



Newsletter

16.3.18

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This week at St James'...

We were really pleased to welcome so many of you into school this week for your parent/teacher consultation meetings. We hope you found these as useful as we do, and that you have a clear understanding of how well your child is doing at school and what their next steps are for the coming terms.

This afternoon, I have a meeting with Governors and our building contractors to finalise the details for the start of our Primary Conversion building project—this meeting marks the culmination of many months of hard work by Governors—hours of time have been spent planning the project, securing designs and contractors, meeting with the Local Authority to secure permissions and funding, liaising with utility suppliers, and more besides. I am truly grateful to our governors—who are all volunteers, most of whom have their own jobs to do as well—who have really put in an incredible amount of work and time to ensure we get a building which will support our growing school. The build is due to start in the Easter holidays, so there will be some disruption over the next couple of months—once we've finalized details, we will obviously let you know.

Next week sees St James' musicians in full performance mode! Kingfishers have been learning to play the ukulele this term, and will be participating in a special Play Day on Tuesday. Canaries and Green Jays have been practicing their singing skills and will be performing at the Corn Exchange on Wednesday. Break a leg everybody (not literally, of course!!) We've also got sport on our minds next week, with Sport Relief, Whinchats & Canaries taking part in a multi-sport event, and our Peacock girls playing in a football tournament. I'm always really pleased that, even though we are quite a small school, we are still able to provide a range of opportunities beyond the statutory curriculum to enthuse and enrich our children, and am grateful to all the staff who make these things happen, the PSA who help to fund activities, and the legion of parent volunteers who help with supervision, transport etc. Thank you!

It's a lovely sunny Spring day today, but I'm told we may see snow this weekend—whatever the weather brings, I wish you all a happy and peaceful weekend,

Maria Soulsby



Congratulations!

Ms Soulsby's Rainbow Moment last week was awarded to our Year 5 girl footballers, who are through to the County Finals! I'm incredibly proud of the girls, not just because they have played so well, but also because of their incredible attitudes and sportsmanship on and off the field. Well done, girls, what great role models you are, we're all VERY proud of you!

New Dates

Tuesday 20th Y1&2 Aerobics (in school time)
13th-15th June Peacocks Residential

Thursday, 29th March END OF TERM
Children return to school Tuesday, April 17th

Coming Up

Tuesday	Y4 Music Play Day
Weds	KS1 Multi Sports @ St Gregs
	Sing On concert
Fri	Sports Relief
	Y5 Girls Football Tournament
Mon 26th	Robins Spring Walk
Weds 28th	Easter Service 2.00

Rainbow Moment

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

Signed



Girls Football Tournament

On Thursday, 15th March, eight girls from Peacocks class went to a football tournament at Lincroft. We played nine games, including the semi-finals and finals. We won six matches, drew two and lost one against the team in the finals. This means that we are now through to the County Finals, and we are all thrilled and proud of ourselves, because we came 2nd overall!

Izzy, Daisy & Maya



17-23
March

Sport Relief

In order to promote healthy living and fitness across the school in Sports Relief Week, we will be carrying out different 15 minute activities every afternoon. We are already trying out our daily mile and are going for gold with extra fitness activities each day! Please make sure you have

sports kits and trainers in school every day!

Monday	Hula Hoop challenge
Tuesday	Swimming (KS2), Aerobics (KS1)
Wednesday	Tag Rugby training, KS2 Aerobics
Thursday	Skiping challenge
Friday	Circuit of activities to try

On Sports Relief day itself (Friday 21st), children (and staff) are invited bring £1 donations, and dress up as a sporting person, or just wear favourite sports wear, to raise money for Sports Relief charity.



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

EASTER FUN

MULTI-ACTIVE SCHOOL CHURCHES

Easter Holidays	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thur 5	Fri 6	Mon 9	Tue 10	Wed 11	Thur 12	Fri 13
Bedford Trinity Lutheran, Stephens Rd, MK43 7DQ	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active
Biggleswade Biggleswade Community, Mares End, SG18 8NL	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active
Blunham Northgate, Goss, Cuckfield Way, MK20 2NS	Active	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active	Active
Great Dunham Great Dunham Sch., Woodlands Park Drive, MK26 1QD					Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active
Harlow Harlow Parish School, Treading Rd, CM17 8BN	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active
Hemel Hempstead King's Langley Church, Lark Lane, SG9 6JH	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active
Hertford Simon St. Sch., Mangrove Rd, SG10 3BN	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active
Marble Penny Stn., Bedford Rd., SG2 2JH	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active
Northampton Hemphill Ridge, Hemphill Park, Gt. Fosse, NN16 9JG	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active
Leighton Buzzard Garden City Sch., Bedford Way, MK43 0LH	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active
Leighton Buzzard Denbigh Hall Sch., Marlborough Ave., MK43 0LH	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active
Royston Studebake Rise Sch., Studebake Rise, SG8 3JH	Active	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active	Active
St Neots Priory Sch., Longwells Rd., PE21 1YH	Active	Active	Active	Super Hero	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active

Price: £17.40 per day (15% sibling discount)
Bedford & Hemel venues: new year's promotion price of £12
Child care vouchers and Tax Free Childcare scheme accepted
 All courses are open to children aged 5-13 years old.
 Biggleswade venue accepts children aged 3+

Times: All courses run 9-4pm each day.
 Extended hours 8-5pm and half days also available.
 Biggleswade extended hours 7.30-6pm

Swimming at Bedford, Harlow, Hertford & Luton:
 Swimming will be a fun pool session and is only available at Bedford, Harlow, Hertford & Luton.

Full pricing along with terms & conditions can be found online at www.multi-active.co.uk

HOW TO BOOK:
WWW.MULTI-ACTIVE.CO.UK

TEL: 07576-416208

From the Governing Body

Dear Parents and Carers,

Governor Election Update:

You may recall that just before the half term break, a vacancy became available on the governing body for a parent governor. We had two applicants who were both very knowledgeable and would make a great addition to the team. Since then a second vacancy also became available for a foundation governor, to be appointed by the Diocese of St Albans Education Board.

Considering we had two candidates who were both extremely competent and would make excellent candidates, I approached the Diocese to suggest they appoint one of the parents who wanted to stand in our parent election. I am pleased to report that after much discussion, a thorough application process and a lengthy meeting yesterday evening, the Diocese agreed to appoint. Starting after the Easter Break, the two new additions to the Governing body at St James are Alan Brown and Alistair Fraser. For those of you who do not know Alan or Alistair, more information about them is below:

Alan Brown:

I am the Director of Post 16 studies and Achievement and a member of the senior leadership team at Biddenham International School. I have been teaching for 12 years and before that I worked for the Rugby Football Union as a development officer. A large part of my role within the school is utilising multiple sources of information and data to ensure the positive outcomes for our young people. I work closely with other heads of sixth form in the local area so we can share and collaborate on resources and strategies for improvement. I also currently serve as a member of the PSA.

Alistair Fraser:

I was born and brought up in the Thurleigh, and have lived in Biddenham now for 4 years. My wife Sarah and I have two daughters – Anna (5) in Whinchats, and Poppy (2) who will hopefully join St James' in a couple of years. I trained as a chartered accountant with KPMG and I currently head up the financial planning team in Whitbread plc. One of my key responsibilities is ensuring that the Group understands what the future looks like and that is allocating its resources in the right way. Having come from a family of teachers, I felt the calling of school again, and previously acted as a community governor for Ferrars Infants Academy in Luton, helping the school navigate its way through its new Academy status. I'm therefore passionate about the opportunity to use my financial and prior governor experience, and educational interest, to support not only my community's school, but my children's school.

I would like to thank both Alan and Alistair for their commitment to the school by giving up their own time willingly and for the work they will undertake to benefit all of the children at our school. We on the governing body look forward to working with you both.

Tom Perry
Chair of Governors