



Newsletter 9.7.18

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

Last week at St James'...

Another busy week in scorching heat—your children are coping extremely well at school, and are remembering to drink lots of water and wear their sunhats outside.

Last week was a really busy one for Peacocks—they enjoyed their Secondary Taster Day at Biddenham on Tuesday—enjoying lessons in history, dance, PE, and MFL. We're very grateful that Biddenham invited us to allow the children an experience of secondary school life. On Wednesday, they at a great time on their delayed trip to Go Ape, returning to school very tired!

On Friday, I was visited by our Local Authority School Improvement Adviser, Judy Ruff. We spent the morning analyzing provisional end of year data and evaluating school improvement priorities. We are making good progress against our targets, and our statutory assessments continue to improve. Next year's priorities will focus on our school as a Church School and the introduction of a new RE syllabus, further development of leadership, development of new learning environments & library, and a focus on Upper Key Stage 2 as we become a full primary school. Another busy year ahead!

Today, Robins are out of school on their Forest School trip—I know they will have a wonderful day. Miss Bingham Green and I are proud to be attending the John Bunyan writing prize-giving later today, where Henry, Isla and Samuel will be awarded prizes for their efforts. On Thursday, we have our Moving Up morning. We had hoped our new classrooms would be ready for use, but this is sadly not to be. However, children will have the opportunity to spend the morning with their new teachers, and meet the children who will be joining our school in September. During the week, Whinchats, Green Jays and Kingfishers will spend time rehearsing for their show next week—it promises to be another extravaganza!

Only two weeks left until the end of term, and a lot to fit in! Let's look after each other in these last few days together!

Maria Soulsby



This week's Rainbow Moment is awarded to Henry. I have caught World Cup fever, and impressed Henry with my 'skills' (to you and I, read 'fluke') and ran the ball from one end of the pitch to the other and scored a goal. It was a complete fluke (and a miracle I didn't fall over!) but Henry was impressed and made me a card to celebrate my skills. What a lovely thing to do, and what a lovely, friendly boy you are Henry—thank you, you made my week!

Congratulations to Mr Renzi

Mr Leach & Ms Soulsby were delighted to attend Mr Renzi's graduation on Friday, marking his qualification as a teacher, following years of hard work and dedication. Liam joins St James' today as a fully qualified teacher, and we are all very proud of his achievements. Congratulations!



This term's Important Dates:

July	
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



Can you help?

We are currently trying to collect a stash of cycle helmets for use in the EYFS outdoor learning environment. If you have any helmets which your child has outgrown (which are still in good condition and safe to use), would you consider donating them to the school? Many thanks!

Building Update—latest from our 'spy in the sky' - landscaping has begun



Smarties Challenge

Thanks to all your efforts to raise funds, we have **£504** to put towards panto tickets for the whole school at Christmas. Thanks so much to Alison Singh for organising, and to all children who carried out extra chores to fill their smarties tube.! Well done to Kingfishers, who won the movie afternoon reward.