



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 19th January 2024

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 15

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

A highlight of this week was definitely when the Year 5 and Year 6 Choir travelled to the O2 on Monday night to perform with The Young Voices. I hope the children enjoyed this amazing opportunity. I certainly did! A huge thank you to Miss Atkinson for all her hard work in organising this. Thank you also to Mrs Grist and Mrs Brown and to Mrs Nantais, Mrs Anderson, Mrs Moreschi, Mrs Said and Mrs Green who accompanied the children on the day.

Thank you to the children for taking part so enthusiastically. A huge well done to you all! What an experience for the children! They were part of a choir of over 8000 children and they performed beautifully. We travelled on the train and the tube and the children were perfectly behaved. So much so that a fellow passenger approached me to thank the children for their impeccable behaviour. Thank you to all the parents for coming to support us in the audience. Everyone was very excited to be able to use our new banners for the first time this year! We are already looking forward to next year!

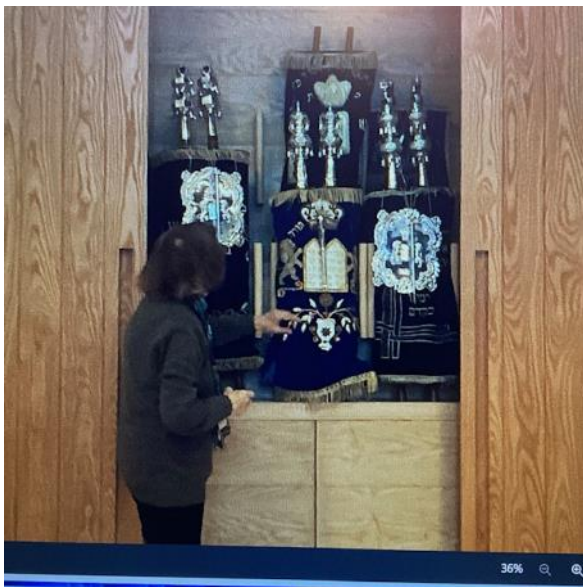


A representative from the charity The Passage spoke to the KS2 children this week to explain their role in supporting homeless people in the UK. He thanked the school for their donations from the KS2 Advent Concert and the KS1 Nativity plays. He explained the work of the charity and how this money would help them.



Year 5 have been very busy this week. They visited the Bromley Synagogue.

The children took part in the Jewish Living Experience held at the synagogue. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Jewish faith especially information on the Passover, Hanukah and the importance of the Torah.



Year 5 took part in a Glider Challenge Workshop on Friday which was organised by The Smallpeice Trust.

Their aim is to give young people everything they need to fuel their passion for engineering and are supported by the Royal Air Force Charitable Trust. In part one of the workshop, the children followed instructions to build three prototype gliders from card, they were then launched by the children. They measured the distance and the time to calculate the speed of their glider.

In part two, the children had to design a sustainable aircraft of the future. One of the designs will be entered into the national competition. Good Luck Year 5.



Christian Unity Week is observed each year from 18th to 25th January. To celebrate this, different classes will be visiting Christian churches in the local area.

Year 3 visited Petts Wood Methodist Church and Year 4 went to the local United Reform Church. They will be more visits next week.



We have started visiting Petts Wood Library again this term and Year 4 attended this Friday. They were excited to look at different genres of books.



This week the children have really been working hard and should be very proud of themselves. I have been lucky enough to visit some of the classrooms to see their learning. I have observed Year 2 working on money and Reception Class learning about the number 5.

I want to thank Mrs McMullan for spending lots of time this week sorting through the PTA collection of books in the house to see if any can be donated to charity. The teachers were able to choose

books for their reading areas in the classrooms.

Please see the attached information regarding The Faith in Action initiative for children in Year 5 and Year 6. Lolly Bell, the Faith in Action leader and Youth Minister for the Bromley Deanery, will be talking to the children in a KS2 assembly soon to promote the award.

I hope you all have a good weekend. Stay warm!

God bless,

Mrs Weeks

Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is COMMUNITY.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about Jesus starting to gather together the first Christian community. Our schools and parish communities were founded to be places of love, friendship, security and inclusiveness. People in the past answered Jesus' call to form our school which now welcomes and supports us. Now it's our turn to continue the work, to build on and develop the warm and loving community of our school – together. We asked the children about the communities that they belong to. They shared the communities they belong to outside of school.

Safeguarding

As we are all aware young people are often targeted for phones and high value clothing such as designer coats.

Please see the below links together the Met Police website for helpful advice.

<https://www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/personal-safety-how-to-stay-safe/mobile-phone-advice>

<https://www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/personal-safety-how-to-stay-safe/mugging-street-robbery/>

Dates for your Diary

January

Tuesday 23rd 5pm EEDI Meeting
Tuesday 23rd Y5 to St Francis Church
Tuesday 23rd 6:30 PTA Meeting
Wednesday 24th KS1 Drama Workshops
Wednesday 24th Y2 to Southborough Baptist Church
Friday 26th: 9:05 Y4 Class Assembly (Parents are welcome)
Friday 16th Y5 to Petts Wood Library
Saturday 27th RSPB Big Bird Watch
Monday 29th PTA Own Clothes Day
Monday 29th Catholic Children's Society Lenten Appeal Assembly
Tuesday 30th Y1 visiting Pizza Express
Wednesday 31st Y1 visiting St James' Church

February

Thursday 1st Class Mass Y5 Christian Unity
Friday 2nd 9:15 am Open classrooms for all parents to see learning
Friday 2nd Y2 to Petts Wood Library
Monday 5th - Friday 11th Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 5th Rec and Y6 Health Screening
Monday 5th 3:30 Open Classroom to look at trays
Tuesday 6th Safer Internet Day (Information to follow)
Friday 9th 9:05 Y2 Class Assembly (Parents are welcome)
Friday 9th Y1 to Petts Wood Library
Friday 9th P4C afternoon
Monday 12th - Friday 16th Half term and Buzzers Holiday Club
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd Lenten Reflection Week
Friday 23rd CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day
Tuesday 27th Start of Fair-Trade Fortnight
Thursday 29th Maths Day

March

Friday 1st National Offer Day for Year 6
Friday 1st: 9:05 Y3 Class assembly
Monday 4th Y1 Visiting National Gallery
Monday 4th Open evening 3:30-6:30
Tuesday 5th Open evening 3:30-6:30
Tuesday 5th Y4 online talk on 'Redraw the balance'
Thursday 7th World Book Day (Dress up as a character)
Thursday 7th KS2 Talk on 'Jobs behind the books'
Friday 8th International Women's Day
Friday 8th Start of British Science Week

Friday 8th am Y5 and Y6 STEM jobs talk
Thursday 14th Year 4 Class Mass Peace
Friday 15th Red Nose Day
Friday 15th Spring Walk
Friday 15th 6:15pm Moon Watch Led by Orpington Astronomical Society
Wednesday 20th pm Oscar Romero Mass at St George's Cathedral
Thursday 21st World Poetry Day
Friday 22nd KS2 Reading Passports in
Tuesday 26th Reading Passport Assembly KS2
Wednesday 27th 9:15 Year 5 Passion Play
Thursday 28th End of term at normal time

OTHER NEWS

This week in Year 3 we have been looking at the properties of soils and recreated the layers of the Earth's crust out of sweets. We also made our very own dinosaur fossils as a WOW moment to start our topic.





OAKIES

I'm sure you will agree the weather has been extremely cold this week, so the children have not spent as much time outside. They have enjoyed playing with the dressing up clothes and dancing in the hall. Also we have had fun playing with the word games and puzzles. We look forward to the warmer weather next week.



PTA NEWS

Happy Friday!

A correction from the last week's newsletter, the own clothes day will now be on Monday 29th January not the 25th.

A reminder that the PTA meeting is on Tuesday 23rd January and we would like to encourage you to try and come along. If you cannot make it in person please email the PTA and we will send you a zoom link.

This meeting is where we decide on fundraising events and how to spend the money which has been raised.

Part of these funds will go to repairs to the KS2 play apparatus and the flooring of the Gazebo.

We will also be looking for volunteers for the PTA committee for the next two academic years. The PTA is a registered charity and therefore must have a minimum of three trustees (the committee) in order to continue. If this is something that interests you please let us know and we can give you more details.

Many thanks
PTA Committee


Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 23rd January - PTA meeting
6:30pm


Thursday 29th January - Own Clothes Day

AWARDS

Headteacher Awards



| Year | EFFORT/ PARTICIPATION |
|--------|--------------------------|
| Rec | Matilda |
| Year 1 | Max |
| Year 2 | Harry |
| Year 3 | George |
| Year 4 | Alberto |
| Year 5 | Daniel |
| Year 6 | Darcy |



KS2 AWARDS

| Year | Respect in class | Pride in work |
|--------|------------------|---------------|
| Year 3 | Carlotta | Olivia R |
| Year 4 | Benedict | Ruby |
| Year 5 | Florence | James |
| Year 6 | Phi-Anh | Renee |

Congratulations to **Oliver** in Y6 who won the Courtesy Cup this week.

ATTENDANCE

| | Attendance (%) | Occasions Late |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| R | 96.67 | 1 |
| 1 | 96.67 | 1 |
| 2 | 94.33 | 0 |
| 3 | 98.75 | 0 |
| 4 | 99.35 | 0 |
| 5 | 96.88 | 0 |
| 6 | 99.68 | 0 |

Congratulations to Y6 who had the best attendance last week.

Weekly Winners

| Year | Number of wins |
|------|----------------|
| Rec | 0 |
| Y1 | 0 |
| Y2 | 0 |
| Y3 | 0 |
| Y4 | 0 |
| Y5 | 0 |
| Y6 | 1 |

The class with the best attendance this term will win an 'Own Clothes Day' before the end of term.