



Newsletter

24th January 2020

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

Unfortunately, Mrs Hawkins has not been able to return to work, as she remains poorly. We're all working to keep things stable for the children, and hoping she will soon be fit to return to work. She is on the mend, it's just taking longer than she had expected.

We're really grateful to John Martin, one of our parents, who has spent time in school this week fitting us with CCTV—at a much reduced cost and providing his time free of charge. This is incredibly generous, and will help us maintain a safe environment for everyone—thank you so much John! Huge thanks to Dawn as well, who has worked with John on all the organization.

On Tuesday, Sabrewings worked with Katie Allen on a printing project, as part of the Harpur Trust Art Competition—some amazing work was produced, and whether we win or not, the children should feel incredibly proud of their efforts. Thanks to Miss Pillai for organizing this. Also on Tuesday, Dawn, Mrs Morton and I met with Yvette from Kier Homes, who are building homes on the St Mary's site—they are offering support to the school, and, of course, we had lots of ideas, and are hopeful for some really great opportunities for the children in the near future.

Next week, we welcome a Bedford School pupil to St James', who will be teaching Latin to Kingfishers Class—last term Peacocks enjoyed Mandarin lessons led by Bedford School, and I'm delighted that our partnership with the school will be continuing this term—really great opportunities for our children and great experience for the older boys.

I've noticed more signs of Spring this week, including my first sighting of snowdrops! The dark days are getting shorter—have lovely weekends!

Maria & all the team at St James'.

Gymnastics Club – Tuesday Mornings 8.00 – 8.45 am

4 spaces have become available at our Gymnastics Club run by Falcon Gymnastics. The gymnasts will enjoy learning the core gymnastics skills of co-ordination, agility, balance and aerial awareness. Children will work towards their gymnastics badges and have the opportunity to use some exciting gymnastic equipment. If you are interested in your child taking part in the morning club, please speak to Dawn in the Office.

Dawn Until Dusk News

First of all we would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! Welcome back to all of our Breakfast and After school children. Our themes have included, New Year Resolutions, Winter themed craft activities and fashion so far this term. We still have places available on Friday afternoons in club if you require child care.

A note to all adults picking up from club after school - **Can we please ask that you do not drive your car into the staff car park**, due to the high numbers of pedestrians. The car park is for school staff only. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Cathy, Jess and Kelly



Well-being Surveys for KS2 Pupils

Bedford Borough Council has invited our school to take part in a series of children and young people's wellbeing surveys involving years 3 to 13.

The survey questions have been designed to gather information on children and young people's attitudes, perceptions and behaviour around key aspects of health and wellbeing. Each survey is age appropriate for each Key Stage (Key Stage 2-5). The surveys will be completed throughout the Spring and Summer Term on-line, in school time and are anonymous (responses cannot be traced back to individual students). The results from the surveys will help inform Children's Services and Public Health in the future commissioning of services to meet the needs of children and young people in Bedford Borough. The data will also help our school to further develop the health and wellbeing provision across our whole school community. This information will assist us in understanding the specific needs of our pupils and enable us to continue to promote positive attitudes and behaviour in order to lead happy, healthy and safe lifestyles.

We value this opportunity and if you are happy for your child to take part you do not need to do anything. If you do not want your child to take part please let your child's class teacher know in writing.

St James' PSA

The next PSA Meet-up is on **Thursday, January 30, at 9am** in the School's Mobile Classroom. Everyone is welcome, including younger siblings. Why not come along and see what you can do to help raise some money for the school. The meetings are very casual and are a great opportunity to meet other parents and have a chat.

This year we are entering the Harpur Trust art competition entitled, The Fabric of Bedford. We were lucky enough to receive a visit from a working artist as part of this. Katie Allen spent the morning with Year 6 children on a print making workshop. They all had a great time and the art work produced was very impressive!



Event	Date & Time	Class	Staff Lead	Notes
Reception health screening	Tues 28th Jan	YR	DS	Letters have been sent out for this
Tennis Taster sessions	Thurs 30th Jan	YR, 1	CD, FL	
Science Week	w/b 3rd Feb	All	TKL	
KS1 & 2 Gymnastics competition	Tues 11th Feb	Y1-6	GH	
Valentine's Breakfast	Fri 14th Feb	All	GH	Mrs Hawkins will send details home in due course
Half Term	17th-21st Feb	All		
Class Photos	Tues 25th Feb	All	DS	
Parents Information Session—phonics	Tues 25th Feb 5.00	All	CD, FL	Open to all parents, but of most interest to parents in Reception and Year 1
Book Week	w/b 2nd March	All	IL	
Multi sports event	Tues 10th March	Y3, 4	GH, LR	
Book Blink	Fri 13th March 3.00-3.30	All		Finishes at 3.30
KS1 SATs meeting for parents	Tues 24th March 5.00	Y2	SP	
Multi Sports event	Thurs 26th March	Y1, 2	SP, FL	
Easter Service	Thurs 2nd April 9.30	All		
MUFTI—last day of term	Fri 3rd April	All		

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

May Day Bank Holiday

Please be aware that the date has changed this year, and the Bank Holiday will be on **FRIDAY 8TH MAY 2020** (rather than Monday 4th)

Being Bold.

We are hoping to make upcycled craft items to sell at the Christmas fair this year. All the profit from our stall will go towards a charity called Plan International. We would like to be able to sponsor a girl with Plan International Be Bold for Brave Girls Campaign to have basic things we have like clean water, healthcare, education and rights.

We are looking for donations of the following items and materials:

- Colourful T-shirts and sweatshirts
- Christmassy fabrics
- Men's cotton shirts
- Any other fabric scraps! (Bright, metallic and colourful please!)
- Felt
- Cottons & embroidery threads
- Ribbons, buttons & beads
- Zips less than 30cm

We are very grateful for any donations.

Please put all your donations into the box in the office. Ask Mrs. Steed if you are unsure!

Thank you for all your support,

Isla Purvis and Mary Fox

Details about the local area SEND re-visit will be available on your local authority's website and distributed through the local area's Clinical Commissioning Group/s (CCGs).

Information gathered during the re-visit

During this re-visit, inspectors may collect information about children and young people in the area. They may look at local area records, speak to area officers and leaders at educational settings, and speak to children, young people and parents or carers. No names will be recorded, but some of the information collected may identify a particular child, young person or adult. Ofsted and the CQC will use this information to prepare their re-visit outcomes letter, and for the purposes set out in their privacy notices. No information will be published that identifies any individual in the outcomes letter.

If you wish to know more about how we use the information, please see our privacy notice relating to LASEND on our website. If you have any concerns about our use of personal data, please email informationrequest@ofsted.gov.uk and/or the CQC at information.access@cqc.org.uk.

Information on Ofsted's and the CQC's privacy notices is available on the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofsted-privacy-notices/social-care-ofsted-privacy-notice#local-area-send-inspections>

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/about-us/our-policies/privacy-statement>

While we recognise that many parents and carers may have views on their experience that extend beyond the focus of the WSOA, we would like parents and carers to understand that the focus of the inspectors during the re-visit will only be the serious weaknesses identified at the previous inspection. The re-visit team will consider how well leaders have addressed each of the areas of serious weaknesses detailed in the WSOA. We will not be able to follow up or comment upon individual cases.

You will find information on local areas' duties towards children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities on the Department for Education's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wilson
Her Majesty's Inspector

22 January 2020

Dear parents,

Re-visit of Bedford Borough Council issued with a written statement of action from Monday 03 February 2020 - 05 February 2020.

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will carry out jointly a re-visit of your local area following the previous inspection that took place between 05 February 2018 - 09 February 2018.

The re-visit will evaluate how effectively leaders have addressed the areas of serious weaknesses detailed in the written statement of action (WSOA).

During the re-visit, Ofsted and CQC inspectors will be keen to speak to as many children and young people and their parents and carers as possible, specifically about the weaknesses identified in the WSOA.

How can local children, young people, parents and carers contribute their views during this local area re-visit?

There are several ways in which children, young people, parents and carers from your provision can engage with the re-visit process and contribute their views.

The inspectors will gather the contributions of parents and families through an online survey and a face-to-face open meeting. The focus of the online survey and open meeting will be set by the inspectors and will be based on the WSOA.

1. Parents and carers who would like to take part in this survey can follow this internet link: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/BedfordRe-VisitLASEND/>. The survey will open at 12 noon on Monday 27 January and close at 12 noon on Friday 31 January 2020.

Parents and carers can submit their contributions via the online survey using the link provided above.

2. An open meeting, which will focus on areas identified in the WSOA, will take place between 13.45pm to 15.00pm on 3 February 2020 at Child Development Centre Hill Rise, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7EB. Details are also included on the Local Offer localoffer.bedford.gov.uk