



# St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 3rd November 2023

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 7

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a lovely half term holiday.

We are thinking this half term about the Catholic Virtue of co-operation. The children will be nominating each other if they see examples of co-operation at school.

We received a lovely letter this week from The Bromley Foodbank thanking us for our donations before half term. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Year 6 have been taking part in Bike Ability this week and have been learning about how to maintain their bike and control their bike when setting off, cruising, slowing down, braking and stopping. They have practised pedalling with one hand and have been able to pass stationary vehicles parked on a road and can understand the road signals, signs and road markings.



We held a Fire Practice one lunchtime this week and all children and staff were quickly accounted for at our muster point on the KS2 Playground.

We attended All Saints Day Mass this week. Thank you to Year 5 for leading this. It was a wonderful way to start our Prayer Day.

To celebrate All Saints Day, the pupils had the opportunity to explore and learn about saints from around the world. These included; St Teresa of Calcutta, St Martin de Porres, St Kateri Tekakwitha and St Josephine Bakhita. The children discussed why saints are inspirational and explored ways in which we can learn from them.

The open letter "Fratelli Tutti" by Pope Francis was also a key feature of the day. The classes reflected on the content of the letter which encourages us to extend a helping hand to our brothers and sisters in need. Pope Francis reminds us that if we wish to build a better world, we must dream together. Inspired by these words, pupils were encouraged to imagine their ideal world and consider how they can contribute towards this. They expressed how they can give a helping hand for a kinder world, where everyone is treated with respect and understanding.





In their cooking lesson, Year 5 made delicious coleslaw.



Y1 visited Petts Wood library on Friday and had a wonderful time choosing books.



We were visited this week by a SEND Consultant to review our SEND provision. She is a current Ofsted Inspector and is an expert in SEND. She was very pleased with what she observed.

As we approach winter I feel it is a good time to share this NHS link with parents: [Is my child too ill for school?](#)

Can I please remind parents not to park across drive ways at drop-off and pick-up times. A local resident contacted us to say that a parent parked across their drive and this could have prevented them going to work on time. They made a note of the make of car and its registration number.

On Friday we had a professional photographer spend the day with us to take photographs of the children for our new website. We look forward to the new photographs being added to the website and I will let you know when this happens.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to cook with KS1 cooking this year and met with Miss McCarthy this week.

Thank you for everyone's donations to The Royal British Legion poppy appeal and thank you to Year 6 for selling the poppies. This appeal will continue next week.

I have been asked to say that more help is needed for Children's Liturgy at the Sunday 9.15 am Mass. If anyone is interested please can they contact the Parish Office.

I hope you have a good weekend.  
God Bless.

Mrs Weeks

### Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is HUMBLE. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that God will reward those who are humble. We explained to the children that humble means not boasting and being honest about our weaknesses. Humble people are not afraid to say sorry when they are wrong. Humble people notice and praise other people's strengths and successes and remember to regularly give thanks to God for their own gifts. A humble person

knows that all good comes from God and that any talents we have are gifts from God. There are many blessings in life and we should not take them for granted.

### Safeguarding

The following is advice from Brake, the road safety charity:

#### Top tips for cycling safely with children

- Seek routes, where you can, that are entirely off road, using segregated cycleways away from traffic. For anyone, of any age, cycling on roads is risky. Rural roads with lots of bends and high speeds are particularly risky, and so are urban streets with high volumes of traffic, trucks and buses.
- Brake doesn't recommend that children under the age of 10 cycle on roads, ever.
- Campaign for segregated cycleways in your community, particularly between your home and your children's school and other community facilities such as shops. Follow the links below to find out more.
- Get cycle trained.
- The whole family should wear cycle helmets; set a good example for your children by wearing a helmet too.
- If you and your children use roads to cycle, make sure you all have lights and wear bright clothing such as high-visibility vests. This particularly helps drivers with poorer vision to see you on dull days as well as at night.
- Make sure your child's helmet is new and undamaged. Don't use a second-hand helmet. Fit your child's helmet with care, making sure the strap is snug under their chin.

#### Dates for your Diary

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

#### November

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

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

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Y5 visiting the Parish Memory Cafe**

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

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

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Y6 Library visit**

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

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 3:30-6:30 Goal Sharing Meetings for parents and children

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Bromley Y Parent Consultations (To be booked via Bromley Y)

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

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> pm Wind in the Willows Performance for all children

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Children in Need (Wear own clothes and spots)

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Rec Library visit

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

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> HSBC Money workshop with Y5

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> HSBC Money workshop with Y1

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

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> HSBC Money workshop with Y3

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> HSBC Money workshop with Y4

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> HSBC Money workshop with Rec

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> HSBC Money workshop with Y2

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> HSBC Money workshop with Y6

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

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

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 12-3 PTA Christmas Fair

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Y2 Visiting The Golden Hinde

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Y3 Visiting Chislehurst Caves

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

#### December

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> 9:05 Y6 Class Mass (Parents welcome)

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Y6 Carol Singing at Southmore Court

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> 3:40 LAMDA Performance for parents

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

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

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Orpington Christmas Concert for Y5 and Y6 Choir

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

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

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Christmas Lunch for all children

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

### Library News

There are some great events at Orpington Library. Please see the attached flyers.

All events need to be booked via Eventbrite using this link: <https://orpingtonlibrary.eventbrite.co.uk>

### AWARDS

#### KS2 AWARDS

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Lottie	James
Year 4	Perry	Aiyla
Year 5	Logan	Xanthe
Year 6	Riya	Izzy

**Congratulations to Julia who was the winner of the Courtesy Cup this week.**

### ATTENDANCE

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
R	97	0
1	98.67	0
2	95.33	0
3	97.19	0
4	97.81	0
5	97.81	0
6	100	0

Congratulations to Y6 who had the best attendance the week before half term. 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	4
Y1	2
Y2	0
Y3	0
Y4	0
Y5	0
Y6	1

## OTHER NEWS

Mark was a mascot for the England football team during their recent game against Australia. It certainly looked like a great experience.



## PTA NEWS

We hope you all enjoyed half term. It's only 52 days until Christmas and actually only 16 days until the PTA Christmas Fair!

We will be asking for donations from Monday, with next week being... branded school uniform and pre loved Christmas jumpers.

Please leave all donations at the office.

## CHRISTMAS WREATH EVENING

We will be holding a Christmas Wreath making course on the evening of 4th December not the 3rd and will send further information out soon.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS FUNDRAISING

The children have designed their Christmas cards and the designs will be distributed back to parents in the coming week. If you would like to order cards, gift tags and more based on your child's artwork please do so by the 10th November using your unique artwork code. Orders will be delivered to you in the first week of December. For every item ordered about £1-£1.50 is raised for the school. Last year we raised almost £400.

Many thanks

PTA Committee

## Dates for your diary

Christmas Card Ordering deadline - 10th November

Break the Rules Day – 21st November

Christmas Fair – 25th November

Christmas Wreath Evening - 4th December

Panto - 12th December