



# St James' RC Primary Newsletter

Friday 16th November 2018

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 9

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who attended Goal Sharing Day. I hope parents and children found the meetings useful.

Thank you to those that gave feedback at the Governor Table. People commented that they enjoyed the After School Club. Children said that they liked the Playground Rota and wrote "I like playing at playtime" and "I like the playground". Parents were pleased that there is a focus on emotional health and well-being and one child wrote that "The Listening Ear helps me". Parents said that they were pleased that Year 6 had finance education. Parents commented on the great staff and the caring environment. Children wrote that they liked the homework, the new computers, Lego Play and the School Garden. Children said that they enjoyed their school lunches and wrote that they had 'nice food'.

As a school we welcome ideas for improvement. Table Tennis was suggested and this is something that we are already looking into. Parents asked for children to have longer to do homework and again this is something that we are changing for after Christmas. A shorter transition to Reception was asked for and this is already planned for September 2019. One child asked for napkins at lunch however this would be too expensive. A parent suggested that the school sells School Production DVDs. Year 6 parents already do this for the Year 6 production and we would be happy for parents to organise this for other productions.

Please let the school office know if you would like to organise this. Text messaging was suggested however this would cost at least £1000 a year for us which in this present financial climate would be a luxury and not a necessity.



I want to say a huge well done to all the Year 5 and Year 6 children that took part in the Crystal Palace Cross Country on Saturday. They all did so well with many personal bests!



On Saturday afternoon Mrs Wilson and I were lucky enough to be invited to attend The Faith in Action Award Ceremony at St Joseph's RC Church, Bromley to see Ciaran receive his award from Archbishop Peter Smith. We were very proud of him.



In our assembly on Monday morning Mrs Connolly introduced the Super School Fundraising project for the KS1 and KS2 playground improvements. The children have been asked to collect sponsorships for the event on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November when Commonwealth Gold Medallist Steve Frew will be visiting us. We have already raised over £400 and have 42 participants.

On Thursday the children watched The Image Theatre Group perform Robin Hood and thoroughly enjoyed it. This was funded by the PTA so thank you to everyone that supports our wonderful PTA.



Thank you to all the parents that attended the Curriculum evening on Thursday. Mrs Connolly explained how parents can help at home with reading comprehension and Mrs Wilson spoke about RE is taught at St James'. I hope parents

found it helpful and they were given information about how they can help at home.

Thank you to the children who supported Children in Need by dressing up in spots on Friday. So far we are able to donate £158.66 and money is still coming in.



Some parents have asked me to politely ask KS2 parents to move right onto the KS2 playground to wait at the end of the day as the path and outside Year 5 often gets blocked. Thank you.

I attended a presentation this week about The Bromley Children Project. They have a range of parenting courses that are free including 'The Nurturing Programme' which helps adults to look at life from their child's perspective. There is also 'Improving Self Esteem' that helps parents to understand how healthy self esteem develops. If you are interested please contact them on 020 84617259 or email: [parenting.courses@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:parenting.courses@bromley.gov.uk)

Have a wonderful weekend.  
Mrs Weeks



## Other messages.....

### School kitchen

Due to a Health and Safety issue in the kitchen beyond our control we are unable to provide school lunches at the moment. We are asking that all children come to school on Monday and Tuesday with a packed lunch. Can we take this opportunity to remind you of our policy on health school lunches and our aim to be a nut free school. This also means no sesame seeds or hummus. Parents that have paid for school lunches will of course have credits for next term's fees. I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and will keep you informed of any updates on Tuesday. Thank you for your support.

### Reception Class 2019/20 - Siblings

There will be an open morning on Wednesday 21st November at 9.15am and Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) will be given out. Sibling families **do not** have to attend the open morning and SIFs will be available from the school office or the website from the 21st November.

### Christmas Productions:

You are invited to our Christmas productions:

KS2 Advent Concert on Monday 10th December at 6pm at St James' Church.

KS1 "A Very Noisy Nativity" on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th December at 9.15am in school. Please note that babies or toddlers will not be admitted to the Thursday performance.

### Christmas Lunch:

The school Christmas lunch (Roast Turkey or Vegetable Cracker Parcel) will take place on **Wednesday 12th December**. If your child already has school dinners then they will automatically be booked in for this and you do not need to do anything. If your child usually has packed lunches, but would like to have the Christmas lunch then please send in £2.50 in an envelope marked clearly with their name by Monday 18th November.

### Year 3

Please remember to return your Scootsure forms by Monday 19th Nov.

### Reception class

They will be visiting the library on Friday. Leaving at 10.50 and returning by 12 noon. Please let Mrs Richards know if you are able to accompany them.

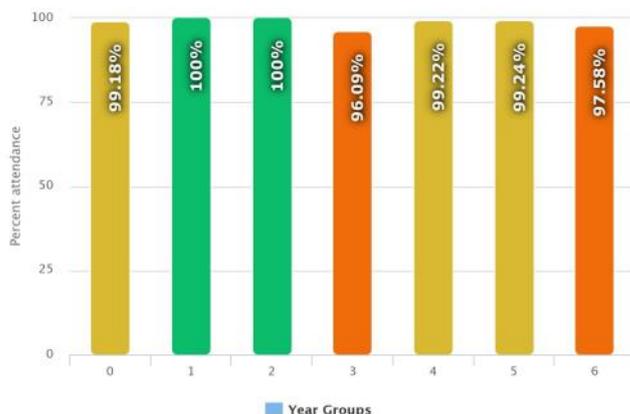
### KS1 Gate

The Gate to KS1 will be opened each day at 8:40. Children need to be supervised until the classrooms open at 8:45.

### Year 2 - Forest School

Just a gentle reminder to parents to dress their children in appropriate clothing for the inclement weather that we experience at this time of year. Please, if at all possible, provide your children with a pair of cheap waterproof trousers or something a little thicker than jersey leggings and a waterproof jacket.

## Attendance



Class	No. of lates last week
Reception	0
Year 1	1
Year 2	0
Year 3	1
Year 4	2
Year 5	0
Year 6	0

Well Done to Year 1 and Year 2 on their 100% attendance.

## Safeguarding

### Safe Guarding

Please help children to 'be bright and be seen' as the dark nights are here. Britain's roads are among the safest in the world and the number of children killed has fallen greatly in the last twenty years. However, approximately eighty children are killed on our roads each year. Making sure that children are easily seen by drivers is important all year round but especially at this time of year when evenings are getting darker. Drivers and riders should also remember to keep a look out for children walking and cycling. Top tips for making sure children are visible when out on the roads are:

- If you are out and about when it's dark, wear reflective gear to make sure that you can be seen in car headlights - reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing does not work after dark;
- Use accessories - even small items such as clip-on reflectors, fluorescent arm bands and stickers on your school bag are a great way to improve your visibility;
- If you like to cycle, remember that it's the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front and red at the back) as well as a rear reflector;
- Being bright is not the only way to stay safer - if you are out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code



## Dates

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Open Morning at 9:15 for prospective Reception Class 2019  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Year 3 taking part in The Tate Modern Project at school  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Year 3 Scootsure  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Year 1 to visit The Horniman Museum  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Year 6 to visit Bromley High to hear Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkins speak. She holds the roles of Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, priest vicar at Westminster Abbey and Chaplain to the Queen.  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Reception class visiting the library  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> PTA Christmas Cracker Assembly for children in school  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> PTA Christmas Fair 12-3pm  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Choir performing at Petts Wood Memorial Hall  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Nasal Spray Flu Vaccination for Reception to Year 5  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> 9-9:45 Open classrooms for parents to visit lessons  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> The Cardinal Hume Centre representative to talk to Year 5 and Year 6  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Athlete to visit school  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Helen O'Grady Performance to parents at 12:30

## Governors

### **Governor Table – Goal-Sharing Day**

Thank you to all parents and children who came on Goal-Sharing Day to share your views on what works well and what the school might do better.

Governors really do appreciate the time you gave us and assure you that your comments will be discussed by staff at our forthcoming Governor meetings.

## The Wednesday Word

This week's word is **FAITHFULNESS**. We talked to the children this week in assembly about everybody wanting a faithful friend and Jesus promises to be ours. In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus is encouraging the disciples and us to be faithful to him.

## Sports News

### Team SuperSchools Fundraising Event

A huge thank you to everyone who has registered for this event or donated money already! We are currently at 14% of our target. Check our Twitter feed for updates on our progress!

Please remember to register your child/children individually for this event. Details on how to register online are attached to the newsletter. Please note that all monies raised should be paid online through your child's fundraising page and no money should come into school.

We will need adult helpers on the afternoon of the 29th November. If you are able to help please let the office know.

<https://fundraise.teamsuperschools.co.uk/events/st-james-rc-primary/>

### School Cross Country Run at Crystal Palace

This took place last Saturday in perfect conditions. Our 21 strong Year 5 & 6 team competed against 51 other schools on the day. We had enough children running to be able to score as a full team and compete for the Small School Trophy - for the first time in three years! The children didn't disappoint and managed to finish 3rd overall in this competition. A magnificent achievement and a great team effort! Full results can be found at <http://www.bpscca.co.uk>

### Year 6 Basketball Tournament - Bromley School Games

On Wednesday afternoon two teams represented St James' in this tournament against 19 other teams.

After the group stages our teams finished in 8th and 9th position which allowed them to compete for the "Plate" competition. Neither team lost a game in this part of the competition which led to a crunch final between the two St James' teams - ensuring that we came home with first place medals! Well done team!

## Gardening News



Although relatively quiet in the garden this month, we have been busy behind the scenes. The monies that you very generously donated in exchange for our surplus vegetable stock has been used, in part, to buy two new watering cans, two bird houses and a ladybird tower, all items requested by the School Garden Council to improve the wildlife provision on our site. Onion sets and broad bean seeds have also been purchased for autumn/winter planting. Reception class too, have been making Green Tomato Chutney with our excess tomatoes to sell at the Christmas Fair, with all monies raised being ploughed back into the school garden. A special 'thank you' to Mrs Somerville for donating several Strawberry plants to the school—roll on Wimbledon! Thank you too, to the Gardening Club who this week planted a number of white daffodil bulbs in each of the corners of our raised beds to provide some wonderful spring cheer. And finally, on Saturday 8th December, we would like to invite all who are collecting their Christmas trees to stay for just an hour to assist with a couple of projects to improve our garden. Seasonal refreshments and equipment provided! Please do let the school office know if you think that you will be able to stay and help.  
Mrs Deasy