



*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

Spring 2022

Dear Parents,

As the end of another term approaches, I have been reflecting on the many events that we have been able to hold this term: face to face assemblies with parents, parent workshops, face to face parents evenings, prayer spaces, our curriculum exhibition, parent stay and read, World Book Day, Mass in church, sports matches and several trips out of school. These activities have enriched the lives of our school community and given the children opportunities to flourish in new and different ways. Year 5 will restart swimming next term.

In our recent assemblies, we have been reflecting on why Jesus needed to come to Earth and why he needed to die on the cross. We have reflected on the nature of Jesus' leadership, his humble servant nature. Children from Year 2 upwards had the opportunity to visit our Prayer Space. Prayer Spaces has focussed on themes around Lent, particularly hope and forgiveness. Doing the sand activity, one child said, 'I could get all the bad things I've done and wipe them away.' Another said, 'It has helped me to be more helpful and kind.'



Children in Year 4 upwards will get the chance to make their First Holy Communion next term. Please contact the school office if you would like your child to attend classes and school and then make their First Holy Communion at St Matthew's Church in June.

Thank you to all of you that attended parents' evenings this week. I hope you enjoyed our curriculum exhibition. The children, supported by their teachers, prepared work from their learning this term around our school theme, "What a wonderful world!". The work represented many subject areas including writing, geography, history, art, and even home learning. Some members of our Junior Leadership Team took a lead in preparing the displays. Each class got to visit the exhibition during the school day, as well as those parents who were able to pop by on Tuesday and Thursday evening.



Congratulations to 3 Lime who are top of the SpellingShed leaderboard this term! Our top spellers are Gabriel, Aarush, Yzabella and Bitihotra (all in year 3) and Taliya in year 5. Well done to them for their dedication and hard work learning outside of school hours.

Congratulations to 6 Birch who are top of the Mathletics leaderboard. Our top mathematicians are Yzabella O, Marcel, Ali, Victor and Mohamed.

This term, we have continued to improve our site. Our new sensory room has opened to support our children with additional needs. We have added new signage to our outdoor classroom.



This term we were privileged to have a visit from the Children's Commissioner's Office. The team of researchers came to visit our school as our attendance data is very good and children attend school well. Children who attend school every day achieve much better outcomes than those who have regular absences. The team spoke to a range of children about why attendance was so good at our school and what made children want to attend school every day. Here are some of the things that children said:

*'School is safe, there is always someone who will listen.'*

*'Our school is a community. We're like a family.'*

*'Our teachers teach us that we all have worth and have a job in this world.'*

*'We feel challenged in lessons and our teachers push us because teachers have faith in what we can achieve.'*

*'We like having leadership responsibilities and getting pushed to high aspirations.'*

*'Teachers have been there for me at times when I felt low.'*

*'School helps us. My family gets food for free and I get a free uniform.'*

We are finalising our places for reception and nursery 2022. If you know anyone who has a child who is due to attend reception in September 2022, (born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018) or nursery (born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019) please encourage them to apply to John Keble School. We will be holding some stay and play sessions for prospective nursery children at the beginning of next term.

Our school staff is large and this unfortunately means that sometimes we have to say goodbye to some people. In July, we will be saying goodbye to Ms Hawker, our much loved Deputy Headteacher. Ms Hawker has been at John Keble School for eight years. She has been an instrumental part of the positive change that has taken place here. She has been a rock of support to me as I have led the school. She is a true professional, a talented, inspirational, intelligent and creative leader. We have a term to plan our goodbyes and to celebrate her contributions to the school. Her role will be advertised over the coming weeks as we recruit a new team member.

School has remained open every day this year. How strange it feels to be celebrating this fact. There is a real sense of relief and joy amongst the staff at school that we have been able to achieve this. It has not been easy as Covid continues to be transmitted and staff and children continue to be unwell. School opening during term time is something we have always taken for granted, but in this season we are all



realising that many things can not be taken for granted. The situation in Ukraine has impacted on many in our community and reminded us that we cannot take peace for granted. The children in Year 6 responded to this situation in love and diverted much of their fundraising from their own needs to charities supporting Ukraine. So far nearly £500 has been raised by our community for Ukraine. It is not too late to contribute to the fund. Here is the link to the Stewardship page. [John Keble Church of England Primary School's page | Stewardship](#) Many children have interacted with

# Rooted together in love, growing without limits



our prayer wall in school and have been actively praying for the situation in Ukraine too. The children have written moving prayers that they have read out in Mass too. Esther in Year 5 prayed:

*Dear God, Please help bring peace between Russia and Ukraine. Help Putin have a change of heart and know what he is doing is not right. Forgive Putin because he is not a bad person, but he is making bad choices. We know that everyone holds the same amount of worth, even Putin, and this is why Jesus died on the cross for us all. Amen.*

With everything that is going on around us, we remember that Easter is a time of hope. It is an empty tomb that gives us hope. The HOPE of peace. The HOPE of forgiveness. The HOPE of assurance. The HOPE of heaven. It is a radical message for all of us, a declaration of God's love for every person.

Catherine Allard

**We have a school Twitter account. The handle is @JohnKebleBrent We tweet at least once a week. Follow us to keep up to date with everything that is happening at school. Our website is updated regularly too. [www.johnkeble.com](http://www.johnkeble.com)**



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## Term Dates 2021-2022

Summer Term 2021 (63 days)	
Term starts	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
Bank holiday	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022
Half term	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022
Term ends	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2022
Inset Day	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July and Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> 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 19th April 2022. Action will be taken by Brent Council against families whose children are not back in school.** 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 <sup>st</sup> September 2021 and Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2022
Term starts	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Half term	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Term ends	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Spring Term 2023 ( 58 days + 1 INSET)	
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023
Term starts	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Half term	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Term ends	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> April 2023
Summer Term 2023 ( 62 days + 2 INSET)	
Term starts	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
Bank holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2023
Half term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023
Term ends	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2023
Inset Days	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July and Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023