

St. John's Upper Holloway C.E. Primary School

Pemberton Gardens, London N19 5RR

Telephone: 020 7272 2780 or 020 7272 8464 - Fax: 020 7561 1692

Head Teacher: Mr. Brian Welsh

info@st-johnsholloway.islington.sch.uk

www.stjohnsupperholloway.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! We hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and are now looking forward to the challenges of 2015.

Looking back we have much to celebrate – the school has made good progress and the results published last term show how much hard work has been done by your children, the school and you. I am very proud of these achievements and I'm sure you are too. The school will not be resting on its laurels and the school team continue to look to improve all their efforts so that your children will achieve the very best that they can.

Sue Hallam
Chair of Governors

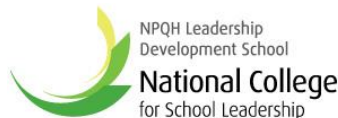
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The results are in – and they're brilliant!

Towards the end of last term the school had its results for the previous year confirmed. These covered the progress our pupils had made from when they started school, as well as the results of formal testing in Year 2 and Year 6.

The results were excellent! We outperformed local and national averages at almost every level right across the school - and sometimes by a significant margin! As well as superb results, the *progress* pupils made – a key indicator of the quality of teaching - was even more impressive. Pupil progress is now *significantly* above the national average across all 4 subjects that are measured – reading, writing, maths, and all subjects.

We're thrilled with these results and they're clearly an indication of how hard pupils, teachers, the school leadership team and – crucially – parents have worked over the last few years. It is only when parents work in partnership with their children's teachers that we see such superb results, so please keep up the fantastic work as your children are clearly seeing the benefit!



The Friends of St John's

There are many ways you can get involved in school life and one of the best is to become a Friend of St John's. The Friends meet every Tuesday morning at 9am in the therapy room (between Nursery and Reception classroom) everybody is welcome so do join them. They do brilliant work fundraising for the school (remember the pantomime visit in December? The money they raised paid for that.)

We were very pleased to be joined by the Friends at a meeting last term. It was an opportunity to thank them for the brilliant support they provide to the school and the children. They're an ambitious lot, so do support them any way you can – whether that's through donations or joining them!

Who are governors? What do they do?

School governors are volunteers who form part of the school's leadership team. We're drawn from the local church, parents, teachers and the local community. The term of office is 4 years for each governor.

When Ofsted inspect the school, they also pass judgement on our effectiveness.

We meet regularly and are responsible for the school community and premises, working with the Head Teacher and staff to set the school's policies, targets and priorities, to achieve the highest possible educational standard, making sure budgets are met and money is spent wisely. We also regularly visit the school, meeting with pupils, parents and teachers.

Get involved and help us get *even* better!

Are you a practising Christian? Would you like to become more involved in school life and help us improve even more? The school is looking for new Foundation Governors to join the Governing Body. As a Church of England school, the Church appoints some governors to our governing body.

You don't need to be an expert in education, but you do need to have the willingness to learn, the time to commit (typically, 6-8 hours per month) and the appetite to get involved.

If you're intrigued and want to find out more, get in touch with Rev. Karowei, the Vicar of St John's Church, either directly or through the school office. He'd be delighted to hear from you!

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and are feeling refreshed and ready to face the new term.

As governors, we visit the school regularly, so if you see us around do say hello – we're a friendly bunch!

All the very best to you and your families for 2015.

Sue, Tom, Karowei, Anna, Olwen, David, Sheena, Jason, Feona, Kerrin and Brian.

