



Newsletter 26.1.18

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This week at St James'...

On my walk to school this morning, I noticed that one of the daffodils on Gold Lane is about to flower imminently—this must mean Spring is on the way! Seeing the blue sky and sun this morning was certainly something to smile about.

This week, Whinchats really enjoyed their Toy workshop, where they were able to handle and play with 'old fashioned toys', work out the science behind how they work, and then make their own toys. It was a great experience for the children, although a little depressing for me, as I can remember playing with toys like these as a little girl, which must mean I am officially old fashioned! Thank you to Miss Bailey for organizing and for the PSA for supporting this financially.

Thank you to those of you who were able to come in yesterday for our arts afternoon; I was sorry to miss this, but I understand there was a lot going on and the children enjoyed sharing their learning with you. Mr and Mrs Fricker visited Peacocks earlier this week and told them loads about the history of Biddenham, which the children and staff found incredibly interesting. We will be opening our 'gallery' of art work in the near future, a chance for families to visit and see the range of work completed this week. More information will come home in due course. Thank you so much for responding to the Governors' Uniform Consultation—all responses will be passed to Governors for their further consideration before any decisions are made. Your views do matter and will be considered carefully.

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful weekend,

Maria Soulsby

Congratulations!



Ms Soulsby's Rainbow Moment this week is awarded to Matilda C—Matilda wrote me a letter this week to make a really lovely suggestion for the benefit of our school. What was really lovely was the fact that she had thought through her idea, constructed a brilliant letter using all the writing skills she's learnt in class, presented it beautifully, and shown great consideration and maturity all round. Matilda, I am super impressed and so proud to see you acting in such an amazing 'rainbow' way!

At home, Harry has been very supportive of his big brother who's been having a tough time. Harry has been trying very hard with his reading as well, and is doing really well. Well done, Harry, mum and dad are so proud! Also, The Fallans write *'We are very grateful to Ms Soulsby for holding our Grandma and Grandpa's dog, Lola, most mornings and afternoons. We are very sorry Lola has dirtied most of Ms Soulsby's skirts, dresses and trousers. Thank you!'* (and, of course, it has been my absolute pleasure, she's a lovely dog! MS)



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

New Dates

6th Feb	Y5 Tag Rugby Festival @ Biddenham School
9th Feb	Arts Exhibition—details TBC
27th Feb	Robins Height & Weight checks
1st March	PSA Meeting 7.30pm

Coming Up

Thursday	Y4 only Book Blink 3.00
Friday	Y4 class trip to West Stow
	Book Blink 3.00
12th-16th Feb	Half term

Rainbow Moment

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

Signed



Grammar—Compound Sentences

A compound sentence is formed by joining two main clauses with a connective.

For example, *I like bananas and I like grapes. Ms Soulsby can be a bit strict but she is a nice lady.*

In Year 1, children start to create compound sentences by using connectives such as and, but.

From Year 3 onwards, children should regularly be using compound sentences, and begin to use more complex sentences (which we'll cover next week)

Good connectives to start to use: and, but, so, or, as well as, because, then

Help your child use compound sentences when completing home learning tasks. Encourage them to speak in compound sentences.

Dawn Until Dusk Theme Nights

Upcoming theme nights at DawnUntilDusk:

Wednesday 31st Jan - Chiara's Streetdance Lessons

W/B 5th Feb - Harry Potter

W/B 19th Feb - Cookery

W/B 26th Feb - TBA

W/B 12th March - Science

W/B 26th March - Easter egg hunt

Exact dates TBC. Please see a member of the DUD team for more information and how to book.

We have been asked to include this link for the attention of all parents regarding a recent planning application. Although we are happy to publicise information, it is important to note that the school does not hold a view regarding this issue.

<http://biddenham.org.uk/urgent-application-for-up-to-250-dwellings-gold-lane-biddenham/>

Message from Marvellous Me.... We are sorry for the glitch this week. The notification service that we use sent blank alerts to parents for a brief time just before lunch (Wed). When parents tapped on these, they would show nothing. We quickly put the site into maintenance mode, to investigate and remedy the issue, which meant that users could not access their accounts. To reassure you and parents, there was no data breach at all and it was purely down to a technical error. We're sorry this happened and thank you for your support.

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Dear Parent

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

I am writing to advise you that there is a vacancy for a parent governor on our school's governing body and I therefore invite nominations to fill the vacancy.

Parent governors play an important role as members of the Governing Body, which is responsible for directing the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards of educational achievement. The term of office for parent governors as determined by the Governing Body is 4 years. The role of the Governing Body is to provide strategic management of the school, overseeing the school's budget and to act as a "critical friend", supporting the work of the Head teacher and the school staff. The Full Governing Body is responsible for monitoring the school's progress and in setting annual targets for the school's performance and for the Head teacher (and ensuring that the Head teacher sets targets for other staff). Our Full Governing Body's committee structure enables us to manage these responsibilities.

Training is available for all governors and those new to being a governor are encouraged to attend induction training.

If you would like to stand for election, please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to the school **not later than 9th February 2018**.

Nominations must be from parents with children at the school on the day that nominations close. Parents putting their names forward are invited to provide some brief biographical details limited to not more than 150 words suitable for inclusion in the ballot paper. Parents who have paid employment in the school for 500 hours per academic year or more or who are elected members of the Local Authority are not eligible to stand in this election.

The attached sheet summarises the qualifications to serve as a governor. Anyone standing for election must certify that he/she is not disqualified for any reason.

The successful candidate will be required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service form regarding their suitability to have access to children and young people and will not be able to take up their appointment until clearance has been received.

If there are more nominations than vacancies the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

Yours sincerely

Maria Soulsby

Head teacher

St. James' Church of England V.A. Primary School

Eligibility Criteria

People who are ineligible to be a governor of an LA Maintained School:

A person who is under the age of 18 years

A person is disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a governor or associate member if he or she:

- Is detained under the Mental Health Act 1983 during his or her period of office
- Fails to attend the governing body meetings – without the consent of the governing body – for a continuous period of six months, beginning with the date of the first meeting missed (not applicable to ex officio governors)
- Is subject to a bankruptcy restriction order or an interim order
- Has had his or her estate sequestrated and the sequestration order has not been discharged, annulled or reduced
- Is subject to:
 - ◊ a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Act 1986
 - ◊ a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989
 - ◊ a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
 - ◊ an order made under Section 492(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a County Court administration order)
- Has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under Section 34 of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from participating in the management or control of any body
- Is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children
- Is disqualified from working with children or subject to a direction under Section 142 of the Education Act 2002
- Is disqualified from registration for childminding or providing day care
- Is disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006
- Has received a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor
- Has received a prison sentence of two-and-a-half years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor
- Has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more
- Has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor
- Refuses to allow an application to the Criminal Records Bureau for a criminal records certificate

Please note that all governors in LA maintained schools must undergo a DBS (previously known as an enhanced CRB) check. A refusal to undergo this check will result in a non-appointment.



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NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR

Name of Nominee

Address

I wish to submit my nomination for the election of Parent Governor

I confirm that I am willing to stand as a candidate for election as a parent governor and that I am not disqualified from holding office for any of the reasons under the School Government Regulations.

Signature

Date

The nominee may set out below or overleaf information about him/herself to go out with the ballot papers. (*no more than 150 words*)

Completed nomination forms must be returned to the school by 9th February 2018.