

# St John's Upper Holloway

## February Newsletter 2021

Dear parents and carers,

A warm (but snowy) welcome to this month's newsletter. I hope you are all well, whether your children are in school or learning from home.

### Remote learning survey

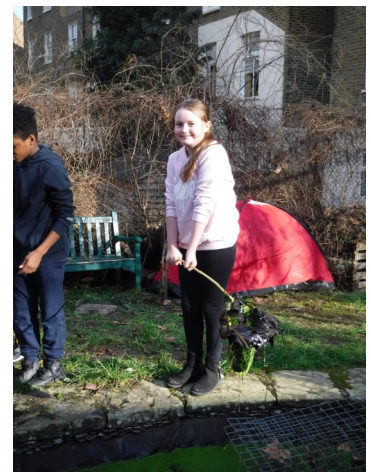
Thank you to all those who completed the 'home learning survey', either online or on paper. It was really useful to get your feedback. One of the main things that many parents thought would be helpful is for there to be a daily zoom meeting for the teacher and children to go through their learning for that day and discuss any aspects of their learning that they have struggled with. Last week we therefore introduced a daily 'zoom check in' and it was great to see nearly all children join these sessions as the week progressed. While most families report they have good computer and internet access, a small number still don't. ***Please do contact if you are struggling with limited access to a laptop or internet and we will do our very best to support you.*** Another concern from some parents was that children are spending a lot of time on line and this can cause issues such as finding it hard to sleep at night. We have therefore introduced '**computer free Friday afternoon**' so that children can put their laptops away on Friday afternoon and do more creative tasks. It can be hard to get everything just right for all families—some parents said they find the amount of work set is too much, for others it's not quite enough! As always we say just do as much as you can, focusing on the basics each day and trying to get a daily routine set up. Let's hope it isn't too many more weeks until we have the children back in school, enjoying learning with their friends.

### Our nature garden—we need your ideas!

We would love to redevelop our nature garden so that it is a much nicer place for both children and wildlife. We are inviting you and your children to enter the nature garden competition over the next two weeks, sharing your ideas for what we could do to create some fantastic habitats for wildlife. There will be prizes for the best entries so do have a go—the deadline to hand in your garden designs is Tuesday 23rd February.



Year 6 have already made a start by clearing the pond and keeping our worms well fed but we need lots more of your ideas



## School fundraising—we need your help

Each year, our Friends group raise lots of money for the school to help subsidise lots of things such as school trips, laptops and other important resources. Over the last year, due to the Covid restrictions, we have been unable to raise any money and so we are looking at simple ways that you can help raise funds for our school.

- **Easyfundraising**

We introduced this quite a few years ago but thought it is worth a reminder! We currently have 30 parents who have signed up and this has raised over £1000 for the school. You can raise FREE donations when you shop online with over 4,400 retailers. It's simple and only takes 2 minutes to sign up! This will make a

BIG difference to us during this difficult time. **Plus, if you sign up, the school will get a £5 bonus donation:**

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjuh/?referral-campaign=s2s&utm\\_source=stwsharebox](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjuh/?referral-campaign=s2s&utm_source=stwsharebox)

- **'Donate' button on our school website**

We are also about to have a 'donate' button added to the homepage of our school website. We know that finances are tight for a lot of our families, but if you are ever able to make a donation, your money will go straight in to the Friends account and will help fund all the activities we can't wait to get started on once all the children return to school.

## Enjoying the snow

It was lovely to see the children enjoying the snow at playtime. Hopefully if you were at home, you managed to get out to enjoy it too!




## Half term Covid reporting and return to school plans

It will be half term next week. If your children have been in school this week and test positive during the holidays, can you please inform the school office at [admin@st-johnsholloway.islington.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-johnsholloway.islington.sch.uk)

We are crossing fingers that there will be no cases and that school will be open from 8th March but we will just need to wait for confirmation from the government and will let parents know as soon as we do.

Have a restful half term.

Mr Welsh and all the staff at St John's Upper Holloway

 **easyfundraising**  
feel good shopping

**Raise free funds  
every time you  
shop online**

