



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 15th September

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 2

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to let you know that we had a building survey carried out this week by a Chartered Surveyor and we have no RAAC at St James'.

We met Reception children in assembly on Monday and they were all confident enough to introduce themselves by telling us their names. Everyone was very impressed! As they finish their first full week I am sure that there will be some very tired children this weekend- not to mention the staff in Reception!

We were delighted to recently receive the news that we have been awarded a Silver Arts Mark award in recognition of all the art that we do at St James' and for the high profile that it has in our school. I would like to thank Miss McCarthy for all her hard work and dedication as Art Subject Lead. Her enthusiasm for art inspires others.

With art in mind, please see the attached leaflet about the Petts Wood Gazette Christmas Cover Competition.

I hope that Year 5 and Year 6 parents found the talk about Secondary Transition helpful on Tuesday night. Applications for Year 7 places in September 2024 are now open. The national closing date for applications is 31 October 2023 and the national offer date is 1 March 2024. If you are a Bromley resident, you need to make your application through the London Borough of Bromley. You can name schools outside of Bromley on your application if you wish. If you live outside of Bromley, you need to apply through the local authority where you live and can name Bromley schools on that application. You are strongly encouraged to apply online. Please ensure that all

required supporting documents are provided with your application to ensure that it can be processed without delay.

Year 4 started their swimming lessons this week and seem to have thoroughly enjoyed it. The lessons for Year 4 always take place for a term and are held at Darrick Wood.

On Wednesday evening, we attended an event at Coolings Garden Centre where we were delighted to discover that we had been awarded first place in the School Garden Award for Bromley. We are so proud of this amazing achievement. I want to thank Mrs Deasy, Mrs Charlesworth and Mr Bishop and all the staff who have worked at Gardening Club and volunteered over the summer holidays to keep the garden watered. A real team effort but special thanks go to Mrs Deasy.



Whole School Mass on Thursday was wonderful. It was lovely to all be back together again as one community. Father David spoke to the children about starting the new school year and how St James the Great brings the parish and the school together to support and take care of one another. Thank you to Year 6 who led the Mass so well.

Can I remind parents that we use cursive handwriting here at St James' and parents are able to access information from home. We use Letter join and the password and username are:

stjames
Bromley

As I mentioned last week we offer a wealth of Bromley Youth Music Trust lessons at St James'. Please ask the school office about the cost of these and who to contact if you would like your child to begin lessons. Currently the instruments we offer are:

Violin with Mr Feiring
Piano with Mr Albert
Voice with Mrs Anderson
Cello with Mrs Storey
Percussion with Ms Prescott
Woodwind with Mr O'Shea

The term of office for one of our two Parent Governors is coming to an end and we thank Mrs. Hardiman for her dedication and commitment to this role over the past four years. **Therefore, the school will start the process of seeking nominations for a new Parent Governor.** Parents will receive a letter of invitation, nomination form, disqualification form and Governor Allowance Policy on Tuesday, 19th September. We look forward to a good response from parents in order to fill this vacancy. Should you wish to discuss what the role would entail please do contact our Chair of Governors, Mary Hutchinson, via the school office.

We have had a donation of laundry capsules from the Bromley Hygiene Bank. This charity is trying to support families in our community. We will keep these outside the office and if your family would like some capsules please do help yourself. Alternatively, please contact me in confidence if

you would like some and I will ensure that you receive them.

Please be aware that even though all children are now entitled to free meals, families still need to apply for pupil premium if their financial situation is below a certain threshold. If your child is entitled to Pupil Premium funding the money is used by the school to benefit your child. Please contact me or the school office if you would like to find out more about this or need help in applying for the funding.

I was contacted by Southborough Lane Baptist Church this week to ask me to remind parents that their car park is a private one and that St James' parents should not be parking there. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

We have a busy week next week including taking part in our Jeans for Genes Day on Friday. The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with a genetic condition and raises money to fund projects that make a tangible difference to the lives of those affected. Children are welcome to wear their own clothes and jeans and bring in a suggested donation of £1 for the Jeans for Genes Charity.

We also have the Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Meeting on Tuesday at 5:30. All parents are welcome to this but please let Mrs Martin know if you are able to attend so that she knows how many people to expect.

On Thursday at 2:50 we are holding our Reading Volunteer meeting. This is for parents and grandparents who would like to volunteer to hear children read in school. We would like to explain our approach to reading and the teaching of phonics.

God Bless.

Mrs Weeks

Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is FORGIVENESS. In this Sunday's Gospel, Peter asks Jesus the question about how many times we should forgive. Jesus' answer shows that we must forgive one another just as God forgives us: again and again, without limit. Forgiveness is the lifeblood of any community. Pope St John Paul II reminds us, 'Forgiveness does not come naturally. Forgiving from the heart can sometimes be actually heroic'. We talked to the children this week about forgiveness and explained that we can be certain that no matter how many times we need to forgive or to ask for forgiveness, God will always help us.

Safeguarding

Please ensure that if you are visiting the school that you sign in at the office.

Dates for your Diary

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

September

Tuesday 19th 5:30 Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Meeting

Wednesday 20th Y3 ScootSure

Thursday 21st: International Day of Peace

Thursday 21st 2:50: Meeting for Reading Volunteers

Friday 22nd Jeans for Genes Day Friday 22nd Y4

Library Trip

Tuesday 26th 6:30 PTA AGM

Wednesday 27th: St Vincent de Paul Feast Day

Wednesday 27th CAFOD Assembly and workshop

Wednesday 27th: 6:30 KS1 Phonic Parent Talk

Friday 29th: 9:15 CAFOD Walk (change of date)

October

Month of Prayer and Devotion to Our Lady

Black History Month

Wednesday 4th 6:30 KS2 Reading

Comprehension Parent Talk

Thursday 5th: Whole school Mass (Harvest) Year 4

Thursday 5th: National Poetry Day

Friday 6th CAFOD Family Fast Day

Monday 9th-Friday 13th Y6 to PGL

Tuesday 10th: World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 11th Y4 to Hindu Temple

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

Grandparents Tea Party

Friday 13th P4C afternoon

Friday 13th Y5 Library Trip

Monday 16th -Friday 27th Half Term Holiday

EEDI

Our EEDI committee aims to promote equality, equity, diversity and inclusion. It is meeting for the first time this year on Tuesday 19th September at 5:30pm. We will be looking at the coverage of Black History Month and EEDI throughout R.E. We have made some great changes already and hope to continue with that this year. If you would like join us, you would be very welcome. Please let Mrs Martin know.

SPORTS NEWS

Over the past weekend, Kent Badminton held the annual Kent Junior Restricted Tournament at Medway Park. Francesca joined 3 divisions and won Gold in all 3 (Girls Singles Under 10, Girls Singles Under 12 and Girls Doubles Under 12 with her partner). She won all 14 of her matches. She's worked so hard this past year and we are very proud of her. Congratulations Francesca.



GARDENING NEWS

This morning saw members of both Reception and Y1 digging for potatoes and bringing to an end this year's KS1 Potato Growing Competition. It gives us great pleasure to announce the following results:-

Winners— Y2 with 1005 grams

2nd Place—Reception with 925 grams

3rd Place—Y1 with 875 grams

Y2 win £20 worth of Coolings Vouchers, Reception win £15 and Y1 win £10.

The children will choose what to buy for their respective plots in the school garden. The potatoes will be cooked next week for the children to enjoy.

Mrs Deasy



SPOTLIGHT ON A CLUB

Please see the attached flyer for information regarding LAMDA which takes place on Thursdays after school. It is a club that has been running at the school for many years and achieves great results. It is aimed at Years 2-6.

OTHER NEWS

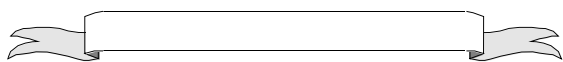
If any parents are looking for a new home for old sandpits/water trays or toys could you please consider donating them to the school. Please contact the office if you have any donations.

Thank You

Mrs Richards

AWARDS

Headteacher Awards



Year	For showing kindness
Rec	Matilde
Year 1	Louie
Year 2	Jaimie
Year 3	Claudia
Year 4	Ruby
Year 5	Ethan
Year 6	George



KS1 Awards

Year	Gold Sticker Award		Golden Promises
Rec	Yzmael	Anthony	Estelle
Year 1	Maria	Lyndon	Zara
Year 2	Rebecca	Harry	Eli

ATTENDANCE

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
R	100	1
1	100	0
2	95.33	0
3	99.38	1
4	96.25	0
5	94.79	0
6	99.38	0

Weekly Winners

Year	Number of wins
Rec	1
Y1	1
Y2	0
Y3	0
Y4	0
Y5	0
Y6	0

ST JAMES' CHURCH NEWS

It is wonderful to see so many of our young children enjoy children's liturgy at the 9:15 Mass every Sunday. However as you can imagine, as the numbers grow the team delivering it also will need help to keep it going and to ensure safe 'helper to child' ratios. We are therefore asking if anyone would consider joining the team. Full training will be given and DBS checks will be carried out. Please email the Parish Office if you would like more information or chat to the Children's Liturgy Team after the 9:15 Mass. Thank you.

PTA NEWS

Did you know that it is only 101 days to Christmas?! With that in mind I'm happy to announce that the annual St James PTA trip to the Panto has been booked for Tuesday 12th December at 5:30pm at the Churchill Theatre. Please can you complete the attached form and return to pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com no later than the 29th September.

Tickets will be on a first come, first served basis and always sell out very quickly.

Also I'm sure you are aware that the hottest day of the year was last Thursday. Therefore we will be reinstating Ice Cream Friday from next week after school under the oak tree. Magnums will be £1.50, everything else will be £1.

You should also have received an email about the 100 Club. Please sign up for this by Monday 19th September so that you will be included in the September draw.

If you have not received the email it means we do not have your details on our mailing list. If this is the case please email pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com to be added.

Dates for your diary

Ice Cream Friday - 22nd September
PTA AGM – 26th September at 6:30pm
Break the Rules Day – 21st November
Christmas Fair – 25th November 12-3pm
Panto – 12th December

Many thanks

PTA Committee