



# Newsletter

## 1st February, 2019

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### This Week at St James'...

Clearly, the highlight of this week is the snow! The children are so excited today, and it's a real joy to watch them play in the snow (and, yes, as the biggest kids, we do join in!)

Other highlights of the week include our cross country runners in Year 6—they took part in their first cross country competition, competing against other Year 6 and 7 children from across the Borough—out of 70 runners, Ben came 30th and Ava was 34th, which is a fantastic achievement! Well done to them and the whole team, who showed great determination and strength!

Thank you to all of you who came to along to our Arts afternoon, it was really good to see you all, working alongside your children to create some fantastic pieces of work, reflecting amazing levels of skill and creativity. Miss Bingham-Green is in the process of collecting together pieces of work from across the school to go on display in church so we can showcase our ideas to a wider audience.

Next Tuesday is **Safer Internet Day**, an opportunity for us all to remind children about how to use the internet safely—there is a lot in the news at the moment about the 'dark web' and the problems with social media. Please do find time to look into the issues which are being raised and educate yourselves so that you are able to keep your children safe. It is our advice that no child in primary school has a social media account, this includes WhatsApp. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> is a really useful site to help you stay up to date with all the different social networks, apps and games.

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful weekend,  
Maria & all the team at St James'

### Dear Children...



I love watching you all play in the snow! But, I'm not sure I love being swamped by snowballs—no Henry, I'm not a snowball target! ;-). Seriously, though, it really is a treat watching you all play together, thank you for making the start to the day so enjoyable!

An important part of my job is making sure that, as learners, you are all taught well and make great progress. Every term, I have to meet with Governors, who check that we are doing what we should be doing as a school. On Wednesday, this week, Governors spent some time looking at a report I had written about how well you are doing, and they gave me a real grilling about everything I was telling them. The upshot of all of this is that the Governors are really, really impressed with all your hard work, progress and achievement—they can see how hard everyone is working and they are so pleased that we continue to be such a great school—well done to all of you!

Well done to Heidi who was awarded the Rainbow Moment this week—Heidi, you are always getting on and doing the right thing, and are always so positive at school!



Next week is our last week of term (already!), let's make it a good one!

Ms Soulsby

### Step into the NHS Competition

The NHS are running a competition for children with prizes of Amazon Vouchers. All of us have used the NHS at some point, so this is an opportunity to say 'thankyou' to all the amazing people who work for the NHS.

Children are invited to say thank you in whichever way they choose—through art (paintings, collage) or by writing a story, letter, playscript. You can choose. You can work on your own or join up with friends. Entries should be handed in to Ms Soulsby by **8th March**.

There is a Youtube video if you want more information:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgaWNKudokQ&feature=youtu.be>



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



### Pupil Governor News

Hi, we are holding a MUFTI Day on the last day of this term 8.2.19 (next Friday) to raise money for CHUMS (Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Service for Children and Young People).

Please help us to support CHUMS' **SHINE BRIGHT, WEAR BRIGHT** campaign by wearing your brightest clothes to school, bringing in a donation of £1 and talking about 'Mental Health'.

The **SHINE BRIGHT, WEAR BRIGHT** campaign takes place during Children's Mental Health Awareness Week 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February. The theme this year is 'Healthy - Inside and Out'. Please follow the link if you want any more information and there are some activities linked to his year's theme.

<https://chumscharity.org/event/shine-bright-wear-bright-2019/>

Thank you from; Oliver, Isla B, Thomas, Aqualina, Katie, Lazzaro, Isla, Jack, Oliver L, Nyasha and Chloe

### Parking outside School

This week, we noticed at least 5 parents choosing to park on grass verges outside school. This is not acceptable—it is dangerous to other road users and pedestrians, and highly discourteous to our neighbours. The only reason for doing this is laziness, in that the drivers can't be bothered to park a little further away from school and walk a bit further to collect their child. Please do not park on the grass verges in future., you are setting a really bad example to the children!



## Arts Week Open Afternoon



**DAWNUNTILDUSK**  
BEFORE, AFTER SCHOOL & HOLIDAY CLUB



**Daily**  
7.30-9am 3.00-6pm

**Benefits for Parents**

- 1 Provide breakfast, snacks and a children's tea.
- 2 Parents get to drop off and collect their children from school.
- 3 Children are cared for by qualified practitioners.
- 4 Rooms and the outdoor space are well resourced with lots of additional activities, such as theme nights.



As a provision we are an outstanding childcare provider offering both an educational and play service for- Before, After School and Holiday Clubs.



At Dawn until Dusk we recognise the importance of play. We see the children at a very early age engage and interact in the world around them.



Have you ever considered working in childcare?

Dawn until Dusk are looking for fun friendly playworkers to work at our outstanding Breakfast and After-school clubs.

We are open from 7.30am - 9.00am & 3.00pm - 6.00pm

## Pyjama Day—Thursday, 7th February

Our friends at Great Denham Primary School have asked us for our help. One of their children, Lulu, in Year 1 has been diagnosed with high risk neuroblastoma, a very rare type of cancer. Her family need to raise £162,000 to access specialist treatment in the USA. Next week, GDPS is holding a pyjama day to help contribute to the fundraising (pyjamas because Lulu often attends hospital school in her pyjamas). GDPS have asked if we would be willing to hold a similar PJ day, and we thought it would be lovely to show our support.

So, next week (as well as our PG MUFTI day on Friday), we will also hold a PJ day on Thursday—for any donation, children are welcome to wear their pyjamas to school for the day. I'm sure you will agree that any support we can show to our local community is a good thing to do!

(you may remember Bradley Lowery, who died from neuroblastoma. You can find more information about the condition here <https://www.neuroblastoma.org.uk/>)

### Important Dates for the Term Ahead

Date & Time	Event	Classes Involved	Staff Lead	Special Notes
Tuesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Gymnastics event	KS1, Years 3 & 4	Class Teachers	A letter has been sent home
	Safer Internet Day	All	WL	
Thurs, 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Pyjama Day	All	MS	Wear pyjamas in support of Lulu, all donations welcome
Fri, 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 2.30pm	Y4 Class Assembly	Y4	LR	
	MUFTI for CHUMS	All	CD	Please bring in £1 donations
Sat, 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb 12.30pm	Honour Guard at Bedford Blues	Selected children	GH, MS	Information about this has been sent home
11 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term	Whole school		
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Swimming lessons start	Years 4 & 5	GH	A separate letter will be sent home
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb, 2.30pm	Y3 Class Assembly	Y3	GH	
Weds, 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb 5.00pm Hall	Phonics Information for parents		CD, NB	Primarily for Reception and Year 1 parents, but all interested parents are welcome to attend
Fri, 1 <sup>st</sup> March, 2.30pm	Y2 Class Assembly	Y2	SBG	
Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Multi-Sports	Y3 & 4	SBG, LR	A letter will be sent home in due course if your child is participating in this event
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day Open Afternoon from 2.00pm	Whole school	WL	
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm	Y1 class assembly	Y1	NB	
w/b 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week	Whole school	TKL	
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> March 4.00-7.00	Parent/Teacher meetings	Whole school	Class Teachers	
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March or Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Football game	Y5	TKL	A letter will be sent home in due course if your child is participating in this event
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March 4.00-6.00	Parent/Teacher meetings	Whole school	Class Teachers	
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day	Whole school	IL	
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> March – afternoon & early evening	Big Spring Sing Up at the Corn Exchange	Y6	IL	
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2.30pm	YR Class Assembly	YR	CD	
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Class Photos	Whole school	DS	
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Girls Football	Y 5 & 6	TKL, IL	A letter will be sent home in due course if your child is participating in this event
Weds 27 <sup>th</sup> March 5.00pm	KS1 SATs Information for parents	Y2	SBG	Primarily for Y2 parents, but all interested parents are welcome
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> March 3.00pm	Book Blink	Whole school	Class Teachers	Please aim to be finished by 3.30pm
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Multi-skills	Y1 & 2	NB, SBG	A letter will be sent home in due course if your child is participating in this event
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2.00pm	Easter Service	Whole school	TKL	
8 <sup>th</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup> April Easter Holiday	23 <sup>rd</sup> April is an INSET Day Children return to school on Weds 24 <sup>th</sup> April			