



# St James' RC Primary Newsletter

Friday 1st March 2019

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 21

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely half term holiday.

We started the week with an assembly to bring awareness about Fairtrade. We discussed how Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions and fair terms of trade for farmers in the developing world. It enables farmers to improve their position and have more control over their lives. Children were told that with simple shopping choices we can all get farmers a better deal and that means they can make their own decisions, control their future and lead the dignified life everyone deserves. We are aiming to become a Fairtrade aware School.



We introduced our Character trait for this half term which is honesty. We talked to the children about what this means and why it is so important. They will be nominating people that they see being honest over the coming weeks and the nominations will be made into a book celebrating our values.

We were visited by our School Improvement Partner this week and she felt that the vision and ambition for the school and how it is communicated to staff, parents and pupils is very effective. She felt that leaders have created a culture of high expectations, aspirations and scholastic excellence. She commented on the

rigour and accuracy of self-evaluation and how well it leads to planning that secures continual improvement. She was particularly impressed with how well the school supports the formal curriculum with extra-curricular opportunities for pupils to extend their knowledge and understanding and to improve their skills in a range of artistic, creative and sporting activities.

This week Year 6 began a series of workshops with our mentors from Bank of America. Over the next six sessions we will be learning about financial matters that will help us with looking after our money. This week we looked at bank statements and how to create passwords that are 100% safe using a password checker.



Please remember that children can dress up as a book character on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March to celebrate World Book Day.

Year 4 Parents are welcome to attend the Year 4 Class Assembly on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 2:50pm.

Have a good weekend.

Kind regards  
Mrs Weeks

## Dates for your diary

### March

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Year 4 visiting a Roman Villa  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Whole School Ash Wednesday  
Mass led by Yr 5  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> World Book Day: Children are welcome to dress up as a Book Character  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Year 4 Class Assembly in the school hall at 2:50pm  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> International Women's Day  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Cross Country for Year 3 and Year 4  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Open Evening 3:30-6:30 for parents  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Open Evening 3:30-6:30 for parents  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Individual photographs  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Staff to hold a Movie Night for children (Please see the attached letter)  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> KS1 Performance 9:15 for parents and toddlers.  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> KS1 Performance 9:15 for parents  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> PTA Family Disco  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Whole School Spring Walk in Jubilee Park  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> PTA KS1 Easter Egg Hunt  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Helen O'Grady Performance to parents at 1:15

### April

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Bike Ability Year 6  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Bike Ability Year 6  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Passion Play for parents  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> End of term

## SAFEGUARDING

You have probably heard about 'Momo', the sinister 'challenge' which has recently resurfaced and come to the attention of schools and children across the country. 'Momo' is sometimes dubbed the 'suicide killer game' and has been heavily linked with apps such as Facebook, Whats App, You Tube, and most worryingly You Tube Kids, which many of our under 13s use frequently. The disturbing 'Momo' character has appeared in the

middle of popular videos for children (including 'unboxing videos', 'surprise eggs' and how to play Minecraft and Fortnite videos) followed by clips of violence and other inappropriate images and directions to take harmful actions or make contact with 'Momo' sharing their personal details. Please report any incidents to CEOP.

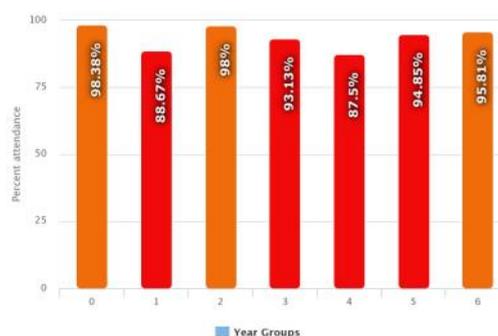
This link has been produced by National Online Safety:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/momo-online-safety-guide-for-parents/>

The advice is for parents and professionals to use news stories such as this to start a conversation with children:

- Ask them if they have heard of the challenge and allow them to talk openly about it.
- What they would do if 'Momo' got in touch with them?
- Who would they go to for help?
- Do they know how to block users on popular platforms?

## Attendance



Well done everyone! There were no pupils late for school the week before half term.

## Other Notices

Wednesday and Thursday lunch options will be swapped for next week due to Ash Wednesday.

Year 1's visit to the library will not be on 8th March. It will be rearranged for a future date.

## PTA

We hope you all had a lovely half-term. The main PTA event of this term is our Family Disco which is on Saturday 23 March. A reminder that this year's disco is on a Wild West theme should you be tempted to come in fancy dress!

Thank you very much to all who submitted ticket requests for this year's Summer Ball which again sold out in record time! We'll be in touch regarding all ticket applications shortly. Also, a reminder that we're looking for donations of raffle prizes please.

Do take a look at the email we sent about The Maypole Project earlier this week. If you'd like to take part in one of the events they have places for, and raise money for them, then please do get in touch with them.

## DIARY DATES

Saturday 23 March—Family Disco, School Hall  
6.30pm

Saturday 18 May—Spring Ball, West Kent Golf Club  
6.30pm

Contact us: [pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com](mailto:pta.stjamesprimary@gmail.com) or via our Facebook page.