



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 3rd March 2023

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 21

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope our Welsh families had a very happy St David's Day on Wednesday.

We started the week by introducing Fairtrade Fortnight. Fairtrade farmers are among the people who have contributed the least to climate change – but are feeling the worst effects. They are less likely to earn a living income and more likely to rely directly on the land they farm for their livelihoods. These farmers often have no safety net if extreme weather damages their crops, and leaves them with no way of providing for their families. Climate change is making it harder for them to farm the land. The climate crisis affects us all but some communities are feeling it much more than others, even though they have done the least to cause it.

Our Character Education focus this half term is honesty and children are looking for examples of this in school. We are explaining to the children that our Character Education traits are also Catholic Virtues.

This week we have continued our journey through Lent. Lent is a period of reflection and we are using this time to draw closer to God and prepare for Easter. Father David heard the confessions of the children in Y6, Y5 and Y4 this week and KS1 and Y3 attended Mass at church. Thank you to Mrs Wilson for organising these events. The children are also reflecting on The Stations of the Cross. They are looking at the paintings that we have displayed in the hall and are thinking about each one carefully.

On Monday, Dr Jan Bajorek, a parishioner, visited Year 5 to talk about his trip to Peru. The children learnt that Peru is the third biggest country in South America with a population of 32million. However, it is 5 times larger than the UK. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the animal life in the Amazon Rainforest. It really brought Peru to life for them.



This week in school we held a practice of our Lockdown Policy. This went very smoothly and all children and staff were able to stay safe in school.

We have been talking to KS2 about what bullying is. The children are able to explain that it is repeated behaviour which is intended to hurt someone. We talked about the difference between someone being mean occasionally or hurting us without meaning to as opposed to intentional repeated bullying behaviour. The children know that bullying can happen because of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation or any other aspect such as appearance or disability. Bullying can take many forms including physical assault, teasing, making threats, name calling and cyber bullying. KS2 have been completing a questionnaire this week about any incidents of bullying that they have witnessed or have experienced in school. We are in the process of talking to any children individually who are concerned about this. I will share the results of this questionnaire with parents when I have collated the data.

On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day and all the children and staff came dressed as book characters to celebrate their love of reading. The children all looked fabulous in their costumes. Thank you to all the parents who helped the children to dress up. Thank you also to Mrs Connolly for organising this exciting day. Please look out for the book vouchers that children brought home with them. This voucher is worth £1, to be redeemed against a book of their choice. These tokens are valid for a few weeks so please remember to take your child to choose a book. On World Book Day we all shared a book as a school called "Journey" and all the children created their own page for a book on this theme. Classes also spent time reading and 'tasting' new books in Book Tasting Cafes. This was a chance to try books to see if they would like to add them to their reading lists for the future. Happy reading everybody!



We ended the week with a fabulous assembly presented by Year 3. Thank you to Miss Spencer-Boyce for preparing this.



We were delighted this week to hear about the secondary schools that our Year 6 children will be going to in September. These schools will be very lucky indeed to have our wonderful children.

On Thursday we will be going for a walk through Jubilee Park so please ensure that children have wellington boots or walking boots for that day. Parents are of course very welcome to join us. We would like to support CAFOD's Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal and if you would like to donate please do so at <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-cafod>

I hope you all have a good time if you are attending the PTA Family Disco on Saturday.

God bless
Mrs Weeks

Dates for your diary

March

Saturday 4th PTA Family Disco
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 7th Father David visiting Reception Class
Wednesday 8th International Women's Day
Wednesday 8th Year 3 and Year 4 Bridges Workshop
Thursday 9th 9:15 Spring walk in Jubilee Park (All welcome)
Thursday 9th Bank of America visiting Year 6
Friday 10th Year 5 Visiting Petts Wood Library
Friday 10th Dance Workshops around the theme of Alice in Wonderland

Monday 13th Y5 and Y6 Choir to the Bromley Proms
Tuesday 14th 5:30 EEDI Committee
Wednesday 15th Fun Run
Thursday 16th 9:05 Year 3 Class Mass in school (Parents welcome)
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
Saturday 19th Crystal Palace Cross Country
Tuesday 21st World Poetry Day
Tuesday 21st HSBC Reception Money Workshop
Wednesday 22nd Y4 visiting Dulwich Picture Gallery
Wednesday 22nd Y3 HSBC Money Workshop
Thursday 23rd Bank of America talk to Year 6
Thursday 23rd Year 2 HSBC Money Workshop
Friday 24th Oscar Romero Feast Day
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 Year 5 HSBC Money Workshop
Wednesday 29th Year 4 HSBC Money Workshop
Wednesday 29th Rec and Y6 NHS Health Screening
Thursday 30th 9:15 Year 5 Passion Play (Parents welcome)
Thursday 30th Year 1 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 ENCOURAGEMENT. This Sunday we hear about Jesus' transfiguration. For the first time the disciples received a glimpse of the awesome divinity of Jesus and also a hint of the heavenly glory which God had prepared for them too. The change in the way Jesus looked, the extraordinary appearance of Moses and Elijah and hearing the Father's voice from heaven, would have encouraged Jesus in his mission. There are times when we all need encouraging, especially when we are going through difficult times. We talked to the children about who encourages them and keeps them going when they find things difficult. We also thought about people who may need our encouragement at the moment.

Safeguarding

Please see the attached leaflet about NGL.

Sports News

Our Year 6 Rugby players took part in a tournament at Old Beccahamians Rugby Club. It was a tough competition and we managed a win against Keston in the group stages. A great day (albeit a very cold one!) and many thanks to all the adults who helped on the day.

Mrs Connolly



Other News

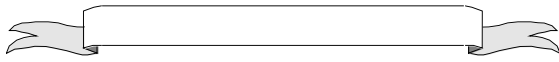
Ed wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported him on his Dash for DLD challenge. He raised a whopping £342 and walked 30 miles during the month of February.

The money raised helps with the following:

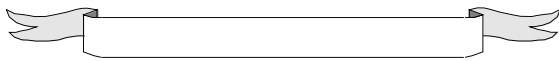
- Afasic 'Secondary Starter' transition courses for children with persistent speech and language difficulties facing the move to secondary school. These specialist courses are run by speech and language therapists.
- Afasic 'DLD Together' online training courses for parents with a child who has Developmental Language Disorder. Courses are run by a speech and language therapist and help parents to better understand DLD and how to support their child. We know the money raised will help many more families.

AWARDS

Headteacher Awards



Year	GOOD MANNERS
Rec	Thaara
Year 1	Mateo
Year 2	Lottie
Year 3	Maddie M
Year 4	Lonnie
Year 5	Jacob
Year 6	Layla



KS2 Awards

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Catherine	Luke
Year 4	Finn	Tadas
Year 5	Phi-Anh	Rebecca
Year 6	Evangeline	Lucas BH

Congratulations to **Natalie** who was the winner of the Courtesy Cup this week.

Attendance

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
Rec	98.98	0
Y1	99.33	1
Y2	96.67	1
Y3	98.44	1
Y4	96.25	1
Y5	96.56	0
Y6	98.13	1

Congratulations to Y1 who had the best attendance last week.

Weekly Winners

Year	Number of wins
Rec	
Y1	2
Y2	3
Y3	1
Y4	1
Y5	
Y6	1

PTA NEWS

Things you can expect to hear on Saturday evening at the 80s family disco ...

“Hey you guys”

“I am your father”

“Say hello to my little friend”

For those of you with tickets, there will be:

A bar selling Beer and Prosecco and 80s merch

Free Juice for children

A prize for the most 80s child

A prize for the most 80s family

And all the 80s hits you could want.

For those of you without tickets there is still time to get them

The deadline has been extended to **today the 3rd March and there will be no tickets on the door.**

Please email the PTA with the following details

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: 80s 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.