



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 29th September

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 4

Headteacher's Message

Thank you to everyone who supported our Jeans for Genes Day last week. We raised £157.54

On Monday in the whole school assembly we met the Year 4 and Year 5 Mini Vinnies. The Mini Vinnies are quite literally mini St. Vincent de Paul's and are children based in schools and parishes. They come together to form a part of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a voluntary organisation dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms. Mini Vinnies meet to pray, discuss and support however they can to help make a difference in their communities.

This term we continue to think about the word courage and what this means. Children nominate their peers who show courage through the week. These nominations are shared in assembly and displayed in our Catholic Virtues Book and in the hall.

A representative from CAFOD visited the school to lead a KS2 assembly and a Year 6 workshop. The KS2 children saw how CAFOD supports others around the world. The Catholic Social Principles of Human Dignity and Option for the Poor were highlighted in their presentation.



Year 6 then had a workshop led by CAFOD. They looked at how communities make decisions about the projects they want to implement and how they decide upon these. They used their knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching to help them be project managers!



I met with the PTA this week. The PTA is such a huge part of our St James' community and we are indebted to all their hard work over the years in fundraising for the children and in making memorable social events. Please do speak to the current PTA if you feel that you can support them or would like to join a committee.

I hope the parents who came to the KS1 Phonic event on Wednesday found it useful. The powerpoints can be found on the website under workshops.

Thank you to everyone who supported our whole school walk for CAFOD through Jubilee Park on Friday morning. We raised £151.30



On Friday Y3 visited the library and returned to school with some exciting books.

Throughout October we will be marking Black History Month. We are celebrating the achievements of significant and inspiring figures such as Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks and Mary Seacole. The culture, history and achievements of black and ethnic minority communities will take centre stage. Children will learn about a wide range of topics during Black History Month, including the civil rights movement and heroes of sport, music, entertainment and the world of academia. Thank you to Mrs Martin was organising this and for the volunteers who have offered to help. To mark Black History Month, Bromley is hosting a celebration in Market Square from 11am-4pm on Sunday 1st October. Please see the following link:

<https://yourbromley.com/bhm/>

Please remember that the deadline for nominations for a new Parent Governor is at noon on Tuesday 3rd October. Parents should have received a letter of invitation, nomination form, disqualification form and Governor Allowance Policy but please see the office if you did not receive these. Should you wish to discuss what the role would entail please do contact our Chair of Governors, Mary Hutchinson, via the school office.

I would like to remind parents how important it is for children to attend school regularly and avoid any unnecessary absence. Please remember that if your child is absent for the day they have missed two sessions. If your child wakes up unwell but feels better during the day please bring them in for the afternoon session that starts at 1:15. Any child that has 95% attendance or below is closely monitored by the school and if attendance drops below 90% we will contact you to discuss this. Over the course of a year the following attendance equates to a certain number of days of school missed.

98% attendance = 4 days absent from school

95% attendance = 9 days absent from school

90% attendance = 20 days absent from school

85% attendance = 5 ½ weeks absent from school (nearly one-half term)

80% attendance = 7 ½ weeks absent from school

We held a Fire Practice recently and all the children were out of the building and accounted for in four minutes. We obviously take Fire Safety very seriously and we wanted the children to all recognise the Fire Alarm noise and know what to do if the alarm is sounded.

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Praying the Rosary helps children to grow in faith. Our Lady of Fatima asked us to pray the Rosary every day and this is something that you could try to do as a family over the next few weeks. Mrs Wilson will be leading a Rosary Group each day next week at 8:30am for KS2 children if they would like to attend. Mrs Wilson will meet the KS2 children at the gate if they would like to join her.

We look forward to welcoming KS2 parents to school on Wednesday at 6:30 as we will be explaining how parents can support their children at home with reading and reading comprehension. You are welcome to come along and meet the KS2 teachers and ask any questions that you have.

Our website is being updated over the weekend so there may be times when the website is down. It should be live again on Monday.

God Bless.

Mrs Weeks

Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is CHANGE. We explained to the children that no matter how many times we need to start again – God will be there for us. Each new day is an opportunity for us to change and we can ask God to help us to change. In this Sunday's Gospel, both sons changed their minds – but only one of them changed for the better.

Safeguarding

Bromley are asking schools to promote the fact that libraries are safe spaces. The message is that if anyone is feeling vulnerable or unsafe they should go into a library and speak to a member of the team who will be happy to assist and look after them until help arrives.

Office Chairs

If anyone has any office chairs that they no longer require please let the office know as we are trying to provide class teachers with suitable chairs to sit on at their classroom desks. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

Please see the dates below. We will send out more details over the course of the term.

October

Month of Prayer and Devotion to Our Lady

Black History Month

Monday 2nd Father David meeting Reception Class

Tuesday 3rd Noon Closing Date for Parent Governor Nominations

Tuesday 3rd Governors meeting parents at the school gate at 3:15

Wednesday 4th Y3 to Morrisons, Petts Wood

Wednesday 4th 6:30 KS2 Reading

Comprehension Parent Talk

Thursday 5th: Whole school Mass (Harvest)

Thursday 5th: National Poetry Day

Friday 6th CAFOD Family Fast Day

Friday 6th Year 2 to Petts Wood Library

Monday 9th-Friday 13th Y6 to PGL

Tuesday 10th: World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 11th Y4 to Hindu Temple

Thursday 12th Dementia Friend Training for Y5 children

Thursday 12th 1:30-2:30 Reception Class

Grandparent Tea Party

Friday 13th P4C afternoon

Friday 13th Y5 Storytelling Session

Friday 13th Y5 Library Trip

Monday 16th -Friday 27th Half Term Holiday

Monday 30th/Tuesday 31st Bike Ability Group 1 Y 6

November

Wednesday 1st /Thursday 2nd Bike Ability Group 2 Y6

Wednesday 1st: All Saints Day Holy Day of Obligation Whole School Mass

Wednesday 1st Prayer Day

Friday 3rd Y1 Library Trip

Monday 6th -Friday 10th UK Parliament Week

Monday 6th Flu Vaccinations for all children

Monday 6th Primary Maths Challenge for Y5 and Y6

Monday 6th Collection for Bromley Hygiene Bank

Thursday 9th Individual and sibling photos

Friday 10th 9:05 Y6 Class Assembly

Friday 10th Y6 Library visit

Sunday 12th Diwali

Monday 13th Anti bullying Odd sock day

Monday 13th Y5 to Houses of Parliament

Monday 13th 3:30-6:30 Goal Sharing Meetings for parents and children (appointments will be available)

Tuesday 14th 3:30-6:30 Goal Sharing Meetings

Thursday 16th 9:15 Open Morning for 2024

Reception Intake

Thursday 16th pm Wind in the Willows

Friday 17th Children in Need

Friday 17th Rec Library visit

Saturday 18th Cross Country

Tuesday 21st PTA Break the Rules Day

Friday 24th Hindu Assembly and Workshop
Friday 24th Christmas Cracker Assembly
Saturday 25th PTA Christmas Fair
Thursday 30th Art Day

December

Friday 8th Christmas Jumper Day Save the Children
Friday 8th KS2 Reading Passports returned
Saturday 9th Orpington Christmas Concert for KS2 Choir
Monday 11th KS2 Carol Concert 6pm
Tuesday 12th KS2 Reading Passport Assembly
Wednesday 13th Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 13th KS1 Nativity 9:15 (Babies and Toddlers are welcome)
Thursday 14th KS1 Nativity 9:15 (No Babies and Toddlers please)
Thursday 14th pm KS1 Party for children
Friday 15th pm KS2 Party for children
Tuesday 19th End of term for children at normal time

Harvest Mass Donations to Bromley Foodbank

Our whole school Harvest Mass will take place at church on **Thursday 5th October at 9.30am**. We are asking our children to donate one item which they will bring to school and take to church on this day to place in front of the altar. After Mass, the food will be collected by the Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Group of St James' Church (JPIC) who have kindly offered to transport the donations to the Bromley Foodbank for distribution to people who are in need within our local community. The Bromley Foodbank now designates schools as certain category foods. We have been nominated as a **Long Life Fruit Juice or Shampoo School**. The Bromley Foodbank would be very grateful for any of these donations. The Foodbank have also requested that children, if possible, bring a 'bag for life' to school to help transport the items. The foodbank helps individuals and families in crisis, through the provision of emergency food supplies. The foodbank is part of The Trussell Trust's network of 428 foodbanks. In 2022/23, they provided 2,986,203 three-day emergency food supplies and support to UK people in crisis. Of these, 1,139,553 were distributed for

children. Please can you advise the office if you are able to walk with the children, to and from church on Thursday 5th October. Thank you for your co-operation and generosity.

OAKIES

This week the children have had a lot of fun playing with all the outdoor play equipment. They especially enjoyed competing in a fun tennis tournament. Next week we will be starting Harvest and autumnal arts and crafts.



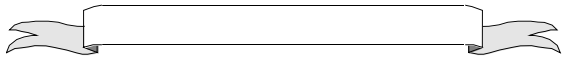
OTHER NEWS

There was an incredible achievement from Fletcher at the weekend. He ran in the Westminster Mile and won his race in an official time of 5mins 56secs! The was attended by nearly 2000 runners across 6 waves. His time saw him finish 10th overall across all races and age groups which included adult runners. Well done, Fletcher!

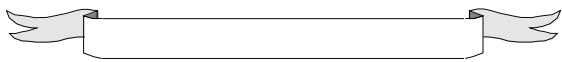


AWARDS

Headteacher's Awards



Year	For showing kindness
Rec	Anthony
Year 1	Federico
Year 2	Joseph
Year 3	Lucas
Year 4	Madelyn
Year 5	Fletcher
Year 6	Rebecca



KS2 AWARDS

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Lorenzo	Alistair
Year 4	Dylan	Maddie
Year 5	Cameron	Harrison
Year 6	Florence	Darcy

Congratulations to Florence in Y5 who won the Courtesy Cup this week.

ATTENDANCE

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
R	100	0
1	98.33	0
2	95.33	1
3	93.44	0
4	96.25	0
5	97.19	0
6	98.13	0

Congratulations to Reception who had the best attendance last week.

Weekly Winners

Year	Number of wins
Rec	2
Y1	2
Y2	0
Y3	0
Y4	0
Y5	0
Y6	0

The winning class at the end of term is able to have an own clothes day. Well done to Reception and Year 1 who are in the lead at the moment.

PTA NEWS

We hope all the children enjoyed the CAFOD walk today. Thank you to the volunteers who helped to serve squash and biscuits which were supplied by the PTA.

Today is the last day to buy tickets for the PTA trip to the Panto...

Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!

Please submit your forms and follow the payment instructions to secure your seats. As we have some tickets left, we are opening up the invite to Friends and Family who do not go to St James' Primary School.

Thank you for those who attended the PTA AGM this week. The minutes will be circulated next week.

We had some really good discussions around fundraising and how to spend the money raised.

If you have any suggestions please email pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com.

Many thanks

PTA Committee