



Newsletter

12th October 2018

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This Week at St James'...

In what seems no time at all, we're already (nearly) at the end of our first term of the year, and Autumn is really kicking in—all of a sudden there seems to be beautiful leaves all over (thank you to Arthur's little sister, who has been delivering me lovely leaves this week!). It's been another fabulous week this week, peppered with lots of wonderful moments. My highlight of the week was Wednesday lunchtime—glorious sunshine, and everywhere I looked, I saw happy children playing together in a variety of different activities and sports; huge thanks to our lunchtime team who do a great job at setting up different activities for the children. It was a precious moment!

Year 5 enjoyed their trip to the Higgins Museum this week, where they learnt lots about Bedford and the local area. Some of our Year 6 children attended the final of Biddenham's Team Challenge yesterday. As always, your children conducted themselves impeccably while away from school, and are great ambassadors for our school.

Next week, we are holding our first round of Parent/Teacher Consultation meetings—we always enjoy this opportunity to share our views of your children's progress and to talk through next steps with you. If you haven't yet booked your appointment, please do so. These times are really important to ensure our partnership works well to the benefit of your children.

I'm not sure what the weekend is going to bring us weather-wise, but I hope everyone is able to rest well and enjoy their time with loved ones,

Very best wishes,

Maria & all the team at St James'



Ms Soulsby's Rainbow Moment this week is awarded to **Elodie**—Elodie and her family have created their own times tables song to help remember the 10x table, and it is absolutely **BRILLIANT!** I was genuinely blown away by her creativity and performance. Fantastic learning, Elodie.

Dear Children...

Last week, I discovered that some of you like to read the newsletter, so I've decided to include a section just for you!

I've been really impressed by all your hard work, effort and behaviour this week—whenever I walk round the school, I am always so proud of you, and I really love to share in all your news and stories.

My highlights this week include....Sara learning to skip (from 3 skips to 20 in one lunchtime!), Year 6 boys v girls in the lunchtime rugby game, Ella being an absolute superstar in helping me pick up litter, Year 4 soup making (although I didn't get to taste it!), Harrison paying me a compliment (you smell nice Ms S....like a biscuit!), seeing so many of you walk/scoot/cycle to school, Sebastian's high 5s every morning when he comes to school, Digby's lovely smile when he arrives at school, Leilani's welcome to all our visitors, Luke's fabulous writing, and my lovely Angel who delivered a cup of coffee to my office on Monday morning. Thank you, everyone, for making this week such a fabulous week!

Keep being brilliant & make me prouder still!

Ms Soulsby

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.

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
- Good quality dolls and dolls clothes (the younger children are enjoying playing babies!)

Thank you!



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

Governor Update

On Wednesday, we had our first Full Governing Body meeting of the year. At this meeting, a crucial task is to set up all the relevant committees and roles, and I have been asked to update you on membership:

Parent Governors	Tom Krailing	Staff Governors	Maria Soulsby (ex officio)
	Alan Brown		Natasha Bailey
Foundation Governors	Brian Johnson	Local Authority Appointed	Clare McGivern
	Richard Moxon	Associate Governors	Mark Farrow
	Rachel Purvis		Kate Smith
	Alastair Fraser		Caroline Pitrowski
	Eric Lomax (ex officio)		

As some of you are aware, Tom Perry has resigned as a governor, and our new Interim Chair is Brian Johnson. We are grateful for Tom's contribution to the life of the school over the past two years. Our Clerk is Rachel Mitchell.

The Clerk and the Governing Body may be contacted at primary@stjamesvaschool.co.uk

Coming Up...

Monday	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby tournament
Tuesday	Starting School 2019 tour for prospective parents
Tuesday & Thursday	Parent/Teacher consultation meetings
Tuesday	Gunns Bakery visiting Year 5
Wednesday	Year 3/4 multi-sports Year 2 Market visit
Friday	Mr & Mrs Fricker to visit Year 5 to share Biddenham's history PSA Drinks at the Three Tuns

Week beginning Monday 22nd is HALF TERM. Children return to school on Monday 29th October.

If you need to talk about your child, please follow the process below:

- Speak with the class teacher first—this is the person who knows your child best and can address queries directly, and therefore most effectively. **Teachers may be contacted via the School Office (01234 352721 or office@stjamesvaschool.co.uk)**
- Speak with the Assistant Head Teacher (Mr Leach) if your child's teacher can not address your concerns
- Speak with the School SENDCo (Miss Bailey) if your concern is about your child's Special Educational Needs
- Contact the Head Teacher only if you have exhausted all the above approaches.

Flu Immunisation Consent Forms – Years R – 5

Every child in years Reception to 5 should have received a Flu Immunisation Consent Form. Please complete and return by **Friday 19th October**. Even if you would like to opt out of the immunisation for your child you will still need to state this on the form. If you have misplaced your form, please contact Dawn in the School Office who will send home another form.

