



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 17th November 2023

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 9

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

We started the week with an assembly that marked the start of Anti-bullying Week. Thank you to everyone who supported this by wearing odd socks and celebrating our differences.

Year 5 had the very exciting opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament on Monday. They had a tour of the House of Commons and of the House of Lords and met our local MP Gareth Bacon. The children asked him some very interesting questions which he was happy to answer. After this, they completed a workshop to understand how laws were made. All children behaved excellently and were a credit to the school.



We were pleased to welcome Andrey from Bromley Y to school on Wednesday to meet with some parents. If you met with him I hope that you found the meeting useful.

I want to thank Year 6 who were wonderful ambassadors for the school when they led tours on our open morning. The prospective parents commented on how Year 6 were so confident and articulate. The children really were amazing!

On Thursday we were visited by The Image Theatre and all of the children were treated to a performance of Wind in the Willows. Thank you to Mrs Connolly for organising this and to the PTA for funding this. The children had great fun watching the performance in the hall and singing along.



Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need by wearing spots. We raised £168.20



On Thursday morning a small contingent of 'school gardeners' and volunteers were delighted to attend The London Children's Flower Society 2023 Annual Awards Ceremony held at London's Guildhall. You will see from the photographs that we were awarded a fabulous trophy in recognition of progress in all competitions over the past growing year - their Perseverance Shield. The eagle-eyed amongst you will spot that the award was presented to us by Mr Alan Titchmarsh, President of The London Children's Flower Society and a little bit of a celebrity in his own right!

Mrs Deasy



I hope that parents found the Goal Sharing Evenings useful this week and that parents now know the targets that the children have for this year. I know that the teachers find the strong partnership that we have between home and school so beneficial and that this really supports the children to reach their individual targets. As you know, Governors asked you for feedback about the school and these were your replies:

Friendly and supportive staff.

We love the St James' teachers.

All the cross curricular clubs and opportunities that are given.

Support is given to children and there is an emotional connection with the teacher.

Amazing teachers!

Enriching curriculum.

Fantastic support from teachers.

We love the exceptional community and support that we are part of.

We have the most wonderful and supportive community and the school really feels like a family.

Quality and consistency across the whole school.

Very inclusive school with great teachers. Always very caring.

Wonderful school, great support, great opportunities. Nothing to improve.

The school is very encouraging and a great community.

Everything is amazing. Thank you.

There are plenty of resources to suit different reading styles with bigger fonts etc

We are so thankful to be part of St James' community.

It is a great school and we look forward to being part of it for many years to come and watching our children grow and learn. Thank you to everyone for all their hard work.

I LOVE THE SCHOOL SO MUCH!!!

Everyone welcomes everyone.

It is a lovely school and it helps children to have the best learning experience you could ever have.

Pleased remember that the Junior Travel Ambassador Competition ends on Monday so if children would like to enter they need to give their entries to their class teacher.

We look forward to seeing the Year 5 and Year 6 Cross Country runners tomorrow at Crystal Palace. Good luck to all the children who are running.

God Bless.

Mrs Weeks

Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is TALENT. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us to use our talents well. The marvellous thing is that we all have a special talent which only we can contribute to the world. Using our talents just for our own enjoyment can be like hiding our talents in the ground. Out of His love for us, God has entrusted us with individual talents. When used well, our talents help us to find our purpose in life. We explained to the children that talents might not be as obvious as being good at sport or acting or singing but they are just as valuable. We might be able to cheer people up, be a patient listener or a good friend. Our happiness comes from giving, just as much as it comes from receiving.

Safeguarding

Please see this link for information concerned with when it is appropriate to leave children alone at home.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/in-the-home/home-alone/>

Dates for your Diary

Please see the dates below. We will send out more details over the course of the term.

November

Saturday 18th Cross Country Competition for Y5 and Y6 at Crystal Palace (All welcome)

Monday 20th HSBC Money workshop with Y5

Monday 20th HSBC Money workshop with Y1

Tuesday 21st PTA Break the Rules Day

Wednesday 22nd HSBC Money workshop with Y3

Wednesday 22nd HSBC Money workshop with Y4

Thursday 23rd HSBC Money workshop with Rec

Thursday 23rd HSBC Money workshop with Y2

Friday 24th HSBC Money workshop with Y6

Friday 24th Hindu Assembly and Workshop

Friday 24th Christmas PTA Cracker Assembly

Saturday 25th 12-3 PTA Christmas Fair

Tuesday 28th Y2 Visiting The Golden Hinde

Thursday 30th Art Day

December

Tuesday 5th Y3 Litter Pick

Tuesday 5th Y4 to Advent Service at St George's Cathedral

Wednesday 6th 9:05 Y6 Class Mass (Parents welcome)

Thursday 7th Y6 Carol Singing at Southmore Court

Thursday 7th 3:40 LAMDA Performance for parents

Friday 8th Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

Friday 8th KS2 Reading Passports returned

Saturday 9th Orpington Christmas Concert for Y5 and Y6 Choir

Monday 11th 6pm KS2 Carol Concert at church

Tuesday 12th KS2 Reading Passport Assembly

Tuesday 12th Y6 Carol Singing at Memory Cafe

Wednesday 13th Christmas Lunch for all children

Wednesday 13th KS1 Nativity 9:15 (Babies and Toddlers are welcome)

Thursday 14th KS1 Nativity 9:15 (No Babies and Toddlers please)

Thursday 14th pm KS1 Party for children

Friday 15th pm KS2 Party for children

Tuesday 19th End of term for children at normal time

Calling all local artists!

Do you know a local artist who would be interested in leading an assembly, running a workshop and/or showcasing their work? If you do please let Miss McCarthy know via office as we would love to get some local artists into school.

Miss McCarthy, Art Subject Leader

Sports News

On Tuesday, some children from Y4, Y5 and Y6 competed in their first ever swimming gala. Even though they competed against six large schools they finished 4th overall. Tadas finished 2nd in the Boys Breast Stroke and Julia finished 2nd in the Backstroke. St James' won the Boys Freestyle Relay and the Boys Medley Relay!

Well done to everyone who took part and also to Miss Spencer-Boyce for managing the team.

Report by Phi-Anh and Mrs Connolly

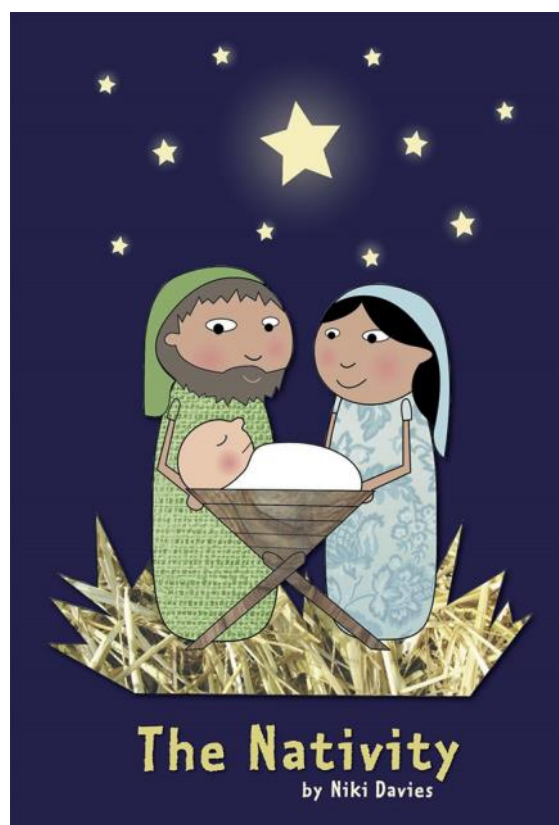
OAKIES

The children have been playing with dinosaurs this week and have learnt about the Triceratops, Tyrannosaurus and Pterodactyls. They have had a lot of fun playing with these lovely toys that were donated by a parent.

We wanted to remind you that all children have healthy food at after school club and as you can see they really enjoy all the food on offer.



OTHER NEWS



You are warmly invited to the KS1 Nativity this year taking place on Wednesday 13th December at 9:15 (babies and toddlers welcome) and Thursday 14th December at 9:15 (NO babies or toddlers please). With uplifting songs it is sure to entertain and put you in the festive mood.

AWARDS

Headteachers Awards



Year	Good Manners
Rec	Morgan
Year 1	Isabella
Year 2	Huxley
Year 3	Oliver
Year 4	Sophie
Year 5	Oscar
Year 6	Oscar



KS2 AWARDS

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Luca	Ada
Year 4	Jadon	Holly
Year 5	Nicola	Edith
Year 6	Pascal	Maia

Well done to Lorenzo in Y3 who was the winner of the Courtesy Cup this week.

ATENDANCE

	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
R	100	0
1	99.67	0
2	99.0	0
3	97.81	1
4	96.88	1
5	97.19	0
6	98.13	1

Congratulations to Reception who had the best attendance last week. Reception are still in the lead and could be winning an own clothes day before the end of term.

Weekly Winners

Year	Number of wins
Rec	6
Y1	3
Y2	0
Y3	0
Y4	0
Y5	0
Y6	1

PTA NEWS

We will start today's update with a thank you to everyone who has already donated raffle prizes, pre-loved uniforms and Christmas jumpers, toys, games and books.

Next week we are asking for sweet donations and unwanted gifts for the present room. Also, Bring a Bottle Day is Thursday 23rd November and Christmas Cracker day is on Friday 24th November.

It is Break the Rules day on Tuesday 21st November. If any pupils break any of the attached list of rules there will be a 50p fine (or £2 to break as many as they want).

The PTA is once again selling Christmas trees through 'Christmas Trees for Schools' and offering you the chance to purchase a beautiful Premium Nordmann Fir (low-drop) in a variety of sizes. The Nordmann Fir is one of the most important species grown for Christmas trees due to its attractive foliage, with needles that are not sharp and that do not drop as readily as other varieties. It will last the whole of Christmas and will look grand on its own or festooned with all the ornaments you can find. As always, EVERY PENNY OF PROFIT will go to the school! And every penny counts, so please ask any grandparents, brothers, sisters, neighbours and friends if they would also like to order.

To place your order, please return the attached form by email to pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com by **Monday 27th November** and make your payment using the details attached. The trees will be delivered directly to the KS2 playground on the morning of Saturday 2nd December.

We will also be circulating our first Small Business Brochure. This is a fantastic opportunity to bring attention to the small businesses in our school community. There are some great offers inside so please check it out.

Thank you again for all your help and support during this busy time.

The PTA Committee

Dates for your diary

Break the Rules Day – 21st November

Christmas Fair – 25th November

Christmas Tree last order/collection – 27th Nov/2nd Dec

Christmas Wreath Evening – 4th December

Panto – 12th December



One of our parents is looking to rehome some guinea pig babies that they have. They are currently two weeks old and will be ready to be rehomed on the 7th December. Please contact the office and we will pass on your details to the parent concerned.