



Be COVID Aware

Do not come onto school site if you have any Coronavirus symptoms, & get tested. Maintain social distancing at all times. The symptoms are:

- High temperature
- New, continuous cough
- Loss of or change to sense of smell or taste

Newsletter 14th May, 2021

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I really hope we're in for a summer of warmth and sunshine, because all this rain and hail in May is just not fair! Weather aside, we've had a great week in school!

Firstly, we're in full Robin watch mode—Ryu has set up a camera so we can track our robin eggs as they hatch and grow. I've received lots of home learning focused on robins—well done to everyone. Some very interesting facts and stories have been shared—did you know that Victorian ladies would use robin skin to decorate their hats? Toby also shared a Victorian Christmas card, with a picture of a dead robin, Merry Christmas indeed!

Elsewhere, Kingfishers have been reconstructing the digestive system in science, Sabrewings have been enjoying the opportunity to just play in the rain (huge fun!), Robins have re-created Noah's Ark using clay, and Canaries have been serenading me with their beautiful singing (a song called Friendship). On Monday, I had a good wander round the school and sat in on lessons; I was blown away by the calm, studious atmosphere in the classes, with children really focused on their learning and working incredibly hard.

Eid was celebrated this week, we hope that all our friends and families enjoyed their celebrations—thank you for your generous gifts which we've shared in the staffroom. We trust that Allah blesses you with good fortune, peace and joy at this very special time.

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful weekend,

Maria & all the team at St James'

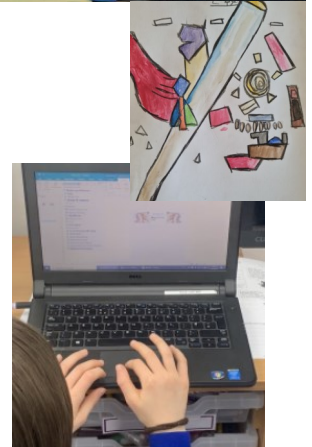
This is a Victorian Christmas card showing a dead robin!



How do you use a record player?

This amazing invention was created in 1925. A record player needs records, which are something that is a bit like a CD with album to play musical. The record can be big if it's a single and small if it's a single. Even though it's old it's still around. @ @

You need to be very careful with the record. When holding the record, make sure your fingers are in the centre. If you keep it in the side it might warp or be careful on hot days. The music is on both sides A and B. Place the record on the player then turn it on. The part of the record player you play it on is called a turntable. Make sure it's on the right speed or it will go wrong. To make it spin pull a little lever then push the tone arm to the side then push the lever to make it go down again. There is a little needle at the bottom that you place on the first thick grid. The grooves are the song so in an album if you can't change the song put the tone arm on a different grid.



Staffing Update

On Monday, we welcome Miss Victoria Vinent to our staff team as our newest Learning Support Assistant, working alongside Mrs Lawless in Year 1. I'm know you will all welcome her to our St James' family and be patient as she learns the ropes in the next few weeks!

Have you lost your gym membership card?

An unsigned gym membership card was found just outside school this morning—if you think it's yours, please give the office a call. If it remains unclaimed by next Friday, we'll return it to the gym.

COVID Update

Thank you to all of you who are being ultra-cautious and keeping your children away from school if they are showing any possible COVID symptoms—we really appreciate this as lots of schools across Bedford are having to close Bubbles due to positive cases. Please remember that if anyone in your household tests positive using a LFD test, you MUST stay away from school until the result is confirmed by a full PCR test.

Bedford Borough have advised that secondary schools do not continue with planned transition days at the moment—this may affect Year 6 children. Bedford Borough have also advised, that due to the local increase in positive cases, schools should not yet relax any preventative measures currently in place. This means that we will not yet be relaxing our in-school Bubble arrangements, or the way in which we are asking parents to behave in or around the school site. Please continue to wear your face coverings when coming on to the school site and at drop off—I do know how cumbersome this is, and I do know that the national restrictions do not require face coverings to be worn when outside, but it does give us all an extra layer of protection which can not be anything else but helpful—thank you!

As a reminder, if your child is at home self-isolating due to COVID (be it a positive case or a possible case), your child can access remote learning opportunities. There are remote learning packs on the website, and children will be able to log in to Teams to join in with some lessons—your class teachers will be able to advise you further.



- Bring a sun hat to school—MAPAC sells these if needed. Ensure sunhats are named
- Apply long-lasting sun screen before school. Children should not bring sunscreen into school and staff can not apply sunscreen—we just don't have the logistical capacity to do this.
- Light, long sleeved 'cardigans' may be worn outside on the hottest of days
- Bring a water bottle to school (named)
- Children must wear appropriate footwear and socks—no flipflops/open toed sandals

Summer Term Dates Ahead
(COVID restrictions may apply)

26th May	Making Me workshops for Y3-6 (to support emotional well-being)
27th May	Robins & Whinchats—African Animals Experience (in school)
31st May-4th June	Half Term
16th June	Welcome Meeting for Parents of children starting school in September
18th June	INSET School closed
2nd July	Sports Day (provisional date, at the moment, will confirm ASAP)
6th July	Y6 Transition Days for Lincroft and Sharnbrook Academies
13th July	Parents evening (drop in, to discuss end of year reports)
14th July	Moving Up morning—time in new classes
20th July	Proms in the Playground—whole school celebration 5pm
21st July	Leaver's Service 2.00
22nd July	Last day of term



As well as Eid, yesterday was also Ascension Day—this is a feast day for Christians which commemorates the bodily ascension of Jesus into Heaven.

The Easter season continues. Following His resurrection, Jesus spent time appearing to his friends telling them to go out and proclaim His Good News throughout the world. After talking with them, He was taken up to heaven and took His seat at the right hand of God. The great hope for all Christians is that just as Jesus went into Heaven, so too will they.

