



Newsletter

1st November 2019

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Welcome back to Term 2, an 8 week adventure culminating in Christmas celebrations, which will, of course, become the focus for the children!

We were really pleased to see so many of you at Parent/Teacher meetings this week; thank you for finding the time to come along and discuss your children's progress at school. Apologies for the very late notice regarding appointments—we have purchased an app which will allow you to book appointments online, however various technical issues meant we weren't able to get this fully working in time. Hopefully, it will all be in place by the Spring meetings.

Next week, we will be marking Parliament Week with activities designed to help children learn about Parliament and Democracy. Given the interesting political times we are in, it should be an interesting week! On Tuesday, there will be an information evening regarding KS2 SATs—it is really important that parents of children in Year 6 come to this, so that you can be fully informed about what is expected of your children this year. Parents of children in other year groups are welcome to come along as well, although things do change year on year, so what is expected this year may not be the case when your child is in Year 6.

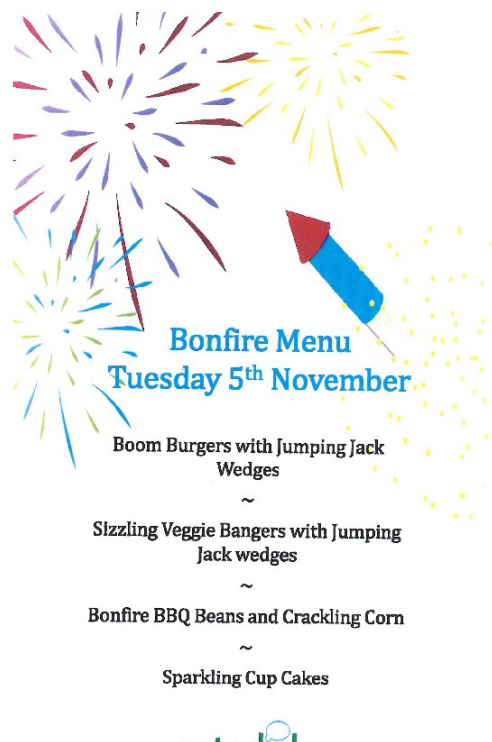
Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful weekend,

Maria & all the team at St James'

Attention Car Drivers

On Monday, we received a report of a near miss. One of our children was very nearly hit by someone driving a blue BMW with a 17 number plate. This driver decided to try and turn around by reversing into the school drive, crossing the pavement and did not see the pedestrians on the pavement. We have some very small children who come to school and I am horrified that, despite my frequent reminders, we still have people who seem to drive without full care and attention. Fortunately, no one was injured this time.

All of you who drive your children to school have a responsibility towards all pedestrians and other drivers—you should drive courteously and with extra care and attention, and not perform manoeuvres which could place other people at risk. Being late is never a good reason to drive badly.



Competition Time!

Competition Title	Details	Prize	Closing Date
STEM—If you were an engineer what would you do?	Open to all years Find a problem, invent a solution, draw itwrite an explanation www.leadersaward.com	Invitation to Award ceremony, all entries displayed at a Public Exhibition	25.3.2020
Step into the NHS—Years 3-6	Say thank you to the NHS, focus on the different types of jobs in the NHS. Creative artwork or creative writing https://www.stepintothenhhs.nhs.uk/primary-schools/KS2-competition	Amazon vouchers Class trip to a local science venue	1.5.2020
Wallace & Gromit Cracking Ideas—ages 5-11	Look at the world around you. Imagine a cracking idea that can help get mundane jobs done quicker, better and most importantly from the comfort of a warm armchair! Drawing, craft, photographs https://crackingideas.com/competitions/Wallace+&+Gromit+Cracking+Ideas+Competition	Aardman model making workshop for the school	24.4.20



Next week is UK Parliament Week, a national event. Its aim is to help children understand how democracy works and get them involved. We will be celebrating by sharing how parliament works with the children culminating on the Friday with 'You Say Day' where children will have a say on how their day will run – for example by voting on which book they want to listen to and the order of their lessons. Please support us by taking advantage of this week by discussing current political events.

From the PTA:

Women-only Group Personal Training - £5 taster session offer

Local Fitness Trainer Jack Mitchell is offering any woman associated with St James a £5 taster session for his Lift(Her) women-only, small, group personal training class. Working in groups of four, this is a fantastic way to get strong and fit, learn more about health and nutrition and lose weight, all in a social setting. The classes run on Monday and Friday mornings at 10am, at Core Performance Gym, on the Elms Farm Industrial estate. Book your £5 taster [here](#) or contact jmpt-lifther@outlook.com for more information.



This morning, Pupil Governors of St James' interviewed one of our Adult Governors, Mr Alistair Fraser. We asked him multiple questions to try and learn more about him and what it's like to be a Governor of a school. Here's what we found out....

Mr Fraser is married to Sarah, and they have two children called Anna and Poppy (Anna is in Year 3). He is a Chartered Accountant who works for Whitbread and buys hotels for them. An accountant looks after money. His hobbies and interests are rugby, playing piano, sleeping, and eating out.

When we asked him what is the main job of a governor, he said it was to support and challenge Ms Soulsby, and help the school do the best it can. He decided to become a Governor because he thinks education and school is very important, and he wanted to help the school use its money wisely.

The things Mr Fraser likes best about our school is that it is friendly, where everyone is happy and caring and the teachers work really hard. He thinks we should keep trying to improve the playground area, get more children walking to school, and find ways for Governors to speak to parents more.

Mr Fraser asked us some questions as well. We told him what we liked about the school – we think it is homely, caring, friendly and it's a nice school where we never give up. He asked us what our favourite subjects were, and we told him English and maths, with a mix of art and PE. We told him what our hobbies and interests are, and we told we like gymnastics, dance, music, art, sleeping, eating and breathing!

Mr Fraser is a really lovely and kind man who wants to help our school do the best it can, and we are pleased that he's one of our Governors!

By Holly, Emily K, Lily, Jamie, Ru & D'arci



St James' PSA News

Volunteers needed for Christmas Fayre

Each year the P.S.A hold a Christmas Fayre, which not only raises a significant amount for the school, but is great fun and is enjoyed by pupils, parents and family and friends. This year the fayre is taking place on Friday, December 13, at 3.30pm in the school hall, straight after pick up.

But we need your help. The Fayre is a lot of work, and we need volunteers to help with set up, tidy up, manning stalls and doing some behind the scene jobs, such as making items to sell, sourcing raffle prizes, and much more. The more parents we get to help, the less work there is for each person to do. So please come forward if you can spend even an hour of your time helping. The money raised benefits every child in the school, across all years.

If you would like to help please contact Yo Highton on Class List or email annayolande@hotmail.com, or speak to your PSA Class Representative. You can also come along to the Christmas Fayre Volunteer meeting at The Swan Pub, in Bromham, on Monday, November 4, at 7.30pm. Volunteer sign up sheets will also be going up on classroom doors and at Dawn to Dusk.

Bag2School The Bag2School collection is on Wednesday, November 20, with the bags sent home on November 8, but other bags can be used. This is where we collect old clothes and give them to charity, while raising money for the school. Please leave by the front gate at morning drop off (do not bring bags in earlier).

We cannot accept duvets and blankets, pillows and cushions, carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats), soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing, school uniforms with and without logo, corporate clothing and workwear or textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material. Thank you for your support.

Dates for your diary

- **Christmas Fayre planning meeting** Monday, November 4, 7pm, The Swan Pub, Bromham
- **PSA meet-up** Thursday, November 7, 9-10am, mobile classroom
- **Bag to School** Wednesday, November 20, drop off at school gates
- **Christmas Wreath Making** Thursday, November 28, 7.30-9.30pm, Church Barn, Biddenham
- **Christmas Fayre** Friday, December 13, 3.30pm, School hall

Don't forget...

- **Easy Fundraising** Raise money by shopping online through www.easyfundraising.org
- **Stikins** Use School fundraising number: 19770 at www.stikins.co.uk to raise funds.
- **Stampastic** Use PTA code: MK40 480 at www.stampastic.co.uk to raise funds.

Keep in touch...

Sign up to classlist to keep up to date with all the PSA news and connect with other parents. Register at: www.classlist.com

Follow our facebook page "Friends of St James' Primary School Biddenham"



Mrs Lawless & Year 1 are looking for donations of the following:



Offcuts of timber (non-treated) for woodwork
Recyclables- cereal boxes, kitchen rolls, egg boxes, yogurt pots.
Pots and pans, kitchen

utensils.

Bucket, spades, dress up clothes/ role play items.

We are also looking for any donations of the following:

Old household electrical items, such as kettles, hairdryers, hair straighteners, lamps
Any old plastic kitchen equipment, such as plates, cups and toy food
A child's kitchen for outdoor play
Any old dolls, plastic doll's house
Storage boxes (suitable for outdoors, preferably with lids)
Any writing equipment—paper, pens, envelopes
Donations of (healthy & easy to care for) pot plants
Throws & larger pieces of fabric

Thank you!

Wanted:

Donations of any hardy plants or cuttings for the school garden. Please leave outside the Year 1 classroom. Many thanks.

Do You Work in Science or Technology?

At St James', one of our key curriculum drivers is ensuring that our pupils have high aspirations and high levels of achievement. Because of this, we are asking if any parents or family members know of anyone whose job is related to Science or technology and is willing to talk to children about their work.

If you are able to help us, please contact Miss Kassim-Lowe (Year 5 Class teacher) via the school office. We look forward to hearing from you.

Class Assemblies 2.30pm	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Robins	28th November	6th March	25th June
Whinchats	22nd November	26th February	3rd July
Canaries	15th November	7th February	12th June
Green Jays	29th November	14th February	22nd May
Kingfishers	8th November	31st January	15th May
Peacocks	1st November	24th January	1st May
Sabrewings	18th October	17th January	26th June

Thank You

Bedford Foodbank

would like to say thank you to

ST JAMES CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

for your generous donations which will directly help fight poverty in the local area.

Total weight:

97.29 KG

which will help provide about **40** meals

partner the trussell trust

Bedford foodbank

Event	Date & Time	Class	Staff Lead	Notes
UK Parliament Week	4th-11th November	All	IL, CD	
Year 6 Height & Weight Screening	5.11.19	Y6	DS	See separate letter sent home
KS2 SATs—Information meeting	5.11.19 5.00pm	Y6	IL	All parents of children in Year 6 should attend
PSA Meeting	7.11.19 9.00am	All	PSA	In mobile classroom
Y1 & 2 Multi-skills	8.11.19	Y1, 2	SP, FL	See separate letter
PSA Neon Party	8.11.19 8-12pm		PSA	Adults Disco
Sutton Hoo trip	11.11.19	Y4	LR	See separate letter
PHD study re Social Media	15.11.19	Y5,6	TKL	See separate letter
Bag 2 School	20.11.19	All	PSA	
Vision Screening (Reception)	25.11.19	YR	DS	
Flu Vaccinations	28.11.19	All	DS	
Head Teacher for a Day	29.11.19		MS	Details will be sent home in due course
Christmas Decoration morning	2.12.19 9.00-10.30am	All	CD	Help us get into the festive spirit!
Y2 Winter Wonderland concert	3.12.19	Y2	SP	
Y3 & 5 Music Performances	3.12.19	Y3, 5	GH, TKL	
Sports Hall Athletics	5.12.19	Y5	TKL	See separate letter
Pantomime	6.12.19	All	GH	Whole school trip, late return to school
Christmas Jumper Day	13.12.19	All	LR	
Book Blink	13.12.19 3.00	All		Doors will close at 3.30
PSA Christmas Fair	13.12.19	All	PSA	
Christmas Bazaar	17.12.19	All	PSA	
Christmas Show	17.12.19 2.00, 4.00	YR, 1, 2	CD, FL, SP	
Christmas Service	18.12.19 9.30am	All	LR, GH	Led by Y3,4; all invited to attend
Christmas Lunch	19.12.19	All	IL	
Carols Round the Tree	19.12.19 4.00	All	SM	
MUFTI	20.12.19	All		

Starting School September 2020

We have a number of dates available for tours of the school for prospective parents. If you know any one who is getting ready for their child to start school next September, please do encourage them to contact us and book a tour of the school. We also offer tours for families in other year groups. Unlike many other schools, our tours do not take place on one-off Open Days, so offer an opportunity to see life in action at St James' on a 'normal' school day.