



Newsletter

7th June, 2019

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This Week at St James'...

Our final half term has certainly got off to a flying start!

On Tuesday we waved goodbye to Year 6, Ms Soulsby, Mr Leach and Mr Tapley as they set off on their Dorset adventure. Maria has been providing regular updates to school and via her twitter feed. When speaking to her she has described an idyllic area of the country and an exceptionally well organised programme of activities. However what's impressed her the most has been the children, who have been exceptional in their behavior and are flourishing with responsibilities such as preparing their freshly caught mackerel for dinner! We look forward to hearing all about it on their return.

For those of us in sunny Bedfordshire this week, school life has continued, but it has been a fantastic week. This week Lauren Usher has joined us as Finance Officer, we hope that you will join us in welcoming her to our school family. On Monday Year 2 had an educational visit from the fire service. Thursday was a particularly quiet day at St James; Year 3 had their trip to St Albans Verulamium as they continue their Roman topic and Year 1 took part in a Summer sports morning of rounders, golf and athletics with other Bedford schools.

On Wednesday many families celebrated Eid, which marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan. We send warm wishes to our Muslim families; Eid Mubarak to you all!

The highlight of my week was assembly on Tuesday. This half term its been a 'children's take-over' and this week it was Nyasha's turn with a theme of Black History. She was joined by Rutendo, Emily W, Evie, Elijah and Jasmine. What struck me was Nyasha's confidence and the wonderful connections she made when answering questions from her audience. You may get a flavor of this from Nyasha's own words:

"It was a thrill standing in front of the school, talking about my own ethnicity. I think that we did really well. One of the questions that was asked was "Why did Martin Luther King die?" and I answered comparing it to why Jesus died. I hope that when other groups perform they speak with confidence just like us"

What a confident young lady you are becoming Nyasha! Next weeks theme chosen by the children is Japanese culture.

International week (wk beg 17th June) will be an opportunity for children to learn about cultures and traditions from around the world. This year we will also be focusing on climate change and issues affecting global communities and our oceans. On Tuesday 18th we invite all children to wear traditional clothes or an item of clothing that represents their family or cultural heritage. Children can wear international sports clothes and flags.

Next week Year 1 children will be taking their phonics screening check. This will be carried out by Miss Bailey on a 1:1 basis and the results of which will be in end of year reports.

It has been my absolute pleasure to be at the helm of St James this week. Wishing you all a restful weekend, Sarah & the St James' team

St James' Summer Raffle



Can you (or your business) donate any raffle prizes for our Year 6 Summer Raffle? Please let Dawn know.

Many thanks for all the donations so far received!

For those who have missed the Twitter updates...



Thank you!
Bag2School raised
£106.40

Please remember to donate any pre-loved uniform to the PSA,
and to bring in any unwanted coins (especially if you get to go
abroad over the next few months). Thank you!



Explore the gardens of Church End

Biddenham



Sunday 7th July 2019, 2pm–5pm

Come and explore the variety of gardens along Church End, The Old Barns and Manor Road, Biddenham. Several residents have kindly offered to open their gardens – whether pristine, everyday, interesting or just “work in progress” – for others to enjoy.

Afternoon tea with home-made cakes for sale in the Church Barn. **Plants** for sale.

Tickets £5 per person for all gardens, available on the day from the Church Barn (next to St James’s Church at MK40 4AS). Accompanied children under 12 free. Map of gardens provided.

Parking along Main Road. Well controlled dogs on leads, children and buggies all welcome.
Note: There are ponds, steps and other hazards in some gardens and wheelchair access may be limited in some areas.

For more information, contact Diana Shooter on 01234 213305

In aid of The Friends of St James, Biddenham

– the charity which preserves and enhances the historic church buildings for future generations

WIN £5,000 for your school’s library



Visit our website for a chance to win a massive
£5,000 of National Book Tokens for your school –
enough to buy hundreds of new books for the library!

You’ll also be in with a chance of taking home
£100 of National Book Tokens just for you.



Spread the word: share with teachers, school staff and parents – the more entries for your school, the higher the chance they’ll win!

<https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>

From the PSA:

PSA meeting Thursday 13th June 9am in the mobile classroom. Please come along to help in planning for the Summer Fair.

We have teamed up with two great name label companies, Stikins and Stamptastic. Both come highly recommended by current parents at the school, and provide a super quick and easy way to label your children’s possessions (no sewing or ironing required!)

Stikins provide sheets of sticky name labels that can be used on pretty much everything (clothes, shoes, water bottles, bags, stationary etc), while Stamptastic provide a personalised stamp that can be used on most fabrics, metal, wood and some plastics.

Any orders placed using our school’s code will raise money for the school, at no extra cost to you.

Stikins

<https://www.stikins.co.uk>

School fundraising number to enter at checkout: 19770

Stamptastic

www.stamptastic.co.uk (but make any links go to https://stamptastic.co.uk/pages/school-welcome#a_aid=5ce2a85555e48 as this will automatically enter the PTA code for parents)

PTA code to enter at checkout: MK404BD

Biddenham Village Pond

Sunday 9th June at the Church barn, 3.30pm please join the Pond committee for an update on the pond and the AGM. If the weather is nice you can take a family stroll around to the pond and finish at the Church barn for refreshments. There will be free tea, juice and cake available, everyone is welcome!

Important Dates for the Term Ahead

Date & Time	Event	Classes Involved	Staff Lead	Special Notes
Mon 10th-14th June	Phonics Screening	Years 1 & 2	NB	
Mon 10th June	Athletics	Years 5 & 6	TKL, IL	
Tues 11th June	Height & weight screening & hearing checks	Year 6, Robins	DS	
Tues 11th June 6.00pm	Induction meeting for new YR parents		CD	
Weds 12th June, 3.30	Pupil Governors Bracelet & Key ring sale	Whole school	CD	
Weds 12th June	Visit from GB athlete & sponsored circuits	Whole school	GH	Details have been sent home
Thurs 13th June 9am	PSA meeting—Summer fair planning	Whole school	SM	Meeting held in mobile classroom, all welcome
Fri 14th June	Tennis	Year 6	IL	
Fri 14th June 3.00-3.30	Book Blink	All years	Class Teachers	Please allow enough time so that you can be finished by 3.30
Mon 17th June	Tennis	Years 3 & 4	GH, LR	
Mon 17th June	Dental Checks	Years R & 1	DS	Consent forms & information will be sent home shortly.
Mon 17th June 3.00	Story session for new YR		CD	
Week beginning 17th June Tuesday 18th June	International week Dress up day	All years	SM/CD	See newsletter 7/6/19
Fri 21st June morning & lunch	Sports Day & picnic	All years	GH	Letter has been sent home from Mrs Hawkins
Fri 28th June 2.30	Class Assembly	Year 2	SBG	
Tues 25th June 11.30	Story session for new YR children		CD	
Mon 1st July 9.30	Stay & Play session for new YR		CD	
Tues 2nd July	Robins Forest School Trip	Year R	CD	See separate letter
Tues 2nd, Weds 3rd July	Biddenham Transition days	Year 6	IL	
Thurs 4th July	Sing On performance @ Corn Exchange	Year 4	LR	
Thurs 4th & Fri 5th July	Bedford Blues Community Maths Project	Year 3	GH	PE kit required both days
Fri 5th July 2.30	Class Assembly	Year 5	TKL	
Fri 5th July	Governors Open Day	Whole school	MS	Governors visiting school throughout the day
Tues 9th July 9.30	Stay & Play session for new YR		CD	
Tues 9th, Weds 10th July	Lincroft Transition days	Year 6	IL	
Weds 10th July	Moving Up morning	All classes	MS	
Fri 12th July 2.00	Music Concert	All children who have received instrument lessons this year	MS	Guitars, drums, recorders, piano—parents invited
Mon 15th July 5.00	Summer Show	Whole School	GH	'Proms in the Playground'
Tues 16th July	Music Play Day	Year 3	GH	A letter will be sent home shortly
Tues 16th July 2.00	Family picnic for new YR starters		CD	
Weds 17th July 2.00	Leaver's Service	Whole School	IL	



Please remember on sunny days to ensure your child has a sunhat to wear at playtimes. Please ensure all hats are named. We don't mind hats not being royal blue, but please don't allow hats which are over the top in terms of decoration, or which contain inappropriate images or messages. Keep them simple, please!

If your child also needs sun cream, please apply this in the morning, using all-day, long lasting product. Unfortunately, we do not have capacity for staff to apply sun cream (imagine 10 staff trying to apply cream to 170 children, there's just not enough of us!). Please do not allow your child to bring in sun cream, as this could pose a risk to other children if shared (skin allergies etc)

Pupil Governor News



St. James' Pupil Governors are holding a **BRACELET & KEYRING SALE** on Wednesday 12th June. The sale will be held outside Robins' classroom after school. They are raising money so they can buy resources for each class or playground. Please come along and support them!

**BEDFORD
PARK CONCERTS**



**BEDFORD PARK PROMS
SATURDAY 28 JULY 2019**

Bring your chairs, blankets and picnics and enjoy this fantastic event!!!

St. James' PSA will be selling tickets to the Bedford Park Proms as a fundraising initiative. **£5 of every £35 adult ticket goes to the PSA.**

Children's tickets (5 -17 yrs) also available for £5. Under 5's go free.

If you would like to buy tickets, use the order form below and return, with payment, to Alison Singh/school office. Tickets will be issued the week prior to the event.

For more information about the concert visit
<https://www.bedfordparkconcerts.co.uk>

Deadline for orders is Friday 28th June 2019.
Avoid online booking fees and help your child's school!

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BEDFORD PROMS TICKET ORDER FORM

Name Tel no

Child's name..... Year.....

Adult's ticket (£35 each) ☐

Children's ticket (£5 each)
5 - 17 yrs ☐

AMOUNT ENCLOSED..... (Cash/cheques payable to St James' PSA)

☐

I agree that personal information will be not be shared and destroyed after the event has taken place.

ORDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER 28TH JUNE 2019