



Newsletter

28th September 2018

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This Week at St James'...

As I write, our MacMillan Coffee Morning is in full swing—you've been really generous with your donations of cakes, thank you, and our Kingfishers are doing a sterling job of keeping everyone fed and watered. Thank you for supporting us with this event. MacMillan are a fantastic organization, providing all sorts of support for those affected by cancer—my family benefitted greatly from the support of a MacMillan Cancer Nurse, and I'm so pleased that we can show our support in return.

On Wednesday, Mr Leach and I received our induction into the Schools of Tomorrow fellowship—Schools of Tomorrow is a collaborative partnership of schools and leading educational thinkers and researchers, aiming to securing the highest possible levels of achievement and well-being, with highly effective engagement with the wider school community, leading to effective preparation for the future. This will be a two year long journey initially, and will involve us visiting schools beyond Bedford, so that we can share best practice nationally. We will be keeping you posted on our progress through our fellowship.

Later today, all our KS2 children will be visiting Biddenham School, to take part in an Outdoor & Adventurous Activities intra-school competition, as part of our wider PE curriculum. I'm sure the children will learn lots and enjoy themselves—thank you to all parents who are coming along to help with supervision.

Next week sees our Harvest Service—already your donations for the Foodbank are beyond our expectations. Your generosity always inspires me! Also, we are beginning to start our tours of the school, specifically for those families whose children are due to start school next September. Many schools offer just one open morning, but we prefer to provide tours of the school on a 'normal' day—if you know of anyone who is considering St James', please encourage them to contact the office and book themselves in on a tour.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful weekend,

Maria & all the team at St James'

Staff News

Mrs Doughty will be away from school on Tuesday morning, attending a Professional Study Group for the EYFS.

Mr Renzi will be out on Thursday afternoon, attending Induction training.

It is the
supreme art of
the
TEACHER
to awaken joy
in
creative
expression and
knowledge.
Albert Einstein

Next Friday is World Teacher Day—a day to celebrate the work, commitment, love and care shown by teachers all over the world. At St James', all our staff are teachers, and we appreciate every little thing they do, day in day out, for the benefit of the children—thank you to you all, you are an amazing bunch of people and we love you all!

St James' School App for Smartphones

If you haven't already done so, please download our school app. Through the app you can view the school calendar, newsletters and other handy links.

To download the app, locate 'School Jotter' in the search bar of your app store. The app icon has a pencil logo. Once downloaded, search for the school's postcode – MK40 4BD. The old school logo should appear, select this and the app should then download.

Any problems, speak to Dawn in the Office for help.

Messages from the Office

Height and Weight Year 6 only

The school nursing team have postponed Year 6 height and weight check due to re-structuring of staff within the school nursing team. The team will be in contact with the school to make alternative arrangements in due course.

Individual/Sibling Photographs

If you would like to place your order via the school office, please do so no later than **9.00am Friday 5th October**. Unfortunately we can't accept orders after this date but you will be able to still book online.

Can You Help?

We're looking for donations of equipment to supplement our existing lunchtime resources and toys. If you have any items which might be useful, we'd be pleased to receive them:

- Good quality board games, jigsaws, lego, duplo suitable for wet play activities
- Plastic tea sets
- Tarpaulins, picnic blankets
- Plastic crates (bottle crates, for example)
- Good quality decking planks or similar (sanded, so no danger of splinters)
- Guttering pipes
- Old tents, camping chairs
- Old tyres
- Plastic boxes, with lids, for storage
- Old goal posts
- Any good quality sports equipment or outdoor games

Thank you!



Twitter users.....Follow St James': [@StJamesHead](https://twitter.com/StJamesHead) for regular school updates



Head Lice are a common problem in all schools, and St James' is unfortunately no exception. Please check your children's hair every week, and if you find any evidence of head lice, please take appropriate action! All parents should be doing this on a regular basis (we suggest checking every week) - ignoring the problem makes it impossible to keep St James' a nit free school. Regular combing will help reduce the numbers of eggs in your child's hair. Some useful advice and resources can be found here: <https://www.chc.org/>

Pupil Governor Voting Results

Thank you to all the pupils who went for the role of 'Pupil Governor' this year. There were many fantastic speeches and posters!



Congratulations to the following pupils:

Whinchats - Oliver and Isla

Canaries - Aqualina and Thomas

Greenjays - Lazzaro and Katie

Kingfishers - Isla and Jack

Peacocks - Nyasha and Oliver

Sabrewings - Oscar and Chloe



Our first meeting will be held next Tuesday at 12.30pm in Robins' classroom.



The Three Tuns—Parking

We are very lucky to have great friends over the road at The Three Tuns, who allow parents to use their car park at pick up and drop off times. This is incredibly helpful to many families.

On Monday, however, they have requested that parents **do not** use their car park at the end of the day. This is because they are holding a Wake from 3.30, and for obvious reasons, need the car park for their guests.

Could all parents please show respect for the bereaved family and friends, and park elsewhere on Monday afternoon. Ms Soulsby will be present and will ask parents to move if they choose not to disregard this very reasonable respect.

Thank you.

Coming Up...

Next week is Growth Mindset week—we will be celebrating our mistakes, understanding that we learn through making mistakes.

Tuesday Tours for Prospective Parents (starting school 2019)

Wednesday Harvest Service @ 2.00 in the School Hall

New date.....Vision Screening for Robins class 20th November