



# St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 22nd September

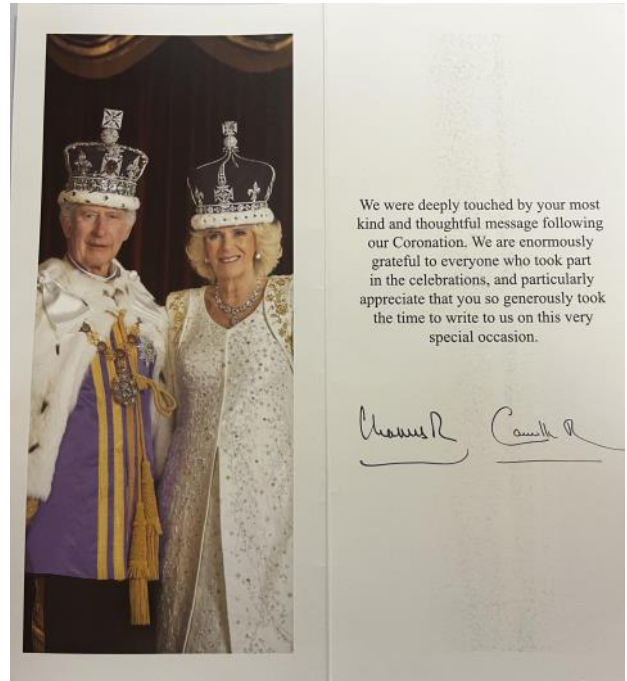
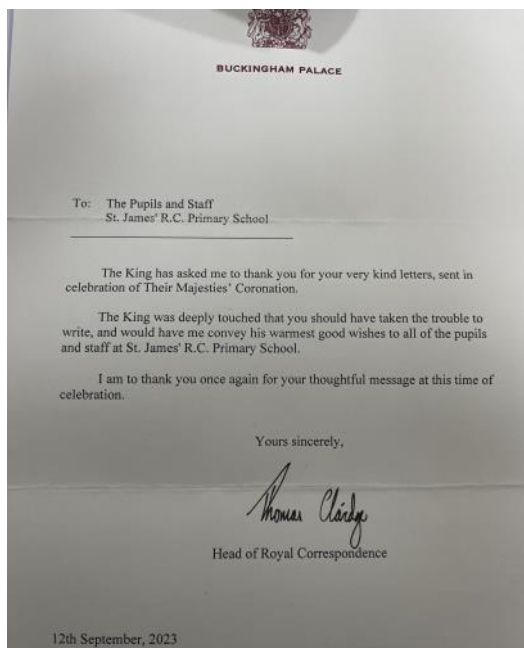
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Issue 3

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

This week we received a letter from His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen thanking us for writing to congratulate them both on their Coronation. Year 3 were delighted that they had read their letters and written back to them.



More good news! We discovered this week that we have been awarded a shield in The London Children's Flower Society annual competition. Congratulations to Mrs Deasy and everyone who worked so hard in the school garden last year. Mrs Deasy, Mr Bishop and Mrs Charlesworth will represent us at The Guildhall, London where they will receive the shield from Alan Titchmarsh.

On Monday we met the children who this year will take on the roles of Student Representative, RE Ambassadors, Class Librarians, Junior Travel Ambassadors and Head Gardeners. We also met members of the Eco Committee and our Play Leaders.

On Wednesday Year 3 took part in Scoot Sure. The children focused on safety checks, starting, stopping and turning, looking over their shoulders, sharing pavement space and crossing roads and driveways. Well done Year 3!

This week Year 4 visited Petts Wood Library for a session with Ed Zaghini for a session focussing on Books In Translation. They looked at looks of different books that had been translated from a variety of different languages including Ukrainian, Polish, Greek, Danish, French, German, Japanese and many more! It was a great trip and they chose some books to bring back to school.



We were delighted to welcome three Bromley Football Club First Team Players to the Bromley Football Club After School Club on Thursday. The children enjoyed meeting Grant Smith, Ben Krauhaus and Soul Kader.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Jeans for Genes Day on Friday. The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of genetic conditions and raises money to fund projects that make a real difference to the lives of those affected.



Thank you to the parents who attended our Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Meeting on Tuesday. We looked at how we can do further work in RE. Please let Mrs Martin know if you would like to be involved in this committee in the future.

I hope the parents who met with Mrs Richards on Thursday to hear about being a Reading Volunteer at the school found the meeting informative. If you would like to be a hear children read please speak to your child's class teacher and see the office staff about applying for a DBS check.

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched The Big Ambition, a national survey of children across England. The Big Ambition aims to hear from children about what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England. The Big Ambition survey will be open until Friday 15th December. You can access the survey by visiting: <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition>.

Please see the attachment about a course for parents that will focus on communication, behaviour management, family dynamics and parent-child relationships. The sessions aim to empower parents to share experiences, learn new skills and practice these alongside other parents. Any parents of children aged over 2 and under 12 years are welcome to join.

Next week we look forward to welcoming Reception, Y1 and Y2 parents to school on Wednesday at 6:30 to hear about how parents can support their children at home with their phonics and reading. This meeting is for parents and we ask that children do not attend. Mrs Richards, Miss McCarthy and Mrs Martin look forward to seeing parents on Wednesday. Please make your way to the main entrance.

We are also looking forward to our whole school walk through Jubilee Park on Friday morning raising money for CAFOD. Children are asked to make a suggested donation of £1. We will leave school at approximately 9:15 and will return by 10:30. Parents and grandparents are very welcome to join us. Please wait just outside the school gates if you are joining us on our walk. Children are asked to wear school uniform but to also bring in either named wellington boots or walking boots as the park is getting muddy. They will also need a named waterproof coat.

Please remember that we started the process on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September of seeking nominations for a new Parent Governor. Parents should have received a letter of invitation, nomination form, disqualification form and Governor Allowance Policy but please see the office if you did not receive these. We look forward to a good response from parents in order to fill this vacancy. Should you wish to discuss what the role would entail please do contact our Chair of Governors, Mary Hutchinson, via the school office.

God Bless.

Mrs Weeks

### Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is GENEROUS. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of workers and a vineyard to show us God's generosity. God's generosity is unlimited and offered to each one of us. God loves us and is more generous than we could ever imagine – wanting to take care of all our needs. We prayed together as a school to ask God to help us all be more generous.

### Safeguarding

The Bromley Safer Schools Team has historically found that robberies increase each year at the release time of the new iPhone.

#### **Please see below some mobile phone safety tips:**

Keep your phone and valuables out of sight in a safe place when travelling to and from school. Be careful when you take your phone out in public places.

Bus stops, train stations and surrounding areas are common target areas for thieves,

who can approach on foot, moped or on a pedal bike or e-scooter.

Earphones/headphones can distract you, stopping you from seeing or hearing someone approach you from behind.

Do not confront a thief – it is not worth risking your own safety for possessions that can be replaced.

Robbery or attempted robbery are serious crimes and should be reported. It's important you seek help straight away by dialling 999 rather than contacting police when you get home. Use a friend's phone or the phone of a trusted adult. This gives the police the best chance to catch the suspects, recover any stolen property and ensure your safety.

If you have information about a robbery and do not want to report it to police, speak to Fearless 100 % anonymously at [www.fearless.org](http://www.fearless.org). Fearless is the youth service of the independent charity Crimestoppers. Whether you have a phone or not, memorise or keep a parent's phone number in a separate place in your bag/zipped pocket in case of emergency.

#### **Help protect your child's phone if it's stolen:**

Use your device's security features, apps or PIN locking mechanisms to protect your data and prevent the phone being used.

Keep a record of the phone's IMEI number (not on your phone!). This is a 15-digit unique number which can be obtained by keying in \*#06#. You need this information if the phone is lost or stolen. Consider installing a tracker app, available online.

### Organ Donation Week

This week is organ donation week. The campaign aims to raise awareness about the ongoing need for organ donors.



## Dates for your Diary

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

### September

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> 2:40 PGL Meeting for Y6 Parents**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PTA AGM**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>: St Vincent de Paul Feast Day**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> KS2 CAFOD Assembly and Y6 Workshop**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 KS1 Phonic Talk for Rec, Y1 and Y2 parents**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>: 9:15 CAFOD Walk**

### October

Month of Prayer and Devotion to Our Lady

Black History Month

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Father David meeting Reception Class

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Noon Closing Date for Parent

Governor Nominations

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Governors meeting parents at the school gate at 3:15

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Y3 to Morrisons, Petts Wood

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> 6:30 KS2 Reading

Comprehension Parent Talk

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>: Whole school Mass (Harvest)

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>: National Poetry Day

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> CAFOD Family Fast Day

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>-Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Y6 to PGL

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>: World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Y4 to Hindu Temple

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Dementia Friend Training for Y5 children

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> 1:30-2:30 Reception Class

Grandparent Tea Party

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> P4C afternoon

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Y5 Storytelling Session

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Y5 Library Trip

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> -Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Half Term Holiday

Monday 30<sup>th</sup>/Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> Bike Ability Group 1 Y 6

### November

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> /Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Bike Ability Group 2 Y6

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>: All Saints Day Holy Day of Obligation Whole School Mass

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Prayer Day

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> -Friday 10<sup>th</sup> UK Parliament Week

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Flu Vaccinations for all children

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Primary Maths Challenge for Y5 and Y6

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Collection for Bromley Hygiene Bank

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Individual and sibling photos

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> 9:05 Y6 Class Assembly

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Diwali

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Anti bullying Odd sock day

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Y5 to Houses of Parliament

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 3:30-6:30 Goal Sharing Meetings for parents and children (appointments will be available)

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 3:30-6:30 Goal Sharing Meetings

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> 9:15 Open Morning for 2024

Reception Intake

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> pm Wind in the Willows

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Children in Need

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Cross Country

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> PTA Break the Rules Day

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Hindu Assembly and Workshop

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Cracker Assembly

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> PTA Christmas Fair

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Art Day

### December

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Christmas Jumper Day Save the Children

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> KS2 Reading Passports returned

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Orpington Christmas Concert for KS2 Choir

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> KS2 Carol Concert 6pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> KS2 Reading Passport Assembly

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> KS1 Nativity 9:15 (Babies and Toddlers are welcome)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> KS1 Nativity 9:15 (No Babies and Toddlers please)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> pm KS1 Party for children

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> pm KS2 Party for children

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> End of term for children at normal time

## **Black History Month**

As you are aware, we celebrate black history throughout our curriculum all year in school. However, Black History Month is a momentous occasion where we recognise and celebrate the invaluable contributions of black people to British society. We will be celebrating throughout the month of October and were wondering if we could use your help.

Would you like to:

- come in and read or tell a story
- teach a group of children how to cook traditional food
- share cultural patterns and clothings
- teach a group of children a traditional dance
- teach greeting in an African language
- teach some children any traditional arts or crafts

We would love to welcome you in. If you would like to volunteer to share something with the children please let Mrs Martin know.

## **OAKIES BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

The staff here at Oakies would like to welcome all the new children to our clubs. You are all very welcome and we look forward to a year of fun ahead of us. As you can see, we had a lovely fun after school session in the sunshine with an ice lolly. Unfortunately, the weather is no longer warm and dry, so we will have a shorter time outside but more time to do inside activities such as arts and crafts, model building, card making, indoor games and so much more.

Mrs Wallis



## **PTA NEWS**

What is it about ice cream that means children like to eat them in all weathers? Ice cream Friday is back! Ice Creams will be available under the oak tree (for shelter from the British weather). Magnums are £1.50 and everything else is £1.

There are still some tickets available for the Panto. Please can you complete the form and return to [pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com](mailto:pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com) no later than the 29th September. Tickets will continue be on a first come, first served basis.

It is your last chance to be part of the 2023-2024 PTA 100 Club! Please let Laura Cunningham know ASAP if you would like to renew/sign up (form attached) You've got to be in it to win it!

The PTA AGM is on Tuesday 26th September at 6:30 and all parents are invited. This is a great opportunity to find out what the PTA does for our school, and to help shape future fundraising and decide where these funds can be spent. This will be an in person and Zoom meeting and I encourage as many of you as possible to attend. Mrs Weeks is very much looking forward to seeing our new parents.

Many thanks  
PTA Committee

### Dates for your diary

Ice Cream Fridays

PTA AGM – 26th September at 6:30pm

Break the Rules Day – 21st November

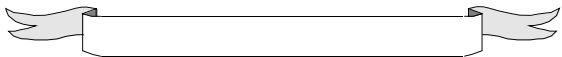
Christmas Fair – 25th November 12-3pm

Panto – 12th December

**AWARDS : These children attend Mrs Weeks' Friday Tea Party.**



Year	For showing kindness
Rec	Natalia
Year 1	Aedan
Year 2	Phoebe
Year 3	Matt
Year 4	Ava
Year 5	James
Year 6	Dominic



**KS1 AWARDS**

Year	Gold Sticker Award		Golden Promises
Rec	Morgan	Mia	Matilda
Year 1	Alana	Orlaith C	Perla
Year 2	Huxley	Joseph	Naomi

**ATTENDANCE**

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
R	99.67	1
1	100	0
2	93.67	0
3	98.75	0
4	99.69	0
5	96.56	1
6	96.25	0

Congratulations to Y1. They were awarded with 5 minutes extra play time today.

**Weekly Winners**

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

The winning class at the end of term is able to have an own clothes day. Well done to Year 1 who are in the lead at the moment.