



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Friday 21st April 2023

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 26

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a good Easter.

You will shortly receive letters from the class teachers, if you have not already received them, summarising the summer term and explaining what each class will be doing. I hope that you find the letters useful.

We are promoting Catholic Virtues and this half term our focus is on Determination. We will be talking to the children about the ability to continue trying to do something, although it is very difficult. Children will nominate people that they see showing determination and we will celebrate these nominations in assembly and display the nominations in the hall.

This half term, Class teachers will be nominating children who "Share their love of God every day in all that they learn, do and say". This is our school vision in our School Mission statement. These children will then attend the Head teacher Tea Party on Fridays.

Due to the dry weather we can now use the field once more and the children are taking part in The Daily Mile. This is when the children jog for 10 minutes with their friends in the safety of their school environment. Everyone has fun taking part and it is not competitive. They build relationships, confidence and resilience. The children work on their fitness and focus on having a healthy lifestyle in the fresh air. They support one another and improve their social and leadership skills. This daily physical activity can help children concentrate back in the classroom. It is a profoundly simple but effective concept. It can improve not only the children's fitness, but also their concentration levels, mood, behaviour and general wellbeing.

The Daily Mile is a social activity, wherein the children jog at their own pace in the fresh air with friends.

This week we have welcomed Miss Tesfai to our school. She is a student teacher who will be working with Year 1 this term alongside Miss McCarthy.

We also welcomed Mr Hurley to St James' this week. He is a reading volunteer from the Schoolreaders Organisation and he will be working with Year 4 and Year 5 this term.

Please look out for the KS2 Reading Passports that are being sent out this week. They are due back on Friday 14th July and will celebrate these in an assembly.

I hope that the Year 6 parents who came into school this week to hear about the SATs in Year 6 found the information helpful. Thank you to Mrs Connolly for organising this.

It has been lovely to see the children returning to school in their summer uniforms. Please see the attached uniform policy. We ask that all children are in their summer uniforms by Tuesday 2nd May.

Letters went out this week offering places to our new Reception children in September. We are very much looking forward to these children joining our school community and for some of them to be joining their brothers and sisters at St James'.

Year 4 had a workshop with Bromley Y on Wednesday. The children discussed how all emotions are valid and that we all can feel in different ways. They discussed Zones of Regulation and where they were and how they were feeling. This will be followed up with another workshop that thinks about how we can deal with different emotions within our friendships.

Please see the attached RE Newsletter with information about what children will be learning about to help them deepen their faith this term.

The highlight of this week was of course International Day. Thank you to everyone who supported this. The children looked fabulous in their outfits and they were able to try various food from around the world. Thank you to Mrs Martin for organising such a successful event.



Year 5 carried out an in depth study of Brazil in South America. Some interesting facts found were: Brazil has four different times zones. One of the most common animals in Brazil is the Capybara. It can be 4ft long! There are 123 million Catholics in Brazil. Brazil has won the World Cup five times! The children worked together to create a fact sheet with all their interesting information.

On Saturday it will be Stephen Lawrence Day. Stephen's story is both challenging and inspirational. He was a normal young person who made the most of everyday opportunities. Although his life was short, Stephen provides a positive role model of a life well lived. He was born and grew up in south-east London and had ambitions to use his talents in maths, art and design to become an architect. He wanted to have a positive impact on his community. As we know, his dream of becoming an architect was never realised because on 22nd April 1993, at the age of just 18, Stephen was tragically murdered. Stephen Lawrence Day is about the part we all play in creating a society in which everyone can flourish. It is an opportunity for children to have their voices heard, make the changes they would like to see and create a society that treats everyone with fairness and respect. It hopefully inspires children to live their best life. Year 2 made poppies in memory of Stephen.



On Saturday it is also World Earth Day. We all have a vital role to play and must come together to look after and care for our shared world and tackle the climate crisis.

This week, KS2 were visited by Helayna Jenkins who is the Principal Loneliness Champion for the London Borough of Bromley. She led an assembly on 'Tackling Loneliness'. She discussed what loneliness was, who can experience loneliness and when it can occur. The children learnt about what resources were available to help people who felt lonely and the importance of talking about it if people feel lonely.



Finally, I am very sad to say that Mrs Stewart will be retiring at the end of this term. Mrs Stewart has worked at St James' for twenty-two years and is obviously an important part of our school family. She has worked with so many children and I know that she has had such a huge impact on their learning. She always puts the children first and goes out of her way to make sure that the children love their learning. We will all miss her very much indeed. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Mrs Stewart for her hard work and dedication and for all that she has contributed to the school. I hope she enjoys her last term with us.

If your child belongs to one of the uniformed organisations (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides etc.) then they may wear their scouting or guiding uniform to school on Monday 24th April in celebration of St. George's Day on Sunday 23rd April. Robert Baden-Powell (the founder of the Scouting Movement) chose St. George as the Patron Saint of Scouting as the story of St. George shows him overcoming adversity.

Good luck to Miss McCarthy and to any parents who are running The London Marathon on Sunday!

God bless.

Mrs Weeks

Dates for your diary

April

Monday 24th St George's Day (Uniform groups may wear their uniforms)

Tuesday 25th 9:05 KS2 LAMDA Assembly

Wednesday 26th KS1 Road Safety Beep Beep Day with Brake

Wednesday 26th 2:45 Y1 Phonic Meeting for parents

Thursday 27th Y6 Bank of America

Wednesday 27th 2:45 Y2 SATS meeting for parents

Wednesday 27th 3:30 Y4 Multiplication Check and Sleepover Meeting for parents

Friday 28th Petts Wood library visits to see Premiership Trophy

Friday 28th KS2 cake sale organised by Year 5 in aid of the Alzheimer's Society.

May

Monday 1st Bank Holiday

Tuesday 2nd All children in summer uniform

Tuesday 2nd-Friday 5th Rosary Week (KS2 invited to say the Rosary in Y5 Classroom at 8:30 each morning)

Tuesday 2nd Y5 visiting The Mosque, Keston

Wednesday 3rd Y3 visiting Jubilee Park

Thursday 4th Nourish special Coronation Lunch Menu

Friday 5th Coronation Family Picnic during lunch (Families can join us from 12:05)

Saturday 6th The Coronation

Monday 8th Bank Holiday

Tuesday 9th -Friday 12th Year 6 SATs

Wednesday 10th 2pm Y4 Bromley Y Workshop

Wednesday 10th Y5 Puberty Talk

Friday 12th Y6 visit to the library

Monday 15th Walk to School week

Thursday 18th Ascension Day Whole School Mass (Year 4)

Friday 19th Y4 visit to the library

Friday 19th Year 4 Sleepover

Monday 22nd CAFOD Workshops

Thursday 25th Whole School Mass May Procession (Year 3)

Thursday 25th Y2 visiting Southmore Court

Friday 26th Y6 to Biggin Hill Museum

Friday 26th: 9:05 Y1 Class assembly

Friday 26th Y5 visit to the library

Friday 26th P4C afternoon

Monday 29th- Friday 2nd Half term

June

Monday 5th INSET day

Friday 9th-Y3 visit to the library

Thursday 15th-Y2 visit to the library at 1.30pm

Friday 23rd -Rec visit to the library

Friday 30th-Y1 visit to the library

Word on Wednesday

This Week's Word is Jesus. We talked to the children about how the word Jesus means 'God Saves' in Hebrew. Jesus came to save us from doing wrong - to show us and to teach us how to live good lives. We talked about our favourite story about Jesus. We also spoke about how our lives are enriched when we know Jesus. He is with us at all times and in all places. We can encounter him in prayer and in one another.

Safeguarding

All parents can come under pressure from time to time. Please see the attached NSPCC Positive Parenting Guide. It shares practical advice and tips for parenting techniques that work well for children of all ages.

Spotlight on a Club

The Yoga and Mindfulness Club started this week. It is run in a fun way with the children getting in tune with their bodies using breathing techniques, movement and relaxation. It takes place on Friday lunchtimes and really relaxed the children today. Please contact the office if you would like your child to attend. It is open to all year groups.



Library News

The SPINE Festival is a creative arts festival which runs every year and involves 16 London boroughs. There are a whole host of activities going on across London including Bromley now until 10th May. Please find attached a poster with the events listed for Orpington.

Other News

We were delighted to hear about Aleks' and Jimmy's trip to the Polish Presidential Palace to meet the Polish First Lady in recognition of a competition that they won. They had a tour around the Palace and had tea with the First Lady. They also performed their songs for her and definitely seem to have had a great time.

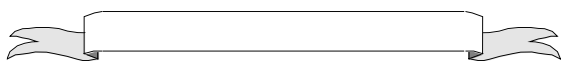


We were also proud to hear about Maddie singing with the BYMT Musical Theatre group where they sang three songs at the Fairfield Halls from their recent productions Seussical and Wind in the Willows. Maddie's solo was the song 'Spring' from Wind in the Willows.

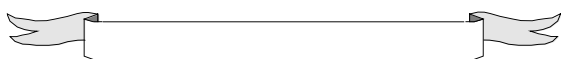


AWARDS

Headteacher Awards



Year	Sharing our love of God, every day in all that we learn,
Rec	Orla C
Year 1	Maiya
Year 2	Theo
Year 3	Symeon
Year 4	Aadhanya
Year 5	George
Year 6	Maddie



KS2 Awards

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Emmanuel	Molly
Year 4	Cameron	Emma
Year 5	Izzy	Lola
Year 6	Jayden C	Aleks

Congratulations to **Chloe** in Y5 who is the winner of the Courtesy Cup this week.

PTA NEWS

A big welcome back to the Summer Term from the PTA. We hope you had a great Easter and have settled back into the normality of having the children back at school!

We hope your children enjoyed the KS1 Easter Egg Hunt and the chocolate eggs which were funded by the PTA.

The PTA have lots of exciting events planned, this term including the:

- Irish Music Night
- Summer Fair
- Summer Ball

And of course not forgetting the Friday ice cream sale!

Unfortunately, we have had to put the prices up on Magnum's this year to £1.50 as otherwise we would be making a loss on our most popular ice cream, but all others are still at the very low price of only £1.

We have also decided to change the Irish Music Night to also allow children, with children tickets at the very reasonable price of £0.00!

Please email pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com to get your tickets.

On Wednesday evening it is the Summer Term PTA meeting, I would encourage all of you to attend. It is a fantastic opportunity for you to have a say in how the PTA funds are going to be spent, as well as getting the chance to volunteer to help organise these vital events for the school community.

Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 26th April – At School and on Zoom 6:30pm

Saturday 13th May – Irish Music Night 7pm