



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 24th February 2023

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 20

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a good half term break.

Mrs Richards has organised a fantastic week of science activities to celebrate Science Week and will be producing a separate newsletter dedicated to celebrating the science work throughout the week.

I hope that parents have been able to sign up for a parent evening appointment using school cloud. Can I please remind you that this event is not for children and that if you want to book your children into After School Club you need to contact the club directly.

Our Character Education focus this half term is honesty and children are looking for examples of this in school which they are looking forward to sharing in Monday assemblies.

Governors came into school on Tuesday morning to discuss the Art Curriculum. They spoke to Miss McCarthy, the Art Subject Leader, looked at the art displays around the school, looked at the children's work and spoke to children about their art. I want to thank the Governors who visited. I know that they were very impressed with what they saw.

Some children made pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and were thrilled with the results as you can see in the photographs!



This week we have of course talking to the children about Lent. At Mass we thought about how Lent reminds us of Jesus' forty days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness, where he grew stronger through resisting temptations. In school we are promoting the Parish Lent Carbon Fast calendar and are using it to help us throughout Lent. On Wednesday we tried to switch lights off when we left a room.

We were visited this week by Crofton Junior School Choir to have a rehearsal for the BYMT Proms at The Fairfield Halls. The singing was superb and we are getting excited now for the event.

Year 3 carried out a litter pick on their way to Forest School this afternoon. This worthy activity tied in with their lesson plan in support of British Science Week. The class looked at what they had collected and joined in with a quiz guessing decomposition rates for general waste. The answers were very frightening highlighting the need to recycle all that we can to protect our planet. The class buried a new pair of cotton pants as part of a 'Plant your Pants' experiment. They will inspect the pants after 8 weeks to see how much they have decomposed - the more holes, the healthier our soil....fingers (or should that be legs??) crossed!

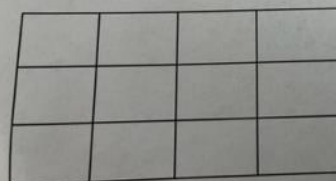
Year 3 visited The National Gallery on Thursday. They explored the gallery and studied Van Gogh as well as participating in an art workshop. The children looked at light and dark and tried many different art techniques with a range of resources. Thank you to Miss Spencer-Boyce for organising this and thank you to the staff and parents who accompanied the children.



This week a group of Year 5 pupils attended another Maths Masterclass held at Bromley High. The Masterclass focused on creating and deciphering coded messages. The children studied transposition ciphering which is where letters stay the same but the order of the letters changes and route ciphering where the letters are written in rows but read down in columns. Can you break the codes below! They also enjoyed learning about Caesar's Cipher. Caesar would write encrypted messages for battle. The children made their own coding device based on Caesar's Wheel.

Transposition cipher: GTSEAAOOECR

Route cipher: FSR OUI RRS APE



Ed in Year 6 is fundraising for Development Language Disorder (DLD) and the charity Afasic. Afasic is a small charity that tries to raise awareness of DLD. As the charity is a small charity only a handful of people are doing this challenge. Ed's aim is to walk/ cycle 26 miles in February and raise £50. He has almost completed the challenge and has raised over £70! Well done Ed!



Can I remind parents that they should ensure that all packed lunches brought from home and consumed in school (or on school trips) provide the children with healthy and nutritious food including fresh fruit and vegetables. Packed lunches should not include snacks such as crisps, confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate-coated biscuits, chocolate spread and sweets. On Choice Friday and on school trips, pupils have the opportunity to bring in a small treat at the parents' discretion. Thank you for your co-operation.

On Thursday we will be celebrating World Book Day and we are asking the children to come to school dressed as a book character. We are looking forward to seeing what the children wear!

On another note, attached to this newsletter is a copy of the Lock Down Policy. Schools are asked to ensure that they are able to secure their site, with pupils, staff and volunteers safely inside should the need arise. Please read our policy. We need to practise this annually in order to ensure that everyone knows what to do in a Lock Down situation. We will be holding a practice next week. We have carried this out for many years now and no children have ever been upset or worried.

Have a good weekend.

God bless

Mrs Weeks

[Dates for your diary](#)

February

Monday 27th Y6 Reconciliation at school

Tuesday 28th 9:30 Reception and Year 1 to Mass at church

Tuesday 28th Y5 Reconciliation at church

March

Wednesday 1st Year 2 and Year 3 to Mass at church

Wednesday 1st Year 4 Reconciliation at church

Tuesday 1st Year 6 National Offer Day for secondary schools

Thursday 2nd World Book Day (Children may dress up as a book character)

Friday 3rd CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day

Friday 3rd: 9:05 Y3 Class assembly (Parents are welcome)

Friday 3rd Year 3 Visiting Petts Wood Library

Monday 6th Open evening 3:30-6:30 (Parents only -not children)

Tuesday 7th Open evening 3:30-6:30 (Parents only -not children)

Tuesday 8th International Women's Day

Thursday 9th 9:15 Spring walk (All welcome)

Friday 10th Year 5 Visiting Petts Wood Library

Monday 13th Start of British Science Week

Tuesday 14th 5:30 EEDI Committee

Thursday 16th 9:05 Year 3 Class Mass in school (Peace and Reconciliation)

Friday 17th Red Nose Day (Children may wear red noses)

Friday 17th Year 1 Visiting Petts Wood Library

Friday 17th Year 2 Visiting Bromley Synagogue

Tuesday 21st World Poetry Day

Wednesday 22nd Y4 visiting Dulwich Picture Gallery

Thursday 23rd Bank of America talk to Year 6

Friday 24th Oscar Romero Feast Day

Tuesday 21st World Poetry Day

Tuesday 21st Reception Class HSBC Money Workshop

Wednesday 22nd Y3 HSBC Money Workshop

Thursday 23rd Y2 HSBC Money Workshop

Thursday 23rd Y6s JTA visiting Bromley

Friday 24th Y6 HSBC Money Workshop

Friday 24th KS2 Reading Passports in

Friday 24th Reception Class Visiting Petts Wood Library
Tuesday 28th Reading Passport Assembly KS2
Tuesday 28th Y5 HSBC Money Workshop
Wednesday 29th Y4 HSBC Money Workshop
Wednesday 29th Rec and Y6 NHS Health Screening
Thursday 30th 9:15 Year 5 Passion Play (Parents welcome)
Thursday 30th Y1 HSBC Money Workshop
Friday 31st PTA KS1 Easter Egg Hunt
Friday 31st End of spring term at normal time
April
Monday 17th Children return for summer term

Word on Wednesday

This Week's Word is LENT. Please ask your children if they have made promises for Lent.

Safeguarding

Spotify has seen increasing success with its vast collection of podcasts – spanning topics such as comedy, sport, politics, lifestyle and health. Some of these shows – and the frank manner in which certain issues are discussed – are very definitely not for younger ears. Part of Spotify's appeal is that its fluid user interface allows people to discover musical artists or podcasts that they wouldn't necessarily have gone looking for. That creates the corresponding risk, however, that children can easily happen across more adult content by chance. Please see the attached leaflet.

Missing Scooter

A scooter has gone missing from the scooter rack. It was a purple micro maxi with a pink handle. It may have a child's name sticker by the handle. Can you please make sure you have taken home the correct scooter. Thank you.

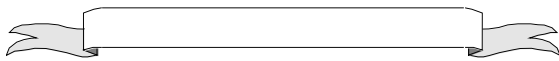


Garden News

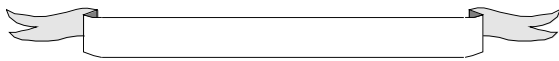
This week saw Logan from Year 4 present Mrs Wilson with a hanging tree ornament for the Peace Garden. The ornament is a lovely glass Woodpecker with a bell that will softly ring in the breeze. Logan gifted this beautiful decoration to commemorate a recent birthday. Thank you for your kind thought Logan!

AWARDS

Headteacher's Award



Year	GOOD MANNERS
Rec	India
Year 1	Harry
Year 2	Matthew
Year 3	Ruby
Year 4	Mia
Year 5	Chloe
Year 6	Jaiden JA



KS1 AWARDS

Year	Gold Sticker Award		Golden Promises
Rec	Luca	Aedan	Finley
Year 1	Jimmy	Felix	Eli
Year 2	Matt	Alistair	Olivia RF

KS2 AWARDS

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Molly	Sofia
Year 4	Joshua	Gracie
Year 5	Chetty	Ashley
Year 6	Tommy	Herkus

Congratulations to George who won the Courtesy Cup this week.

ATTENDANCE

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
Rec	94.92	0
Y1	92.67	0
Y2	95.33	2
Y3	95.63	0
Y4	92.19	1
Y5	94.38	0
Y6	95.94	1

Well done to Y6 who had the best attendance the week before last.

WEEKLY WINNERS

Year	Number of wins
Rec	
Y1	1
Y2	3
Y3	1
Y4	1
Y5	
Y6	1

Library News

Y2 had a wonderful time today at the library.



PTA NEWS

Doc Brown: "It's your kids, Marty. Something's gotta be done about your kids!" Last chance for Tickets for the 80's Family Disco. Come as your favourite 80's icon: Madonna, Axle Rose or Egon from the Ghostbusters!

Please email the PTA with the following details along with the payment no later than today-
Friday 24th February

Childs name and School Year

Parent's name

Email address

Number of tickets required

Total Payment

pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com

Payment to be sent by bank transfer to

St James School PTA, Lloyds Bank

Sort code: 30-67-72

Account number 10062963

Please add your child's school year followed by your surname and 'DISCO' as a reference e.g. 4COLONNESEDISCO

Dates for your diary

Saturday 4th March 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm: 80's Family Disco

Saturday 20th May: Irish Music Night (adults only) Save the date, book your babysitter and spread the word to family and friends for what promises to be a fantastic evening with a live band, a steady supply of Guinness and plenty of craic! Further details will follow shortly.