



## Newsletter 2.2.18

office@stjamesvaschool.co.uk  
head@stjamesvaschool.co.uk  
primary@stjamesvaschool.co.uk

### This week at St James'...

Last week ended with the Year 3 & 5 sleepover, a reward for excellent attendance. The children were amazing, loved the opportunity to stay over in school. Many thanks to the staff who came along to help with supervision—we had a great time!

You may have seen our 'breaking news' tweet on Monday, announcing that St James' have been awarded the Achievement for All Quality Mark, in recognition of the excellent work we do in ensuring every child meets their potential and achieves well at school. Our assessor was highly impressed with the commitment all staff show to securing the best outcomes for children, and in her email to me she wrote: *'I was particularly taken with how children achieve in their reading and maths and the way all staff work together to ensure there is immediate support where there is need. This was very impressive.'* We are all delighted to receive this award as it reflects the journey we have all been on over the past 3 years, and reflects the very hard work of all our children, staff, parents and governors, working in true partnership to make a great school! Special thanks must go to Mrs Hawkins, who has worked tirelessly to prepare and lead us through this accreditation.

Yesterday Rev'd Eric, Tom Perry and myself attended a Leadership conference hosted by the Church of England Leadership Foundation—we heard some incredibly inspirational speakers talking about school leadership from the points of view of being 'called, committed and connected'. We had a great day, and have come back invigorated and full of great ideas about the ways in which we can further develop our Church School.

Next week sees our last week of Term 3—we end the week with a special MUFTI day to support CHUMS, our local children's mental health charity. Please see the note later on in this newsletter for more information.

Very best wishes,  
Maria Soulsby



### Congratulations!

Ms Soulsby's Rainbow Moment this week is awarded to Polly—Polly wrote the most beautiful card to staff this week, to say thank you, which was especially lovely. But also, she always shows me such care and love, but is also huge fun and likes to tease me—always making me smile. Polly, you have a super attitude at school, and I ALWAYS enjoy seeing you and watching your learning. Keep it up!



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

### New Dates

23rd Feb	Green Jays trip to St Albans
26th Feb	Book Week
1st March	World Book Day & Open Afternoon
6th March	Judo Taster sessions
9th March	Peacocks Class trip
20th March	Y4 Ukulele Play Day
21st March	Y2 & 3 Sing On Concert @ Corn Exchange

### Coming Up

Tuesday	Y5 Tag Rugby
Thursday	Fire Service visit Canaries
Friday	MUFTI—Wear it Bright!
	Y3 Assembly
	Art Gallery 3.30 in Hall
12th-16th Feb	Half term

## Rainbow Moment

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

Signed .....



## Grammar—Complex Sentences

**A complex sentence is formed when you join a main clause and a subordinate clause with a connective.**

The connectives in complex sentences tell us about the order or the place in which things happened, or specify a cause or effect relationship between events.

For example:

I love roast potatoes, although my mum prefers them mashed.

You need to prepare for the spelling test tomorrow if you want to get all your spellings right.

The big dog barked whenever I knocked on the door.

Children in KS1 are taught how to join clauses to make sentences (using and, or, but). In Years 3 & 4, they start to use when, if, although, because. In Years 5&6 they use meanwhile, however, although, therefore, consequently. In the end of Year 6 Tests, children will be expected to explain simple, compound and complex sentences.

At home, see if your child can change a simple sentence into a complex one.

For example, 'English is great' could become 'English is great, although I prefer Maths!'.



#WORLDBOOKDAY 2018  
**THURSDAY 1 MARCH**

Celebrate stories. Love reading.



As part of Book Week, we would like to invite you all to join your child/children at our WORLD BOOK DAY slumber afternoon on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018. For a donation of £1 children can wear slumber clothing for the day (and of course, if you would also like to dress in slumber clothes that would be fantastic!) The money raised will be given to Book Aid International so they can send a new book to a library or school in Africa.

Each class will be carrying out activities linked to books and sharing stories. To make it easier for parents, the oldest sibling from each family group will collect their brothers and sisters and take them back to their classroom, so that parents only need visit their oldest child's class room. This should give parents more time to spend with all their children. The exception to this will be children in Robins; these pupils will stay in their class, which means parents will still need to visit them separately.

Doors will open at 2.30pm and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible!

### St James' Mobile App

We've had some great feedback about the App—thank you! Have you downloaded yet?

-Google Play Store: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.webanywhere.schooljotter.stjamescofeva5002>

Apple App Store: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/st-james-cofe-va-ls-mk40-4bd/id1227233420?l=pl&ls=1&mt=8>

Alternatively you can search for the app through your app store by typing St James CofE VA LS.

Alternatively you can search for the app through your app store by typing **St James CofE VA LS**.



## Pupil Governors News

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February we will be showcasing our work from 'Arts Week'. Please come and look around our gallery in the hall after school.

There will be cakes and drinks on sale! Please send any cake/biscuit donations in by Friday am. All donations gratefully received. Thank you.

**We are supporting CHUMS during Children's Mental Health Week (5<sup>th</sup>- 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018) by holding a non-uniform day. Please help us raise money for CHUMS by wearing bright clothes and bring in a £1 donation to school. 'Spread a little kindness and wear bright!'**

### Did you know?

An average of 3 children in every classroom have a diagnosable mental health problem

Just 1 in 4 children across the country who need treatment for mental health difficulties receive it

Can you help us to help them ...

**SHINE BRIGHT,  
WEAR BRIGHT!**



### Biddenham Pond

**Friday 6 April**

We will be holding our **Frog Foray** at the pond in the evening from **9.00 pm**. **Children, please bring a responsible adult with you, and everyone please bring a torch but no dogs please** and be ready to explore the night time world of the pond. No guarantees, but we hope we will be rewarded by the appearance of toads and newts, and who knows maybe this year even a frog, after all it is their foray!

## Message from Bedford Borough Council

### Local Area inspection of the effectiveness of SEND in Bedford Borough Council

We have been notified that Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will carry out a joint inspection of Bedford Borough from 5 February to 9 February 2018. This inspection will evaluate our effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities

Gathering the views of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, and the views of their parents and carers is an important part of the inspection. Parents and carers can contact the local Parent Carer Forum to request details of how they can contribute to the discussions held between parent carer forum representatives and the Ofsted/CQC inspection team.

For further information, please contact Bedford Borough Council.



**Children's Half Term Activities**

**At Bromham Library**



**Come and join in the fun!**

Date	Time	Activity
Saturday 10th February	10.30 am - 12.30 pm	Chinese Fan Making
Monday 12th February	10.00 am - 11.30 am	Chinese Colouring
Tuesday 13th February	2.30 pm - 4.30 pm	Chinese Paper Lanterns
Wednesday 14th February	10.00 am - 11.30 am	Valentine's Cards
Thursday 15th February	2.30 pm - 4.30 pm	Chinese Fan Making
Friday 16th February	10.00 am - 11.30 am	Chinese New Year Craft Folded Dog Heads
Saturday 17th February	10.30 am - 12.30 pm	Chinese New Year Lucky Dip

Parents and carers must accompany and supervise their children during the activities.

Dear Parents and carers,

Following on from Ms Soulsby's letter last week seeking nominations for our next parent governor, I would like to thank those of you who contacted me about the role. I have a responsibility to ensure that the governing body has a diverse range of skills and knowledge to ensure that the decisions we make, are always well thought through and ultimately in the best interest of our children. I am not seeking to influence any appointment as part of an election process, but I wanted to write to you all to outline the skills that would be most beneficial, so that should an election be called, you have a better understanding of what we would like the most.

The current vacancy is on the "Resources Committee", whose overall responsibility is for school finance. They are tasked with managing the governors' investment fund, making sure the operating budget is scrutinised appropriately and that suitable provision is made for current requirements alongside future plans. Ideally the new governor will have previous experience of finance management, or perhaps a background in either HR or as part of legal team - but these skills are not essential as full training will be provided.

If you want to know more, or perhaps are interested but unsure if you have enough time to commit? I would ask you to leave your details with Dawn and one of us will contact you. We are truly grateful for any of you who want to join us in making a real difference to the future of our school. We meet twice a term for two hours (that's only 24 hours per year - term time only) and all of the meeting dates are provided each September to ensure easy planning for all of our busy lives. If you think you have what it takes to give something back to your school and benefit our school community, then I look forward to receiving your nominations before 9th February.

Tom Perry  
Chair of Governors