

Newsletter 25.6.18

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Last week at St James'...

Last week was very busy for all sorts of reasons!

On Monday, some of our Year 3 and Year 4 children took part in a tennis tournament, with our Year 3 children winning silver medals for their efforts—well done! On Tuesday, we were visited by Ben Pearson, who is the new Chief Education Officer at Bedford Borough—he was very impressed by everything he saw and heard here, and it was good to share with him our recent successes as well as update him on our new build. One question he asked was 'what's so great about St James'?' and I was able to answer very simply 'our children and our staff' - says it all, really.

On Wednesday, I had a meeting regarding the building—there is a slight delay to the programme, which means it's unlikely to be signed off much before the summer holidays. It will absolutely be ready for September, but it looks like we will need to spend time in the holidays moving furniture etc. I will continue to keep you updated as we go along, but I would rather have a late finish with top quality results, than an on-time finish which is rushed.

Our Sports Day on Friday was just wonderful—we're so grateful to our friends and colleagues at Biddenham International School for their tremendous support and hospitality. Many of you commented really positively on the atmosphere and the events, and the very impressive Sports Leaders from Biddenham. It was a lovely event, and I am very grateful to Mrs Hawkins and all the staff for all the organization before and during the day. Thank you to all of you who were able to come along too.

Finally, I was absolutely blown away by your kind words and generous gifts on Thursday—I really had hoped that I would be able to slide into the next phase of life without too much fanfare, but it seems that secret squirrels were at work! My office is still covered with special messages from the staff (!) and I have very much enjoyed reading the many cards and good wishes—thank you so very much, I felt really spoilt!

This week looks like it's going to be a hot one! Please remember to send children to school with water bottles, sunhats and wearing suncream. I will be spending most of my week reading your children's end of year reports, which will be sent home soon—I look forward to reading about all the great progress they've made this year!

Wishing you all a very lovely week,

Maria



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

(daily updates on the build!)

This term's Important Dates:

June

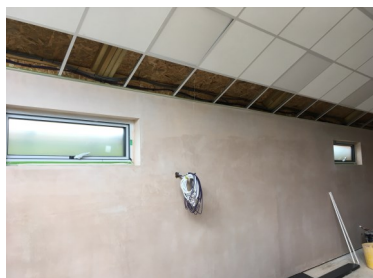
- 26th New Reception children transition visit 11.30 (NB Time Correction)
29th Alternate Sports Day (in case of poor weather on 22nd)
Kingfishers Trip to Go Ape

July

- 2nd New Reception children transition visit 9.30
3rd Year 5 Secondary Taster Day @ Biddenham
6th Year 2 Class Assembly 3.00
Year 5 Tennis County Finals
9th Robins Forest School trip to Bromham
10th Years 3 & 4 visit to Biddenham Pond
New Reception children transition visit 9.30
Recorders Workshop @ Biddenham (see separate letter sent home)
Drop in Parents Evening—to discuss reports 4.00-6.00
12th Moving Up morning
13th Year 5 STEM Fair @ Biddenham
16th New Reception children transition visit & informal family picnic 2.00
Canaries Class Trip to Kempston Outdoor Centre
17th Summer Shows Years 1, 3, 4—2.00 & 4.30
18th End of Year Service @ St James' Church 2.00
19th 2.15—Music Concert—guitars, recorders so far confirmed
20th End of Term!

INSET Days September 3rd & 4th. Children in Years 1-6 return to school on Wednesday 5th September

Building Update—we have a roof and windows!



Big Shout Out to all our staff! Friday was 'thank a teacher day' - so, **thank you** to all our amazing staff who every day go the extra mile to inspire and motivate all our young learners. You are all fantastic and we love you all!