. Christmas is about LOVE: LOVE came down, the Word became flesh and lived among us. If Christmas does not come out of a place of love, then why do we do it? I encourage you all to have a fun Christmas, full of love and fun and to make room for love this Christmas holidays.



Another word that comes from advent is adventure. Our world is still in turmoil at the moment as the virus takes hold again. We do not know what 2022 will hold for us or for school life. We will stay in touch with you and let you know about any modifications or changes that might need to be made. Please understand that we receive news from the government at the same time as you, so if there are changes to be made, we will need time to respond before notifying parents and carers of our plans.

A very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the staff at John Keble School. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

Catherine Allard



Year 6 constructing electric cars in design technology.

Mathematics in Year 1





Term Dates 2021-2022

Spring Term 2021 (59 days)	
Inset Day	Tuesday 4 th January 2022
Term starts	Wednesday 5 th January 2022
Half term	Monday 14 th February – Friday 18 th February 2022
Term ends	Friday 1 st April 2022
Summer Term 2021 (63 days)	
Term starts	Tuesday 19 th April 2022
Bank holiday	Monday 2 nd May 2022
Half term	Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June 2022
Term ends	Wednesday 20 th July 2022
Inset Day	Thursday 21 st July and Friday 22 nd July

Please do not request leave in term time. It will not be granted. Please ensure that child/ren are back in London ready to start school on 5th January 2021. Action will be taken against families whose children are not back in school by Brent Council. Please take careful note of travel restrictions when planning holidays away in order to prevent disruption to students' learning.

Term Dates 2022-2023

Autumn Term 2022 (70 days + 2 INSET)	
Inset Day	Thursday 1 st September 2021 and Friday 2 nd September 2022
Term starts	Monday 5 th September 2022
Half term	Monday 24 th October – Friday 28 th October 2022
Term ends	Friday 16 th December 2021
Spring Term 2023 (58 days + 1 INSET)	
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023
Term starts	Wednesday 4 th January 2023
Half term	Monday 13 th February – Friday 17 th February 2023
Term ends	Friday 31 st April 2023
Summer Term 2023 (62 days + 2 INSET)	
Term starts	Monday 17 th April 2023
Bank holiday	Monday 1 st May 2023
Half term	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June 2023
Term ends	Wednesday 19 th July 2023
Inset Day	Thursday 20 th July and Friday 21 st July 2023