



Newsletter 29.9.17

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This week at St James'...

Thank you for all your support for our coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer today. We're in the process of counting up the donations and will let you know our grand total in due course, but we are ever so grateful for your donations of cash, cakes and time to join in—thank you!

Next week sees our first Open Morning of the year, on Friday morning, with a focus on 'Growth Mindset' - come and see what the Growth Mindset looks like in class, and how we translate the research of Professor Carol Dweck in practical terms for the benefit of your children's learning. There will be all sorts of things happening—Peacocks will be doing something whizzy on the computers (Wikis? I'm far too old to have any idea what that means!), Green Jays will be using yoga and creating a special display, Canaries, Whinchats and Robins will all be using stories to understand how it's ok to make mistakes.

On Wednesday, there will be a new Head Teacher for the day, as Maya in Year 5 takes over the school, along with her nominated leadership team, and ably assisted by her Personal Assistant (me!). This is always a good way for me to understand the children's view of their school, and I can build some of their ideas into the school improvement plan for the coming year.

Thursday, Year 3 will have their bikeability course—please remember to return all the necessary forms and ensure your child has all the required kit and their bike on Thursday!

Maria & all the team at St James'

Congratulations!



Ms Soulsby's Rainbow Moment this week is awarded to Shahan—Shahan has just started at St James, and when he first arrived, he was quite anxious and reluctant to join in. He has blossomed over the last few weeks, and it is lovely to see his smiling face waiting at the gate each morning, eager to get into school and have a great day. Well done Shahan! At home, Dillon has been showing great determination and perseverance in practising his handwriting before going to sleep; he also made a lovely cake which he shared with the staff, yum! Also, Thomas in Robins has been nominated by Oliver's mum for being such a lovely friend and drawing Oliver a picture of his favourite Number-block. This is a really kind thing to do, Thomas, thank you!

Can You Help?

For next term's assemblies, we will be telling the story of 'The Game of Block-Blast', which has props of large foam shapes. Do any of you have any foam off-cuts which you can donate to the school? Please drop off in the office if you do, many thanks!

Request from Robins Class...

Robins Class are always in need of different resources, to support the very practical nature of the EYFS curriculum. Below are lists of some of the items which we would welcome donations of; please share with family and friends also. Many thanks.

Everyday items/recycling

- Jam jar lids
- Buttons & beads
- Material
- Cardboard boxes (except those that have contained nuts)
- Cardboard tubes – large/small (no toilet rolls please)
- String, ribbon & wool
- Plastic bottle tops, beer bottle tops
- Corks
- Pebbles & shells
- Glass gems
- Straws
- Gift bags & used birthday cards
- Old notebooks, envelopes, calendars & diaries
- Sticky tape
- lining paper and wall paper



**14" and 16" 2 wheeled
bikes (no stabilisers
please!)**



or large balance bikes



Thank you!

Store cupboard/ingredients:

- Plain & self-raising flour
- Salt
- Dry pulses (beans, lentils, chickpeas etc)
- Pasta & rice
- Food colouring
- Tin foil

Larger items:

- Wooden & metal spoons Pastry brushes & mini whisks
- Planks of wood, scraps of wood (not treated green timber)
- Metal & wooden bowls
- Metal and Copper jugs and utensils
- Old CDs
- Nuts and bolts
- Screws & nails
- Baskets
- Paint brushes, paint rollers
- Gardening tools
- Spray bottles
- Funnels
- Shower /vacuum hoses & piping
- Saucepans and frying pans
- Sieve/ colander
- Spools and reels
- Cable drums – wooden and plastic
- Bike tyres
- Wheelbarrow
- Broken cots (side pieces)
- Tarpaulins
- Watering cans
- Baking equipment (electric scales, large mixing bowl, measuring spoons)

Road Safety around School

We are becoming increasingly concerned for the safety of all pedestrians around the school site and have noted a few 'close shaves' involving cars and pedestrians.

Particular concern is the staff car park and school drive. A number of children have been spotted crossing the school drive and Noddery Way without stopping and looking for cars. Please ensure that you have close supervision of children when crossing these roads, and take the time to remind your children of safe crossing rules.

In addition, we have noticed a number of children running across the car park to arrive at/leave Before/After School Club. Staff have been advised to stop their car whenever they see any pedestrians in the area. However, the problem we have is that a number of parents are using the car park to pick up/drop off children. We respectfully ask that no parents use the staff car park during the hours of 7.30-6.00. This is to ensure there is limited movement of cars whilst pedestrians are around.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Late Pick-Up

A number of children are regularly being picked up late by parents at the end of the day. We appreciate that there will be times when you are unavoidably delayed, due to traffic problems or other exceptional circumstances. When this happens, please telephone us to let us know and we will happily look after your child until you get here.

However, some parents are repeatedly late, because they don't finish work until 3.30 or because they have other children at different schools to pick up. These are problems which individual parents need to take responsibility for solving, rather than relying on the good will of the staff in school. In some instances, staff have been left supervising children until 3.45, making them late for their meetings and other commitments, and this is not acceptable. In future, any child whose parent is repeatedly late for pick up will be taken to After School Club for supervision and care, for which you will be charged.

Of course, most parents would not dream of being late for their child, and we appreciate your on-going responsibility and support.

New Calendar Dates

9th October	PSA AGM 7.00pm
12th October	Canaries Class Trip to Bedford
16th October	Dentist visit to Kingfishers (to talk about teeth as part of topic)
2nd November	PSA Boden Shopping night
w/b 13th November	Friendship Week
10th November	MUFTI Day—request for donations of bottles for PSA
20th November	Vision Screening from 9.45am (Robins Class only)
25th November	PSA 80s Disco

Rainbow Moment

My child has shown the Rainbow Promise in the following way at home:

Signed



Easy Fundraising

If you aren't using this yet, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE sign up and use [Easy Fundraising](#) EVERY time you shop online. Especially Christmas shopping!

It really is easy, and every time you shop online, you raise money for the school.

A 'how to' guide can be found on our website on the [PSA page](#)



Like great clothes?

Then you'll LOVE my Boden Shopping Party. Here's what you can expect:

Drinks and nibbles

The latest range to try on and buy

20% OFF plus free delivery and returns

£25 ACCOUNT CREDIT

when you bring along a friend who's new to Boden and they place their first order at the party

SEE YOU THERE
St James Primary School
Main Road
Biddenham MK40 4BD

Thursday 2 November 2017
7.00 - 9.00pm
BODEN.COM



St James's Church Biddenham Harvest Festival 1st October

All Age Service
9.00am

Donations of food taken for the Bedford Foodbank and local homeless shelters.

Cream Teas
(other cakes available)
in the Church Barn
2.30pm to 5.30pm

Please join us for the service, a cream tea and to see the wonderful harvest flowers!



Monetary donations towards the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal "Full of Beans"

Raising Money to help transform communities in the Philippines to being self sufficient and moving from being 'Receivers' to 'Givers'

St James' children will be joining the Service—please come along on Sunday and join us!

PSA AGM
Monday, 9th October 7.00pm

Further to last weeks newsletter, we would like to invite any parents who are interested in supporting the school's PSA to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday 9th October at 7pm in the school hall.

At present the PSA meet a couple of times a term in the evening. The PSA brings together parents, teachers and others from the school community who are interested in supporting the school, providing an opportunity for everyone to work together, with a common purpose – to organise fundraising and social events. Events organised previously include school discos, quiz night and the Christmas Fair.

This meeting will provide an opportunity for any new parents to join and any existing members to exit the committee if they so wish. The PSA welcomes new members who may have new and refreshing fundraising ideas.

The main roles of the Committee being the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and the Secretary will also be elected as part of this meeting. A summary of each role can be found on the [school website](#), or a paper copy can be collected from the office. ***If you are interested in nominating yourself or another parent for a role, please complete the attached slip and return to the school office in a sealed envelope marked PSA Elections by Friday 6th October.***

The Committee will also set up a volunteer list. This is for parents who cannot commit to being a fulltime member but would be willing to help the Committee when needed ie. to supervise school discos, help sell raffle tickets, help with teas & coffees etc...

If you would like to put your name down as a volunteer, please complete the volunteer slip and return by Friday 6th October.

We look forward to seeing some new faces at the next meeting.

"_____

I would like to like to be a **volunteer** member of the committee.

Name of Parent:

Child's Name & Year:

Contact Number and E-Mail Address:

Please return to the school office by Friday 6th October

"_____

I would like to stand for the role of Chair/Vice-Chair/Secretary/Treasurer on the PSA Committee (**please delete as appropriate**)

Name _____ Child's Name & Year:

Nominated by _____ Child's Name & Year:

Seconded by _____ Child's Name & Year:

Contact Number and E-Mail Address:

Please return to the school office by Friday 6th October