



St James' RC Primary Newsletter

Friday 18th January 2019

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 16

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

This week KS2 were visited by a representative from The Passage. This charity aims to provide homeless people with support to transform their own lives. It runs a centre for homeless and vulnerable people and each day help up to 200 men and women. The team of Outreach Workers make contact, often late at night or early in the morning, with those sleeping rough in Victoria as they are bedding down or getting up each day. They have a 40-bed hostel and welcome and treat people with respect and dignity and offer professional and appropriate advice and help. They agree an action plan that is time limited with the aim of supporting people out of homelessness. Of the £4 million a year it costs to keep The Passage going, only 33% is funded from statutory sources; the rest comes from donations.



We also received a letter from The Cardinal Hume Centre this week to thank us for the donation we made to them. They thanked us for helping to give the homeless a chance of a brighter future and for helping to fulfil Cardinal Hume's vision. They explained that our donation would help their hostel residents enter or stay in education, employment or training.

Year 5 on Tuesday started to learn Line Dancing and they were lucky enough to have some parishioners come into school to start them off!



This week we purchased new dining room tables. They look very smart and the children really prefer them. It makes lunchtime a better experience for children as more of them can sit together on one table. They can also be folded away and this therefore give us much more room in the hall for PE.



We are lucky enough to have been asked to partner with The Orpington Chinese Language School. Next week we will be hosting fifteen Chinese pupils from Beijing and their four teachers. The pupils will be joining our children in lessons, at lunchtimes and at After School Club. We are excited to meet them and will try to learn a little of their language and find out about their culture.

This week children were all given a 'Change 4 Life' booklet to take home. Childhood obesity has reached epidemic levels with 22% of children being overweight or obese when they start primary school. This rises to 34% when children leave primary school. Sugar is said to be a big part of the problem with children aged 4-10 eating and drinking more than twice the amount of sugar that they should. I hope you found the booklets useful.

Can I please remind parents not to park in the Baptist Church Car Park as this is private property. Father David has said that parents are very welcome to use the St James the Great Car Park.

Can I also ask parents and children not to walk through the big car gates at the front of the school even if they are open. Please always use the pedestrian side gate. Thank you for helping to

keep our children safe.

Mrs Connolly is looking for a few volunteers. Please see her if you have any time available and are able to hear children in Year 5 and Year 6 read even if you do not have children in those two year groups. Could you also see Mrs Connolly if you are free at any time to help to assemble the new KS2 Table Tennis Table. Thank you to the parents that have already offered to tidy the KS1 Cooking Room next week. We are always very appreciative of any offers of help. Thank you!

The Education Secretary has urged all schools to eliminate their single use plastics by 2022. We are going to start by trying to stop using plastic straws and plastic bags in favour of sustainable alternatives and will be talking to children about the effects discarded plastics have on the environment and wildlife. We have signed up to 'Surfers against Sewage', which is a marine conservation charity. We are a small school but we think big and hopefully by making relatively minor changes we can make a difference. A YouGov survey commissioned by 'Keep Britain Tidy' found that young people are more committed than other generations to mitigating the effects of single-use plastic with many of them already owning a reusable water bottle. This is when we need to learn from our children as they are leading the way.

Have a good weekend and keep warming.

Kind regards

Mrs Weeks

On Thursday 24th January Yrs 3, 4 and 5 walking in Jubilee Park with our Chinese Visitors. If you are able to join us please let the office know. Children will need wellingtons on that day.

Dates for your diary

January

Monday 21st Guitar Recital for all children

Tuesday 22nd Parent Workshop on Child Anxiety at 10:00 -11:30 (This is now fully booked)

Tuesday 22nd-Friday 25th Chinese Visitors

Thursday 24th Yrs 3, 4 and 5 walking in Jubilee Park

Wednesday 30th Year 5 and Year 6 Choir to Young Voices

Thursday 31st Primary Future Speaker in Year 6

February

Friday 1st Year 3 Class Assembly in the School Hall at 2:50

Monday 4th Open Classroom for parents to look at trays at 3:30

Tuesday 5th E-Safety Day for pupils.

Thursday 7th Year 5 Class Mass in school at 9:05

Thursday 7th Yr 5 and Yr 6 Reading Comprehension information presentation for parents at 3:30 in Year 6 Classroom

Tuesday 12th Moon watch at school at 6:15pm

Monday 18th –Friday 22nd Half term holiday

Thursday 28th PTA own clothes day

March

Wednesday 6th Whole School Ash Wednesday Mass led by Yr 5

Thursday 7th World Book Day: Children are

welcome to dress up as a Book Character

Friday 8th Year 4 Class Assembly in the school hall at 2:50pm

Friday 8th International Women's Day

Saturday 9th Cross Country for Year 3 and Year 4

Monday 11th Open evening 3:30-6:30 for parents

Tuesday 12th Open evening 3:30-6:30 for parents

Wednesday 13th Individual photographs

Friday 15th Staff to hold a Movie Night for children (More details to follow)

Wednesday 20th KS1 Performance 9:15 for parents

Thursday 21st KS1 Performance 9:15 for parents

Saturday 23rd PTA Family Disco

Thursday 28th Whole School spring walk in Jubilee Park

Friday 29th PTA KS1 Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 29th Helen O'Grady Performance to parents at 1:15

April

Monday 1st Bike Ability Year 6

Tuesday 2nd Bike Ability Year 6

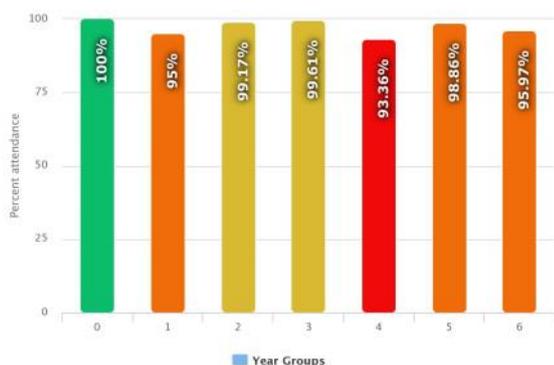
Thursday 4th Year 5 Passion Play for parents

Friday 5th End of term

SAFEGUARDING

Online safety is an important part of keeping children safe at St James'. We have extensive security measures in place in school, which are monitored both internally and externally, to help safeguard pupils from potential dangers or unsuitable material. Any e-safety incidents are recorded and managed.

Wednesday Word



This

Class	No. of lates last week
Reception	0
Year 1	1
Year 2	0
Year 3	0
Year 4	1
Year 5	0
Year 6	0

Week's Word is **JOY**. The children have been learning that God wants us all to be filled with joy and that Jesus came to make our joy complete. When we follow Jesus by loving God and others, we are filled with joy. We have been thinking about how we can bring joy to those that we



meet.

Attendance

I have contacted parents this week whose children's attendance is under 90%.

Sports News

Well done to the Year 6 athletes who took part in the Indoor Sports Hall athletics competition this week at Langley Boys' School. A great team effort from everybody involved with some individual winners in the sprint events.

Year 6 Library visit

Year 6 will be going to the library this Thursday at 11am. Please make sure library books are back in school that day (or before!) and let me know if anyone is able to accompany us on the visit.

Mrs Connolly

PTA

Thanks to everyone that attended the PTA meeting – great to see some new faces! There were some discussions about plans for the KS1 and KS2 projects which we'll update you on in due course.

All those who have booked tickets for our forthcoming trip to Horrible Histories, please note they'll be ready for collection on Wednesday 30th January and Friday 1st February after school in the main reception. We're looking forward to another entertaining evening at the Churchill!

DIARY DATES

Friday 8 February Horrible Histories - Terrible Tudors, Churchill Theatre

Saturday 23 March Family Disco, School Hall
6.30pm

Contact us: pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com or via our Facebook page

After School Club

St James' is being visited by some Chinese children during the next week. Oakies are very fortunate to have these guests attending our After School Club. This will be a fantastic opportunity for our children to meet and talk to children from a different country.

On Thursday 24th January Oakies will be hosting a traditional English tea party, with food and fun for all.

We are looking forward to making them feel very welcome.

Oakie doke

Janet and team

Community News and Events

Dyslexia Association - 'Wednesday Night Takeaway' - A chance for parents and children to come, question and listen and take away a knowledge of Dyslexia. Free event. **Wednesday 23rd January, 7:30pm**
St Nicolas Church Hall, Church Lane, Chislehurst.

BPV Cake and share group

For all parents of children or young people with additional needs. Come and have a chat with other parents in similar situations, share experiences and information, build connections and friendships.

Wednesday 23rd January, 9:30-11:30am