



# St James' RC Primary Newsletter

## Weekly Newsletter

Friday 13th March 2020

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 23

### Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

On Saturday the Year 3 and Year 4 runners took part in the Crystal Palace Cross Country Race. It was a very muddy race and lots of trainers were lost along the course! The children did remarkably well and we are so proud of them. Year 3 girls came 16<sup>th</sup> out of 34 teams. Year 3 boys came 11<sup>th</sup> out of 38. Year 4 girls came 6<sup>th</sup> out of 31 and Year 4 boys came 5<sup>th</sup> out of 41 teams. These wonderful results meant that we came 2<sup>nd</sup> out of all the small schools in the competition. Huge congratulations. A special mention must of course go to Emily who came 8<sup>th</sup> in her race. Thank you to Miss Atkinson, Mr Parr and Mr Copeland for accompanying the children. Thank you also to Mrs Connolly who organised us all. It certainly was a great morning.



On Sunday the St James' Quartet competed at the Bromley Music Festival and were awarded... 1<sup>st</sup> Prize!!!! We are thrilled. They had practised so hard and deserved their success. The trophy is wonderful. Thank you to Mr Feiring for preparing the children so well.

We also had success this week at the Science Quiz held at St Peter and St Paul Catholic School where Mr Parr took our team from Year 5 and Year 6. It was the first time we had competed in this competition and we are proud to say that the children won 1<sup>st</sup> Place. Wow! Another reason to be proud of our children.



I hope you found the open evenings useful this week and that the meetings gave you a chance to look at your children's work and discuss their progress.

This week KS1 have started taking part in a potato growing competition. Each class has been given an identical large container, four 'seed' potatoes and identical growing medium. The variety of potatoes are 'First Early' meaning that they need to remain in the ground for a period of approximately 10 weeks from initial planting before harvesting. Good luck to KS1!

On Wednesday, Larry from Petts Wood Playgroup came to speak to KS2. The playgroup has been providing support and care for children with special needs since 1968. The focus is on the children learning through play to grow and flourish to achieve their potential. Our Mini Vinnie children want to support this local charity over the coming year and are making plans to fundraise for



specialist equipment.

The Umbrella Trust Head teachers met with me at St James' this week to discuss in detail our response to the Corona Virus. We are of course following government advice and know that this is changing daily. We are doing everything that we can to prevent it spreading in school and have plans in place if staff are absent. We will of course update you if we are asked to close. If your child has a fever or a cough they are asked to self-isolate for 7 days. Please inform us if this is the case.

I have been absent myself from school for a couple of days this week with tonsillitis which is why I have not seen you at the school gate. I hope to be back on Monday and I am very grateful to Mrs Wilson for taking care of everything.

As you can see from the dates below there may have to be changes to upcoming events due to the situation regarding Corona Virus. We will let you know any decisions that we make about these events as soon as we have been able to discuss them carefully. As you can appreciate things are changing daily. Thank you for your understanding.

#### Dates

#### **March**

Monday 16th Year 3 to attend Reconciliation at school.

Tuesday 17th Year 4 to attend Reconciliation at school

Wednesday 18th Scoot Sure for Year 3

Wednesday 18th Year 6 to attend Reconciliation at school

Thursday 19th Class Photographs

Thursday 19th Year 4 Class Mass at 9:05

Friday 20th Year 6 visiting the library

Friday 20th 1:15 Helen O' Grady Performance

Friday 20th 3:20-5pm Movie Night for children

Monday 23rd Gareth Bacon MP visiting the school

Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th KS1 Concert for parents at 9:15

Thursday 26th KS2 Reading Passports returned

Thursday 26th Bank of America to visit Year 6

Friday 27th KS1 PTA Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 27th Year 5 visiting the library

Friday 27th 4pm-6pm Past pupils and families welcome to tour school and have tea and cakes (Please let the office know if you are able to attend)

Saturday 28th PTA Family Disco to celebrate 50th Anniversary

Tuesday 31st Reading Passport Assembly for children

Tuesday 31st Year 5 Passion Play at 2:30

#### April

Thursday 2nd 10:30 Whole School Mass and families welcome to share lunch with the children

Thursday 2nd Children to dress up in 1970's clothes in the afternoon

#### SAFE GUARDING

Please be aware of Omegle. This is a free online chat service which encourages users to either text or video chat with other users through their website. Individuals do not have to sign up nor register any details and the platform has very few content restrictions. Its slogan is 'Talk to strangers!' Omegle promotes itself as a great way to meet new friends. However, the site encourages anonymity and whilst people can connect based on similar interests, there is little to verify who you could be talking to.

#### School Improvement Visit

On Friday we decided to go ahead with the planned visit from our school improvement partner even though I was unable to be in school as I was unwell. The staff were all amazing and the visit was a great success. As soon as I have the report I will share her findings with you. It is a real sign of a great school community when a leader can be out of school and know that everything will still work outstandingly. It makes me so proud to be the Headteacher of St James'.

#### Oakies Club

This week the children have been completing their bookmarks and doing other artistic projects.

Hopefully the weather has changed for the better and we will be able to enjoy the outdoor play equipment and playgrounds more often.

Next week we will be making surprises for a special day coming on the Sunday!!!!

Oakie dokie

#### SPORTS NEWS

##### Year 3 & 4 Cross Country Race

Conditions were perfect at Crystal Palace on Saturday morning when our four teams took part in the races with 53 other schools - a total of 1422 children! Once the four teams' scores were put together to compete for the Small Schools Trophy, St James' finished an incredible 2nd place out of the 16 eligible schools! A magnificent effort from everybody and a big thank you goes to the parents and staff for giving up their Saturday morning to help with the event.

##### Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament

This took place on Wednesday at Kent County Cricket Ground and our squad of 8 children did really well. They won 2, drew 2 and only lost one match and finished second in their group. Well done to all!

##### Year 3 & 4 Netball Tournament

Our squad of 8 netballers travelled to Langley Girls School in Beckenham to compete. They managed 1 win, 2 draws and 1 loss in a new competition for us. Mrs Martin commented on how brilliantly they played and how promising they look for future tournaments. Well done all!



A big thank you also to Mrs Martin for organising this.

Corinne Connolly  
St James Primary School

### WORD ON WEDNESDAY

This Week's Words are God's Love. We have been thinking about what the words mean to us as individuals. We spoke to the children about how we can share God's Love at home, at school and in Church. The more we experience and share God's love, the happier we all become.

### Attendance

#### 2nd March—6th March 2020

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
Rec	99.33	0
Y1	99.03	1
Y2	98	1
Y3	99.38	1
Y4	98.44	0
Y5	98.75	0
Y6	96.97	0

Thank you to everyone who made it to school on time last week! **Well done to Reception and Year 3 who had the best attendance last week.** The year with the best attendance at the end of the term will be able to wear their own clothes to school for one day.

### Weekly Winners

Year	Number of wins
Rec	2
Y1	1
Y2	2
Y3	3
Y4	2
Y5	0
Y6	1