



St John & St James' C of E Primary School

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Firstly, I would like to celebrate the wonderful achievements throughout this half term. We have been stunned by the fantastic engagement in remote learning and greatly enjoy viewing the incredible photos of children's work. We appreciate it has been a very challenging time for parents and thank you for all your efforts in keeping the curriculum alive.

I am aware that there are many challenges -some families have multiple children at home all trying to learn online at the same time, some do not have adequate or appropriate devices to aid learning, some parents are physically going out to work, some parents are trying to work from home and home-school. This is not a situation that any of us want to be in; we all know that children should be in school learning face to face with their peers, but we are trying to do the best that we can to meet the needs of all of the children who are part of the St John & St James' community. You should all be incredibly proud of what you have achieved this half term. We greatly appreciate all the support and guidance that you as parents and carers are giving your children too!

We hope that you and your family are keeping well. Thank you for all the messages of support and the feedback we have had this week from families. All of the staff really appreciate it. We hope you have a well-deserved half term.

We will update you after the half term on the provisional plans from the DfE on wider school opening. The school team is looking forward to safely welcoming children back to school in the near future.

Today we are saying a sad farewell to the brilliant Miss Stylianou, who has made the tough decision to return home to Cyprus to be with family. Miss Stylianou is a much loved member of the school team. She started at SJSJ as an NQT in 2014 and has flourished as a teacher, mastering the craft of teaching and learning and leaves us as an assistant head. We would like to say a massive thank you to Miss Stylianou for her time at SJSJ, she will be greatly missed and we wish her all the best in her new adventures.



Finally, please continue to look after yourselves, stay at home where possible and follow Public Health advice. If you need any help with anything, please reach out to us and we will do our very best.

Jo Smith
Headteacher

School and Home Learning

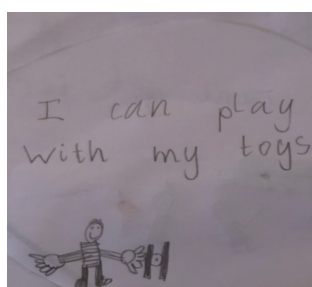
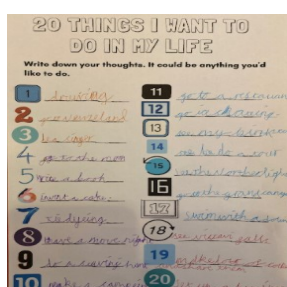
Nursery were asked to create 'junk model vehicles' as part of their learning on transport. The creativity was truly amazing and we were so pleased to see that so many home learners got involved and shared all their incredible creations. We're sending a rollercoaster to you all for your efforts, well done!



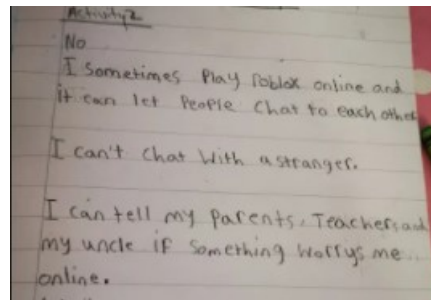
The **Reception** class home learners have been retelling the story of 'The Great Race.' They have been using talk for writing and Makaton actions, take a look at their action for the ox. We were so impressed by how they also used full sentences to retell their stories and to prepare them for their writing. A Marshmallow Clap to Reception!



Year 1 home learners continue to think about their mental well-being and finding strategies that help keep them positive and happy. We have been so pleased with the home learning and excited to be able to share what everyone has been up to. Year 1 deserves a whoop whoop ye. Have a look at what makes Grayson happy, Imogen's list of hopes for the future and Lucia's anti-worry dolls for some inspiration:



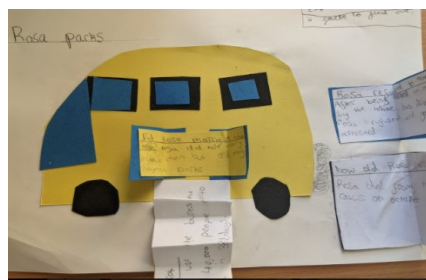
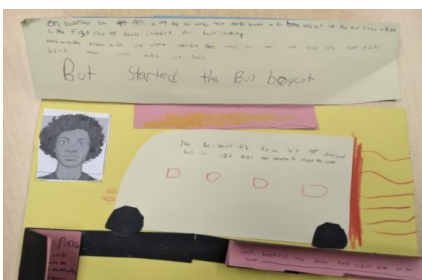
Year 2 have been learning about how to keep themselves and others safe on the internet. Hawwaa and Frank have shared their work on Google Classrooms and have clearly learnt a lot about how to keep safe. Take a look at **Hawwaa's** colourful poster, with important key images and **Frank's** advice on what you should and should not do on the internet. They deserve a Ninja Clap!



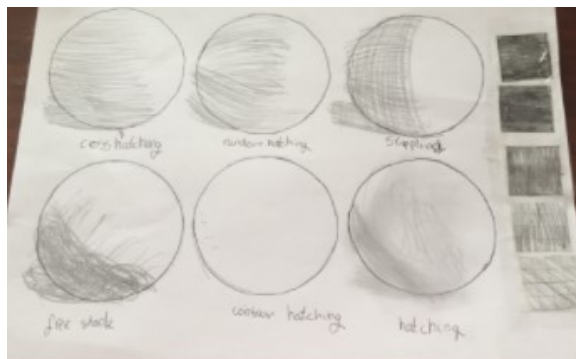
Sometimes we forget how incredible we are and we just need reminding, being kind to each other is always helpful to our mental health. With that in mind, **Year 3** have been focusing on compliments posters for one another. Take a look at the one **Khamil** made for his class mates. The colours he has chosen make us all feel brighter and his words are so kind. We need to send Khamil a 'you are amazing' celebration.



Year 4 have been learning about Rosa Parks in their reading lessons and created some posters to display all that they have learnt so far. To challenge each other, they even created quizzes to test each other's knowledge. Let's send them a nice, big Italian Mamma Mia celebration. Have a look at how creative they have been:



Victoria in **Year 4** has had a busy week of home learning and has showcased her creativity on Google Classrooms. She has created a computer-styled poster with key tips on how to stay safe and has begun working on her shading techniques for her still life drawings. Victoria deserves a Rollercoaster celebration. Well done!



Year 6 have been working on poetry about what they find behind the magic door. We would like to share **Bella's** first stanza with you, because she thought carefully about the world post Covid and life outside of lockdown. Her personification is inspiring and really captures how joyful and busy the world will seem when we are all reunited. Well done for all your amazing poetry this week Year 6 and let's send a Hey Mr DJ celebration to Bella:

I opened the magical door
And saw children playing in the playground
While the trees sang songs of joy.
The shops were dancing,
The people chatting,
With joyous shouts of joy!

This week's home reading tip is

Ask questions – To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read. Start with 'Where did we get to last time?', 'Can you remember what's happened so far?' and 'What do you think will happen next?'.

Wellbeing Tip

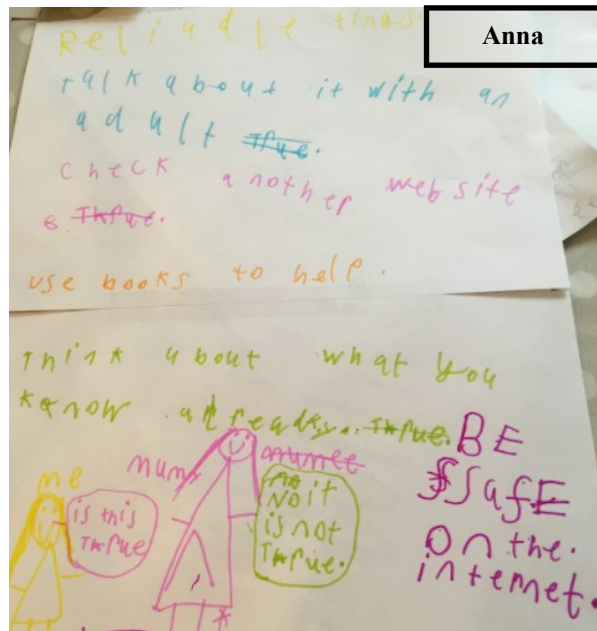
Be active – Regular exercise can lift your mood and increase your energy levels. It doesn't have to be strenuous or sporty to be effective. Pick something you enjoy so you are more likely to stick with it. For example: going for a walk, following a workout video, yoga or some stretching.

Online Safety Tip

Archie reminds you to never share any of your personal information out online! **Anna** has been thinking about how she knows if the information she sees online is true or not and what she can do if she is not sure.



Archie



Anna

Winter Fuel Voucher

Fuel vouchers available for families in need this winter.

Fuel vouchers are now available to help residents in need pay for their bills over winter, as part of a joint initiative between Hackney Council and East End Citizens' Advice Bureau.

The vouchers will be provided to families and individuals who are unable to pay their bills through the Council's Here to Help phone line, as part of ongoing Council efforts to ensure that residents have the financial support that they need over the winter period.

A maximum of two fuel vouchers will be provided per household. This will be funded through the Government's winter grant funding which the Council is distributing to residents in need this winter.

Residents who are unable to pay for their bills can apply for fuel vouchers by calling the Council's Here to Help phone line on 020 8356 3111.



Mental Health Support Team

Mental Health Support Team are running virtual workshop for children's (Y3-5) and parents/carers next term.

Workshop 1: Understanding Emotions

Week 1: Friday 26th February 2.00-3.00pm—Year 3

Week 2: Friday 5th March 2.00-3.00pm—Year 4

Week 3: Friday 12th March 2.00-3.00pm—Year 5

Please welcome our two wellbeing parent volunteers, Kwame's (Y5) mum, Nancy and Iris's ((Y3) dad, Ross to the MHSTeam.

Non Screen Activity

Design and make a homemade board game and play it with your family.



Tips for working online and looking after your sight

**MAKE
FONT
LARGER**

Change the brightness
of the screen. It should
be no lighter or darker
than your surroundings



Use a flannel or
cucumber slices to
refresh your eyes
when they feel dry



Eye Rolling

Just as neck rolling help stiff necks, eye rolling can help
your eye muscles.

- Close your eyelids and roll your eyes around in circular
motions, or look up and down, side to side

This helps to moisten your eyes and eases the strain on
the muscles

BADU Half Term Activities

BADU HALF TERM

ONLINE SESSIONS (16TH - 19TH FEB)

This February half term BADU are providing FREE online activities for children aged 5 - 12 years old. We have a variety of fun and engaging sessions to keep your child occupied during this half term.

This is an opportunity for your children to come together with their friends and family to have some much needed lockdown fun!

To sign up for any of the activities search "BADU February Half Term" on Eventbrite.com.

Once you have signed up you will receive a zoom link to join the sessions.

For more information visit Badusports.co.uk or contact: info@baducic.org

**Tuesday 16th February | 1.00pm - 1.30pm
SCAVENGER HUNT -**

Join the BADU game master's on a lunch time scavenger hunt. Be prepared to collect items around your home!

**Wednesday 17th February | 1.00pm - 1.30pm
FITNESS SESSION -**

Are you ready to work off your lunch! Join Coach Ross for a lunchtime fitness session!
Can you beat Coach Ross for the ultimate challenge?

**Thursday 18th February | 5.30pm - 6.30pm
BADU BAKE OFF -**

Are you ready to bake a sweet treat! Come and create chocolate chip cookies with the BADU team for your evening treat.

NOTE: Adult supervision will be required for this session

**Friday 19th February | 1.00pm - 2.00pm
BADU Half Term Party -**

It's party time! Join us for a BADU Party. We will have fun games. Get ready to dance the afternoon away!



Gold Awards

Name	Class	Reason
Aidan	Nursery	For a fantastic story map of the 'Naughty Bus'.
Axel	Nursery	For consistently trying his best in completing set tasks. Well done!
David	Nursery	For fantastic pen control in mark making spirals.
Elisa	Reception	For always being so caring and kind.
Matthew	Reception	For his infectious enthusiasm in every online sessions.
Jagjot	Year 1	For his amazing effort in his online reading sessions.
Oscar	Year 1	For reading online to all his friends.
Abraham and Lily	Year 2	For settling in so well at school and being so enthusiastic with their learning. Well done!
Anna	Year 2	For consistently showing enthusiasm for home learning in everything she does.
David	Year 3	For his enthusiasm for his learning in class, particularly music.
Gabriella	Year 3	For showing determination to improve in all her lessons, particularly maths.
Jun Lin	Year 3	For attending every online lesson and joining his ideas.
Iyi	Year 4	For having an amazing attitude in maths ALL week.
Jakub	Year 4	For attending all his online sessions and being a maths role model. Well done!
Amelle	Year 5	For great ideas on internet safety day.
Ife	Year 5	For fantastic maths work on mixed numbers.
Alyssa	Year 6	For such a beautiful poem written about lockdown and for sharing such kind words about children in the class on Google Classroom.
Evie	Year 6	For fantastic effort with her maths work in class and showing amazing resilience in class.

Homerton and Clapton Window Wanderland

The aim is to create some sort of window display in your flat / house / shop, around the theme of 'LOVE', that comes alive for a few hours for 4 evenings between 13-16 February, so that people can walk past and feel uplifted by the mini outside art show.

It is free to take part, you just need to sign up below so that you appear on the Wanderland map.

Window Wanderland is a Covid-friendly event, so please adhere to social distancing rules when wandering and stay in household bubbles only.

