



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 30th June

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 35

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I want to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone who was involved in making the PTA Summer Fair a fantastic success. It was such a great day with a lovely atmosphere. Many people have commented on the strong community feeling that they experienced. It was great to see previous families and new families all enjoying themselves. The PTA ensures that the Fair runs smoothly and makes the organisation of it look effortless when we all know that of course it takes such commitment and hard work. We are so lucky to have such an amazing PTA. I want to particularly thank Mr Coloneese, Mrs Adebani and Mrs Saunders for their tireless work in making this event such a massive success. I know that they do so much that goes unnoticed behind the scenes.

Our Bromley Planter unfortunately did not win a prize but it certainly looked superb and we were very proud of it. It celebrated the Catholic values of our school and I hope that you got a chance to visit Bromley to see it. It has now been returned safely to us and we are going to gift it to the residents of Southmore Court to look after.

Year 5 and Year 6 have been busy this week attending Finance Workshops and NSPCC Workshops. During the NSPCC workshops the children discussed Childline and how the charity is available to listen to children every day throughout the year. They remembered the number of 0800 1111. The NSPCC representatives reminded the children that if they feel unsafe they must talk to a trusted adult.



In the HSBC finance workshop, Year 5 discussed household budgeting. They calculated the cost of essential living outgoings and then deducted this from their estimated monthly salaries. The children were surprised by how little they had left to spend on themselves at the end of the month.



Following on from Year 6 Career's Day, the HSBC team talked to them about their future employment and how salaries are paid and what Gross and Net pay means. It was really interesting finding out about all the career choices that the children have in mind and how articulate they are about financial issues.



I want to thank all the parents and volunteers who gave up their time on Friday to talk to Year 6 about their work. The children met bankers, solicitors, paramedics, nurses, vets, radiographers, language teachers, composers, engineers and people involved in event planning and digital marketing. It really was a remarkable event and I want to thank Mrs Connolly for organising this.



Reception Class visited the church this week and met with Father David who talked to them about Baptism. Thank you to Father David for this and to Mrs Richards for organising this.



This week we were happy to welcome Jim Buttress, RHS judge, and Leigh-Anne Bovis from Ruxley Manor Garden Centre. They came to present prizes to members of the school Gardening Club. The club won Bronze and a £30 voucher for their beehive planter and the school garden, won Silver and a £40 voucher for Best School Allotment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank two grandparents, Mr John Bishop and Mrs Kate Charlesworth, who support the school each Friday, enabling our children to sow, plant and grow within our school garden. Thank you also of course to Mrs Deasy who continues to inspire us all.



This year, Maddie and Aleks in Year 6 have been working with Mrs Pearce and Bromley Council, to promote road safety across the school. This has involved research, presenting assemblies at school and attending and presenting workshops to other Bromley schools. They were invited to attend the awards ceremony at The London Transport Museum this week. This was a great privilege in itself as the invite placed us in the top 5 teams across all Bromley primary schools. I am pleased to announce that we were awarded the Runners-up trophy for our efforts and that the children had a wonderful day. They took part in a coding workshop, spoke to TFL engineers and had time to explore the museum. It really was a memorable day. Congratulations to the JTA Team and thank you to Mrs Pearce.



We attended mass on Thursday for the Feast Day of St Peter and St Paul and as always the children reminded us of their extensive knowledge. They were able to tell Father David everything that they knew about St Peter and St Paul. It was another

mass that we will all look back on as being very special. Thank you to Mrs Wilson and Year 3 for preparing the mass so well and to Miss Atkinson for the magnificent music.

This week the new Reception Children who are starting in September came to visit and it was lovely to meet their parents again. Thank you again to Mr Coloneese, Mrs Adebajji and Mrs Saunders for representing the PTA and providing the parents with drinks.

Year 6 are rehearsing hard for their production of Oliver. The performances are on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th at 7pm. Tickets will be on sale on the door and will cost £4. We please ask that no babies, toddlers or primary aged pupils attend the evening performances. Siblings will see the performance at the dress rehearsal. Thank you.

This week the children have been meeting their new teachers in their new classrooms. It is hoped that this will help the children with the transition into their new year group in September.

We welcomed Gareth Bacon MP on Friday. He spoke to Year 4 and Year 5 about his role as an MP and met the Student Council.



We ended the week with a wonderful Assembly presented by Reception Class. They really made us all so proud.



We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Walk Around Evening. This is an event on Friday 14th July from 3:30 to 5:30 when your children are able to show you their present classroom and their work. Class teachers will also be in the classrooms if you would like to discuss anything with them. If you want to talk about any concerns that you have from the end of year reports please contact the class teacher so that they can make appointment to see you on Walk Around Evening. The children will also be able to show you their new classroom and introduce you to their new teacher.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming Mrs Ettridge to St James' in September as a Teaching Assistant. Many of you will know her from St James the Great Preschool and we are delighted that she will be joining us.

God bless

Mrs Weeks

Dates for your diary

July

Monday 3rd Y2 Money Workshop
 Tuesday 4th Rec Money Workshop
 Wednesday 5th Y1 Money Workshop
 Thursday 6th am KS1 Drama Workshops
 Thursday 6th Y4 Money Workshop
 Thursday 6th and Friday 7th Yr 6 Production 7pm
 Friday 7th Y3 Money Workshop
 Friday 7th Reports to parents
 Monday 10th Sports Morning
 Monday 10th –Friday 14th Sport Week

Wednesday 12th 1:15 Helen O'Grady Performance for parents
 Thursday 13th Summer Walk 9:15
 Thursday 13th Reserve Sports Morning
 Friday 14th KS2 Reading Passports in
 Friday 14th 3:30-5:30 Walk Around Evening (All parents welcome)
 Monday 17th Summer Reading Challenge Assembly
 Tuesday 18th KS2 Reading Passport Assembly
 Tuesday 18th 11 am Meet the Teacher for all children
 Wednesday 19th Year 1 to Mudchute Farm
 Thursday 20th 10 am Whole School Mass Leavers (Yr 6)
 Thursday 20th Last day of term and school ends at normal time

Word on Wednesday

This Week's Word is SELFLESS. Jesus encourages us to be selfless. We asked the children what the word 'selfless' means to them. We discussed how it is about being very aware of others' needs or interests, and putting them before our own.

Safeguarding

Children's needs and behaviours change as they get older, and understanding these needs will help parents better understand their child. A lot has been written about the needs of children and advice for parents, and the attached leaflet about positive parenting covers some of the key areas.

OAKIES

The children have had a lot of fun sitting outside in taking part in mindfulness colouring in. They really enjoy this time when they can relax and chat together.

We would like to apologise for the ongoing issues with the gate and entry system. We understand how frustrating it is and we are very sorry that you are having to wait so long for us to open the gate in the mornings and afternoons.



LIBRARY NEWS

Please see the attached a poster for the monthly activity called Pictures Alive where Orpington Library focusses on a different author or illustrator each month and encourages children to read stories, look at interesting facts about the author or illustrator and then take part in a drama or craft activity. The next session is on Mon 10th July at 4pm and they will be looking at the work of Rikin Parekh.

Booking is via Eventbrite: <https://orpingtonlibrary.eventbrite.co.uk>

OTHER NEWS

Coming to Orpington this September!

A new initiative from Tim Wells, the **STRINGS FOR YOUTH** orchestras are for young players who are having lessons on their instrument and are looking to expand their musical horizons and enjoyment by playing with others. We will be rehearsing at All Saints Church, 44 Bark Hart Road, Orpington BR6 0QD on Tuesdays during term time.

Students are welcome to join either of the following groups, depending on where they are currently on their musical journey:

4.15-5.00pm - First Strings – for beginners to players of approx. Grade 1 level

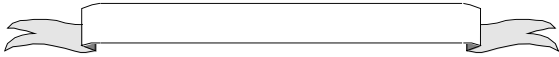
5.15-6.15pm - Second Strings – for players of approx. Grades 1-4 level

To register or for more information, see the attached flyer or click on the link: <https://forms.gle/b9byHu5nfADUHqwbA>

<https://www.youtube.com/@StringsforYouth>

AWARDS

Headteacher Awards



Rec	Plivini
Year 1	Freddie
Year 2	Claudia
Year 3	Camille
Year 4	Logan
Year 5	Taeya & Agustin
Year 6	Tom



KS2 AWARDS

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Max	Sofia
Year 4	Gracie	Oscar
Year 5	Julia	Oscar
Year 6	George	Tom

Congratulations to **Heidi** who won the Courtesy Cup this week.

ATTENDANCE

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
Rec	98.0	0
Y1	90.67	0
Y2	94.67	1
Y3	95.94	0
Y4	97.19	0
Y5	95.94	0
Y6	97.81	0

Well done to Rec Class who had the best attendance last week.

WEEKLY WINNERS

Year	Number of wins
Rec	4
Y1	0
Y2	3
Y3	0
Y4	0
Y5	1
Y6	1

PTA NEWS

What a fantastic summer fair!

Thank you to all the volunteers in the run up to the fair and on the day. It would not have been possible or such a fun day without you. We want to express our gratitude for the generosity of everyone who donated prizes for the raffle. We also want to thank the whole community for the donated bottles, sweets and lucky bags.

Team work makes the dream work!

We are thrilled to announce that the fair raised £5,513.52.

But you can help us raise more! Can you double the funds with match funding?!

If you helped on a stall at the summer fair and you work for an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money the stall raised could be matched by your employer.

Banks, building societies, supermarket chains and large corporations usually offer match funding. Smaller or independent companies may also be interested in charitable giving through match funding so it's worth checking.

If your employer supports match funding, please get in touch at pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com. This is a great way to make all your fundraising efforts go even further.

We hope you are excited for the Summer Ball next weekend. Please can you send your menu choices to the PTA as soon as possible. When you buy your tickets, please give the table coordinator's name in the payment reference.

Once again a huge thank you for helping to make the summer fair such an enjoyable day!

The PTA committee

Dates for your diary.

Saturday 8th July - Summer Ball