



St James' RC Primary Newsletter

Friday 21st June 2019

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 33

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I want to start by thanking the five parents that spent Saturday morning clearing out the area behind the school house. Thank you to Mr Boyle, Mr Conroy, Mr Dunn, Mr Green and Mr Harrison. The children have requested a small orchard and a garden of wild flowers to encourage pollinators. In other gardening news if you take a look at the RHS Campaign for School Gardening website under competitions and scroll down, you will see our school gardening team and a brief description of the school and garden. Our garden is now in constant use with children this week picking our oregano for their cooking. Also, we are delighted that a local sandwich bar, run by two of our parents, has agreed to take our lettuce and tomatoes from us to use in their products! We are also grateful to Mrs Wakefield who has donated a wormery and we hope that this will be up and running in September. Thank you also to Miss McCarthy and Year 1 for creating a welcoming display along the school garden fence. Everyone is working so hard on our garden and Mrs Deasy is in talks to enhance the planting area in front of Petts Wood Library. She has entered the school garden into the Kent Life Primary School Garden of the Year Award and we await to hear if we have been selected as a finalist. Mrs Deasy is also entering us into the Bromley in Bloom competition and our wooden planter will be displayed in Bromley town centre during the month of July. And, if that is not enough we have also entered the Ruxley in Bloom competition.



We were visited this week by The National Trust Petts Wood Area Ranger who kindly provided us with a new set of seating logs for Forest School.

On Tuesday in the KS2 assembly we talked about having self-discipline and how we can balance our moods. I explained to the children that life is often like a balancing act. We need to make sure that we do not lean too far into some of our emotions because then we can lose control of our feelings. We talked about how each of us feels many different emotions every single day. Each of us needs to learn how to stay in charge of our emotions and not to let our feelings lead us over the edge. We need to stay balanced and be in charge of our feelings instead of our feelings being in charge of us. The children suggested strategies that they use to keep themselves balanced such as counting to ten and breathing deeply and steadily.

On Wednesday the Head teacher from Bishop Challoner met with me to discuss how we can work together on future projects. We talked about how our RE Ambassadors could visit their school Chapel and their children could visit our Forest School.

Father David celebrated a beautiful Mass with Year 3 on Thursday where we continued to pray for the children that have recently made their First Holy Communion or are making it this Saturday.

The weather has been kind to us this week for

'Sports Week' and the children have enjoyed all the activities that have been planned for them. A huge thank you to Mrs Connolly for organising such a great week. The Sports Day was a huge success and hopefully all the children enjoyed themselves. They took part in all of the events so enthusiastically and should be very proud of all their achievements. We all witnessed great sportsmanlike behaviour and it was great to see everyone supporting one another. Thank you to all the staff and to Mr Connolly for providing great music. What a great day!



As you may have seen in the school office we now have a new signing in system to enable our safe guarding procedures to be even better. We will be introducing it over the next two weeks.

Please can I remind parents not to drive down to the school gate as this makes it very dangerous for children and has at times this week prevented staff from entering or leaving school.

This Saturday please remember to keep the Year 3 children who are making their First Holy Communion in your prayers. We hope they have a memorable day.

Have a good weekend.

Mrs Weeks

Dates

June

Monday 24th Year 5 River Study

Monday 24th KS1 Hever Castle visit

Thursday 27th 9-10:30 Talk for Year 6 and Year 5 and Year 6 parents about Transition

Friday 28th Year 2 visiting the library

Saturday 29th PTA Summer Fair

July

Monday 1st Open classrooms for parents to look at trays at 3:20

Thursday 4th Meeting for New Reception Class (2019) parents at 7pm

Friday 5th Reports to parents

Friday 5th Year 1 Visiting the library

Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th Year 6 Production at 7pm

Wednesday 10th-Friday 12th Newstead Woods Year 5 Enrichment

Thursday 11th 'Missing in Education' Talk to Year 5 and Year 6

Friday 12th Reception Class visiting the library

Friday 12th Helen O'Grady Performance 1:15 (Parents welcome)

Friday 12th Walk Around Evening to look at trays and meet with teachers 4-6pm

Monday 15th Prayer Day

Wednesday 17th Year 6 to visit Bank of America

Wednesday 17th PTA Meeting

Thursday 18th Summer Walk in Jubilee Park at 9:15

Tuesday 23rd Leaver's Mass at 10:00

Tuesday 23rd End of Term

Wednesday Word

This Week's Word is **CHURCH**. We talked to the children about what the word 'church' means to them. We told them that the Church has grown all over the world since Jesus gave Peter the keys of the Kingdom. It is a huge family that we can all be part of.

Safeguarding

The internet is full of harmful content, which is why web filtering is such an important tool for any family. When running properly it helps to protect your children from the bad things on the internet, regardless of whether they are trying to access that type of content on purpose or it happens by accident. While parental controls are generally grouped together as one, there are three main ways of providing them: via your Internet Service Provider (ISP), via a router or via software that you install. Each has its own benefits and downsides, and the best solution is often to use a combination of techniques to catch everything and prevent a child from bypassing your protection.



Met art Competition Winners

On Wednesday Oona and Joshua in Year 1 went to New Scotland Yard as they were winners of the '100 Years of Women Policing in the Met' art competition. It required an early start to get to New Scotland Yard and there they met up with other competition winners. Then it was on to the underground to get to Wapping Police station. There they were treated to a trip on a

police river boat up to Parliament. Then they met two police horses and a police dog called Tom who searches for guns, drugs and money. Once back at New Scotland Yard they took part in a media training session and Oona and Joshua acted as police officers. They met with the Met Commissioner, Cressida Dick. She also presented them with their certificates. We saw them on London Live TV that night.

PTA News

The countdown to this year's Summer Fair is underway! We're looking forward to the day which is always a great opportunity for families and friends throughout the school to get together. Here are a few reminders for you:

*Lucky bags - all children are invited to decorate and fill two small bags that are sold on the day (maximum of 5 per family). There will be Golden Tickets inside three bags which will entitle each winner to a £5 book voucher. Please ensure contents are around the value of £1.50; it is not unusual for children to buy back their own creations! Contents can include sweets (no chocolate please as it will melt) small toys and money!

*Donations - we'll be collecting donations from Monday so please take this opportunity to sort through unwanted toys and books that are in an excellent, good-as-new condition. We would also love any small sweets for our sweet tombola and any second hand uniform that is in good condition. Please leave in the main hall near to the Prayer Corner.

*Bottle Day is on Friday 28th after drop-off. The bottle tombola needs a mix of bottles so please do help us by bringing anything from fruit cordial to Champagne – all offerings received with thanks!

*Cakes - appeal to all bakers (Mums/Dads/Grandparents), if you are able to donate some home-made fairy cakes and cupcakes that would be brilliant. Contributions to this stall need to be

delivered on the morning of the fair.

*Raffle tickets – please return all counterfoils and money in a clearly marked envelope into the PTA mailbox. Please return any unused tickets to the office. The Year 6 children will be selling children's raffle tickets throughout the school next week for £1 a strip so please send the children in with coins from their money box!

Thank you for all your support and A BIG THANK YOU to all the year reps who are co-ordinating and organising their stalls. We could not do it without their assistance so please, do give some time if you are able. We need helpers on the Friday night to set-up as well as on the day itself – even 30 minutes can make a big difference!

DIARY DATES

Saturday 29th June Summer Fair, School Field, 12-3pm

Wednesday, 17th July, PTA **Meeting in the small hall at the St James' Parish Community Centre**

Thursday, 18th July PTA Golf Day Chislehurst Golf Club

Attendance

10th June –14th June

Class	Attendance (%)	Occasions Late
Rec	97.74	0
Y1	94.67	1
Y2	96.33	0
Y3	99.38	1
Y4	99.69	0
Y5	95.76	0
Y6	99.03	0

Weekly winners

Year	Number of wins
Rec	1
Y1	6
Y2	1
Y3	0
Y4	1
Y5	0
Y6	2

Well done to Year 1 who are in the lead at the moment!

Sports News

It has been a busy week of sport this week, coinciding nicely with Sports Week. The weather has been kind and the children in school have had a fabulous week of activities.

On Monday this week we had a cricket friendly against Chislehurst. The team played well with some excellent bowling but failed to score enough runs to beat the opposition.

On Tuesday, the Year 3 & 4 QuadKids team went to Norman Park to compete in this four-discipline athletics event. Some great individual performances meant the team finished 8th overall out of 16 teams. Well done!

On Wednesday our Netball team had a friendly against Holy Innocents. The girls played well, but unfortunately the opposition had an amazing shooter who seemed to miss nothing! A great effort girls!

On Thursday this week 24 of our year 5 & 6 children went to take part in the Borough athletics tournament at Norman Park. There were some amazing times and distances put in with 4 of our children performing well enough to be asked back to compete at the Individual Borough finals in a fortnight's time. Well done! Overall the team managed a fantastic 10th place out of 19 competing against medium and large schools.

And finally, on Friday our four tennis pairs went to compete in the Kent Schools Tennis finals that they qualified for last week. In total, 64 teams competed and I am extremely proud to say that two of our boys teams finished in second place and our girls' pairing finished as our first ever St James' Kent School Tennis Champions! A most amazing finish to a fantastic week of sport!

Thank you to everyone who has made this week possible for the children both staff in school and parents for transporting to and from fixtures.

Without all this support it simply couldn't happen. Thank you all once again.

Corinne Connolly