



# St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 19th April

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 24

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope that everyone had a lovely Easter break.

I was lucky enough to visit Santiago de Compostela over Easter. The city has its origin in the shrine of St James the Great and I was able to attend mass at the Cathedral where I prayed for our school community. Unfortunately, I did not walk the Camino de Santiago or The Way of St James' but I saw many pilgrims completing this and may one day return to do it!

School was very busy during the Easter holidays with contractors on site laying new flooring in Year 1, the area between Year 1 and Year 2 and in the KS1 Cloakroom. It looks very smart and I want to thank the PTA for funding this. We are very fortunate to have such a supportive PTA and we do not take them for granted as we know they work very hard for the children in the school. When I asked the children on Monday what they were looking forward to this term they said that they could not wait for ice cream Fridays!

On Monday the RE Ambassadors presented a whole school assembly about the Oscar Romero Award that the school were recently awarded.

This week, Miss Spencer-Boyce took the KS2 reading ambassadors and librarians to the Discover's Children Story Centre. They met authors Joseph Coelho and Vanessa Taylor who explained the process behind their most recent books. The children got to be storytellers and editors by providing feedback on Vanessa Taylor's upcoming picture book. They then got to collaborate with Joseph Coelho by writing their own ten word stories! A big thank you to the parent helpers who accompanied the children and to Miss Spencer-Boyce for arranging this.



You will shortly receive letters from the class teachers, if you have not already received them, summarising the summer term and explaining what each class will be doing. I hope that you find these letters useful.

We continue to promote Catholic Virtues and this half term our focus is on Determination. We will be talking to the children about the ability to continue trying to do something even when something is very difficult. Children will nominate their peers if they see anyone showing determination and we will celebrate these nominations in assembly and display the nominations in the hall. This half term, class teachers will be nominating children who show determination and these children will attend the Head teacher Tea Party on Fridays.

We are starting to relaunch The Daily Mile. This is when the children jog for 10 minutes with their friends in the safety of their school environment. Everyone has fun taking part and it is not competitive. They build relationships, confidence and resilience. The children work on their fitness and focus on having a healthy lifestyle in the fresh air. They support one another and improve their

social and leadership skills. This physical activity can help children concentrate back in the classroom. It is a profoundly simple but effective concept. It can improve not only the children's fitness, but also their concentration levels, mood, behaviour and general wellbeing.

Please look out for the KS2 Reading Passports that are being sent out this week. They are due back on Tuesday 16th July and we will celebrate these in an assembly.

I hope that the Year 6 parents who came into school this week to hear about the SATs in Year 6 found the information helpful. Thank you to Mrs Connolly for organising this.

It has been lovely to see some of the children returning to school in their summer uniforms. We ask that all children are in their summer uniforms by Wednesday 1st May.

Letters went out this week offering places to our new Reception children in September. We are very much looking forward to these children joining our school community and for some of them to be joining their brothers and sisters at St James'.

Please see the RE Newsletter that was sent out this week and has information about what children will be learning about to help them deepen their faith this term.

If your child belongs to one of the uniformed organisations (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides etc.) then they may wear their scouting or guiding uniform to school on Tuesday 23rd April in celebration of St. George's Day. Robert Baden-Powell (the founder of the Scouting Movement) chose St. George as the Patron Saint of Scouting as the story of St. George shows him overcoming adversity.

Each class will be visiting Petts Wood Library this term to listen to stories and choose books for their class libraries. The librarian will talk to the children about what the library has to offer and how to use a library. Reception started the visits off by visiting this week. Thank you to Mrs Connolly for organising these visits.

Please remember to inform the school office if your contact details change so that we can contact you during the day if we need to.

The children are looking forward to restarting at the wide selection of extracurricular clubs that are on offer. Please see the timetable of clubs under school day on our website.

On Friday afternoon we were treated to a performance of The Hobbit by a theatre group. The children loved it. Thank you to Mrs Connolly for organising this.

We hope that Year 5 have a wonderful time at their sleepover at The Natural History Museum tonight and we look forward to hearing all about it next week.

Finally, we were very proud to see this week that the school has been ranked in the Sunday Times Top 50 Primary Schools in the country. The children and staff work incredibly hard and deserve for this hard work to be acknowledged.

God bless,

Mrs Weeks

### Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is TRUST. This Sunday is traditionally known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. Jesus is the 'Good Shepherd' who can be trusted to guide our lives in the right direction. We talked to the children about how knowing who to trust is really important and how other people can trust us.

### Safeguarding

Happy Maps website is a single hub of reliable, up-to-date and professional advice on mental health problems in children. It covers many common problems including anxiety, self-harm, tics, gender dysphoria, ADHD and eating disorders. It also has a pre-school section for issues such as sleep, behaviour, and fussy eating.

[www.happymaps.co.uk](http://www.happymaps.co.uk)

## Dates for your Diary

### April

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Stephen Lawrence Day (Promoting Peace)  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> World Earth Day  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> St George's Day (Uniform Groups can wear their uniforms)  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:30 PTA Meeting  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Y6 Bank of America  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> CAFOD workshops  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 2:45 Y1 Parent meeting about Phonics  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Y5 visit Petts Wood Library  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> 3:30 Y4 Parent meeting about the Multiplication Check

### May

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Children all now wearing summer uniform  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Y5 Bromley High  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Y6 Bank of America  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Y4 visit Petts Wood Library  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> -Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Rosary Week  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> 10:15 school saying Rosary  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> VE Day  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Ascension Day Holy Day of Obligation  
Whole School Mass Year 5  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Y2 visit Petts Wood Library  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Y5 Bromley Y Workshop  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> -Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Year 6 SATs  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Y4 Dulwich Picture Gallery  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Y3 visit Petts Wood Library  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> PTA Own clothes  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> History Day  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Whole School Mass May Procession Year 3  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup>: 9:05 Y1 Class assembly  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Y1 visit Petts Wood Library  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Catholic School Junior Athletics  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> P4C afternoon  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Bromley Planter Competition  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup>- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> Half term

### June

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> INSET day  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> 5pm EEDI Committee meeting  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Y6 Bank of America  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Mini Winnies Mass, St George's Cathedral  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Y6 visit Petts Wood Library  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Year 1 and Year 2 Phonic Check week

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Y6 Junior Citizen Week  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm New Reception 2024 Parent Meeting  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> KS2 Athletics Norman Park  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> First Holy Communion  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Class Photographer  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Y6 Bank of America  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Bromley Make Music Day  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> 9:05 Rec Class Assembly  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Windrush Day  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> PTA Summer Fair  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Holy Communion  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Sports Day  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> -Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Sports Week  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Reserve Sports Day  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Year 4 Sleepover

### July

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 2pm New Reception children visit/ Meet the teacher  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 2pm New Reception children visit/ Meet the teacher  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Y3 Class Mass (Holy Communion)  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Rec visit Petts Wood Library  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Reports to parents  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PTA Meeting  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> 1:15 Drama Kids Assembly  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 Bank of America visit  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> KS2 Reading Passports in  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 Production 7pm  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> KS2 Reading Passport Assembly  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 3:30-5:30 Walk Around Evening  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Summer Walk 9:15  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> 10 am Whole School Mass Leavers (Yr 6)  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Last day of term at normal time

### Advert for MDS

Please let the school office know if you are interested in being a Mid-day Supervisor at St James'. We do have vacancies at present and if you would like to consider this please let us know. We would be happy to answer any questions that you may have about the role.



## OTHER NEWS

During the Easter break, Francesca represented England in the Junior Badminton Tournament in Belgium. Around 451 top players from over 28 countries competed in this 3 day tournament.

During the initial group stage of the Under 11 Girls Singles' event, Francesca lost 1 match (in 3 sets) and won 1 (2 sets) and as a result booked a place in the quarter finals. She recovered from her first defeat and proceeded to win against her opponents from Belgium (Quarter Finals) and Netherlands (Semi Finals) securing a place in the Finals. She defeated her opponent from France in a close 3 set match with a final score of 24-22 and winning gold.

In mixed doubles, Francesca and her partner Atticus won all their matches and defeated France (in 3 sets) to take the gold in the U11 Mixed Doubles event.

Francesca also reached the semi-finals in Girls' Doubles with her partner from Belgium and brought home a bronze medal.

Francesca played a total of 33 sets over 3 days. England Juniors had great results during this tournament, winning 7 gold, 5 silver and 4 bronze medals across U11, U13 and U15 divisions. We are so proud of Francesca's achievement in her first international tournament.



Last week Mauro received a surprise email from Arsenal FC informing him he had won 2 tickets to the Arsenal vs Aston Villa match in the Premier League and a penalty shoot-out against the Arsenal Mascot- Gunnersaurus during half time! For a big Arsenal fan like him, it was an incredible opportunity to step onto the football pitch at his favourite stadium and have a little taste of what it's like to perform in front of hundreds of football fans



Over Easter Cameron came third in the Kent golf under 12s championship. Well done Cameron.



### SPEICAL REQUEST

If anyone has any Jeremy Strong books at home, Year 2 would love to read them as he is our key author for the term.

We are also looking at updating our playground equipment. If you have any old pots and pans, prams or role playing toys (plastic tea pots, cups etc) that you would be willing to donate, please drop them to the office.

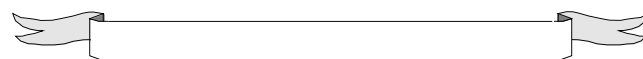
Many thanks  
Mrs Martin

### AWARDS

#### Headteacher Awards



Year	DETERMINATION
Rec	Estelle
Year 1	Orla C
Year 2	Nicole
Year 3	Amy
Year 4	Benedict
Year 5	Nicola
Year 6	Teddy



#### KS1 AWARDS

Year	Gold Sticker Award		Golden Promises
Rec	Mia	Matilde	Blossom
Year 1	Varden	Alice M	Alice H
Year 2	Abraham	Mia	Patrick F

## PTA NEWS

We hope you had a great Easter break, enjoyed plenty of chocolate and are well rested.

Summer is here (rain included) so it's time for ICE CREAM FRIDAYS!!!!

We will be asking for volunteers from each year group on rotation so please make yourself available to the PTA reps.

We are also planning a Movie themed Family Disco. There will be the red carpet, popcorn and pic and mix. Also prizes for the best individual and family fancy dress. So bring your best Spielberg or Scorsese, Barbie or Oppenheimer!

We also have our Summer Term PTA meeting this Tuesday. Please can you make every effort to attend in person, as we are trialling going back to a pre 2020 - non Zoom version. Please can you make your rep know if you are able to attend or not.

Many thanks  
The PTA committee

### Dates for your diary

Every Friday - Ice cream Friday

Tues 23 April at 6:30pm - PTA meeting

Sat 18th May - Family Disco