

### News from across the school...

Normally this time of year would be full of rehearsals, song practice and costume fittings for the expectant Christmas productions and concerts. However, like everything else in 2020, we have had to adapt the Christmas celebrations. Instead, each class is practising their own Christmas song that will be recorded and shared with parents via Google Classrooms by the end of term. There is also a rumour that the staff are creating their own, bubble secure video! Please ensure you have consented or declined on Arbor for your child to be filmed for Google Classrooms.

Despite Christmas being prepared for, the team have been engaging in reflective conversations on our implementation of the curriculum and we will be using this to provide further professional development in the spring term. What was clear from the discussions is that the children have settled back into school and are loving learning as much as they did before Lockdown in March; they are producing lots of fantastic work. Well done to all the children of John Ball for their resilience and determination to continue their learning journey!

On Friday, our INSET is based on 'Pivotal' behaviour approach that puts respect and consistency at the heart of a school's behaviour policy. This has been selected following feedback from parents and staff, through the annual questionnaires at the end of last year. Following our training, we will be rewriting our behaviour policy in consultation with staff, children and parents in the New Year.

### Year 4

This week YR4 have made Roman honey cakes and mosaic tiles for Art and DT in our topic on Ancient Rome. The children also wrote their own honey cake recipes too! Kourtney in 4BH said she wanted to make her own honey cakes at home because they were so delicious!



### Friends of John Ball online website

Don't forget to take a look at The Friends online website for Christmas ideas, items are still being added and funds go to John Ball.

### The Friends Regular Giving Launch

Another exciting initiative from The Friends is the Regular Giving Launch that you will have received an e-mail about this week. Please do take a look at the details and donate if you are able to through the [Virgin Money Giving site](#) or through the Payroll Giving Scheme. This really is even more vital now given the current climate with Covid and the lack of opportunities for fund raising on site at John Ball.

Have a nice weekend

Regards

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<https://friendsofjohnballschool.co.uk/collections>

Our gorgeous online shop has been updated with some of our Christmas crafts.



Head over to our shop for Christmas Trees, Christmas crafts, Concrete gifts and Homemade crafts



The Friends of John Ball Christmas Raffle has moved online this year.

We have received some lovely donations for prizes and all the money raised will go to the school.

To purchase tickets, please click on the link below. Tickets are £1 each.

[Enter Raffle to Win Christmas prizes 2020](#)  
[Hosted by Friends of John Ball Primary School](#)



## **December**

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>

Christmas dinner for children

## **Letters / E-mails**

Staffing update in Nursery for January 2021

Recruitment update in 1SH for January 2021

Friends of John Ball regular support and Payroll Giving Campaign



### **Christmas Jumper Day**

John Ball will be participating in Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December so please come dressed in your most festive tops. No donations needed, just for fun!

Please do not buy one especially, try to decorate and upcycle an old jumper, create something from an old top, and go wild with your imagination! Bear in mind sustainability and being eco-friendly with your creations.

We would love to accept donations of any outgrown Christmas jumpers as well; so if you have any spare outgrown jumpers/tops, please drop them in to the atrium for other families to use for this day from Monday onwards.

### Christmas Hamper donations



More than ever before, donations of non-perishable food items, toiletries and other suitable Christmas items are being requested to make up hampers. We hope to give out hampers to those inside and outside our school community as the effects of the pandemic have been so devastating.

We really do appreciate your help and how our community comes together, especially in times as challenging as these.

Please drop items off onto the special table and boxes that will be set up in the atrium from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

### Visions and Values at John Ball

**Determination: "Trying our hardest to overcome challenges"**



Determination

### *Parent Tip: Myths and Facts snippet*

#### *Focus*

The normal attention span of a child is 3 to 5 minutes multiplied by their age. So, a 5 year old should be able to concentrate for at least 15 minutes (3x5=15) After this, give them a short break. They will be more focussed when they get back to it.

### Primary School Applications for 2021

**Our virtual open morning videos are now on the John Ball website.**

**Please follow this link to view these**

<https://www.johnball.lewisham.sch.uk/our-school/virtual-open-morning/>

- Applications open (apply online): Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>
- Closing date for applications: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myervices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-primary-school>

Please look on our website for adverts if you wish to view these. They will be alongside the newsletter.

**This week:** Child care choices information in Polish & Free advice on paying your energy bills

If you would like to advertise in JBuzz, we ask for a small donation of £10.00 for our school fund. We tend to advertise for individuals and charities/local events so please check first that it can be accepted. The ad will run for 1 week and we only run one ad half-termly.

*Advert disclaimer: Please note we take advert requests from outside sources in good faith. We hold no responsibility for these and they are not necessarily recommended by John Ball School.*