



Newsletter

8th November 2019

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This week has been Parliament Week, a chance for children to understand how democracy works in our country. Today is 'Have your say' day—the children are deciding how lessons are delivered and in what order today, following debates and votes in class.

We were really pleased that some of our Y6 families came along to school on Tuesday to find out more about the KS2 SATs which will take place in May next year—in order for children to achieve their very best, it's important that parents and school work together in partnership, so thank you all for showing your commitment to this important aspect of school life. Do let us know if you have any further queries.

Next week is a busy week in terms of staff being out of school for courses. As you know, we invest very heavily in staff professional development as we believe that helps us deliver the best opportunities for the children. We try to keep disruption to an absolute minimum, but some weeks are just more full on than others. Do see the note below to see who's in and who's out next week.

Tonight is the PSA Neon Disco—Carole Ann and the PSA have worked so hard to organize this, and many of you have helped donate raffle prizes and buy raffle tickets. I had hoped to come along, but my cough is worsening and I'm afraid I just need to hide away this weekend—however, I hope you all have a wonderful time! Thank you for supporting our school and our children!

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful weekend,

Maria & all the team at St James'

Flu Immunisation

On Monday your child received information on the Flu Vaccination and a Flu Immunisation Consent Form. Please ensure that all consent forms are returned to school by **Tuesday 12th November**. If we do not receive a form your child will not be vaccinated. If you need another copy, please see Dawn.

Music concert Tuesday 3rd December 2019, 10:45-11:15



This term, year 5 have been learning to play the Ukulele and Year 3 have learnt to play the steel pans.

We would like to invite you to a concert on Tuesday 3rd December at 10:45-11:15 where years 5 and 3 will play a repertoire of music including a collaborative piece. The concert is open to parents of years 3 and 5 pupils. We hope you can join us for this celebration of the children's progress in music.



Competition Time!

Competition Title	Details	Prize	Closing Date
STEM—If you were an engineer what would you do?	Open to all years Find a problem, invent a solution, draw itwrite an explanation www.leadersaward.com	Invitation to Award ceremony, all entries displayed at a Public Exhibition	25.3.2020
Step into the NHS—Years 3-6	Say thank you to the NHS, focus on the different types of jobs in the NHS. Creative artwork or creative writing https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/primary-schools/KS2-competition	Amazon vouchers Class trip to a local science venue	1.5.2020
Wallace & Gromit Cracking Ideas—ages 5-11	Look at the world around you. Imagine a cracking idea that can help get mundane jobs done quicker, better and most importantly from the comfort of a warm armchair! Drawing, craft, photographs https://crackingideas.com/competitions/Wallace+&+Gromit+Cracking+Ideas+Competition	Aardman model making workshop for the school	24.4.20
Advent Calendar Enter a picture, poem or other creations	Mrs Wilding will be creating a St James' Advent Calendar. You can create: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Christmas poem • A Christmas picture • Christmas prayer • Illustration of one of our school values Make your entry bright and colourful on A4 or A5 paper, Remember to put your name on the back.	Your craft work featured in our whole school advent calendar	Hand in entries to Mrs Wilding by Wednesday 20th November



On **Friday 15th November** the Pupils Governors are holding a MUFTI day to raise money for Children in Need. The theme this year is 'Let's do good and feel good together'.

We would like you to come to school in your sports clothes and trainers. Please bring in a suggested minimum donation of £1 to support Children in Need. Throughout the day each class will take part in 'The Big Morning Move with Joe Wicks!' This will get each class active and hopefully raise lots of money!

Then the week after we are going to be holding a cake sale – details coming soon!

JUST ONE Tree

We've been contacted by one of our ex-pupils, Jessica, who was also one of our Eco-Echo ambassadors, urging St James' to get involved with the Just One Tree campaign.

Just One Tree is a non-profit initiative removing CO2 from the atmosphere through global reforestation. Just One Tree supports established reforestation companies, namely the International Tree Foundation and Eden Replantation Projects, who plant in areas severely affected by mass deforestation such as Kenya, Madagascar, Haiti & Indonesia. In doing so they have the greatest positive effect on global warming whilst simultaneously alleviating extreme poverty within impacted communities through training, education and employment.

Just One Tree makes it simple for everyone to contribute to collective action on the climate crisis because Just £1 plants 1 Tree. We're sure you will agree that tree planting is absolutely essential at this critical time for the planet. We will therefore be joining children, parents and teachers across the country to demonstrate that an individual's actions can have a positive impact on the environment.

We want to try and raise enough money to plant a St James' Forest of 166 trees—that's one tree for every child in our school. To kickstart our campaign, we will be holding a MUFTI day on **Friday November 22nd**. There is no cost for this MUFTI day, but we do ask everyone to contribute to the Just One Tree campaign through our online fundraising page: <https://www.goldengiving.com/fundraising/StJames>

More information can be found at: <https://www.justonetree.life/>

We look forward to counting the number of trees that our school community can plant!





Mrs Lawless & Year 1 are looking for donations of the following:



Offcuts of timber (non-treated) for woodwork
Recyclables- cereal boxes, kitchen rolls, egg boxes, yogurt pots.

Pots and pans, kitchen utensils.

Bucket, spades, dress up clothes/ role play items.

We are also looking for any donations of the following:

Old household electrical items, such as kettles, hairdryers, hair straighteners, lamps

Any old plastic kitchen equipment, such as plates, cups and toy food

A child's kitchen for outdoor play

Any old dolls, plastic doll's house

Storage boxes (suitable for outdoors, preferably with lids)

Any writing equipment—paper, pens, envelopes

Donations of (healthy & easy to care for) pot plants

Throws & larger pieces of fabric

Thank you!

Wanted:

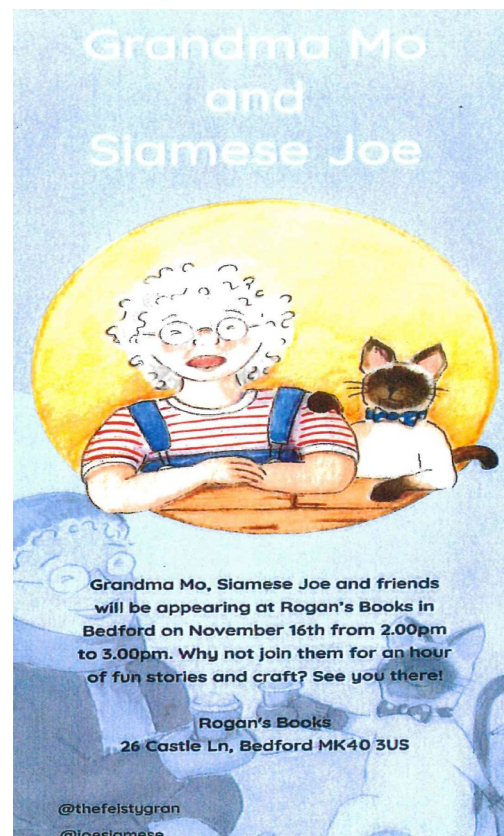
Donations of any hardy plants or cuttings for the school garden. Please leave outside the Year 1 classroom. Many thanks.

Do You Work in Science or Technology?

At St James', one of our key curriculum drivers is ensuring that our pupils have high aspirations and high levels of achievement. Because of this, we are asking if any parents or family members know of anyone whose job is related to Science or technology and is willing to talk to children about their work.

If you are able to help us, please contact Miss Kassim-Lowe (Year 5 Class teacher) via the school office. We look forward to hearing from you.

Class Assemblies 2.30pm	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Robins	28th November	6th March	25th June
Whinchats	22nd November	26th February	3rd July
Canaries	15th November	7th February	12th June
Green Jays	29th November	14th February	22nd May
Kingfishers	8th November	31st January	15th May
Peacocks	1st November	24th January	1st May
Sabrewings	18th October	17th January	26th June



Event	Date & Time	Class	Staff Lead	Notes
Sutton Hoo trip	11.11.19	Y4	LR	See separate letter
Flu Consent Forms returned	12.11.19	All	DS	
PHD study re Social Media	15.11.19	Y5,6	TKL	See separate letter
Children in Need MUFTI	15.11.19	All	CD	See message from Pupil Governors
Bag 2 School	20.11.19	All	PSA	
MUFTI Just One Tree	22.11.19	All	MS	See separate message
Vision Screening (Reception)	25.11.19	YR	DS	
Flu Vaccinations	28.11.19	All	DS	
Christmas Wreath making	28.11.19	All	PSA	
Head Teacher for a Day	29.11.19		MS	Details will be sent home in due course
Christmas Decoration morning	2.12.19 9.00-10.30am	All	CD	Help us get into the festive spirit!
Y2 Winter Wonderland concert	3.12.19	Y2	SP	
Y3 & 5 Music Performances	3.12.19	Y3, 5	GH, TKL	
Sports Hall Athletics	4.12.19	Y3 & 4	GH, LR	
Sports Hall Athletics	5.12.19	Y5	TKL	See separate letter
Pantomime	6.12.19	All	GH	Whole school trip, late return to school
Roald Dahl Day	11.12.19	Y2	SP	See separate letter
Christmas Jumper Day	13.12.19	All	LR	
Book Blink	13.12.19 3.00	All		Doors will close at 3.30
PSA Christmas Fair	13.12.19	All	PSA	
Christmas Bazaar	17.12.19	All	PSA	
Christmas Show	17.12.19 2.00, 4.00	YR, 1, 2	CD, FL, SP	
Christmas Service	18.12.19. 9.30am	All	LR, GH	Led by Y3,4; all invited to attend
Christmas Lunch	19.12.19	All	IL	
Carols Round the Tree	19.12.19 4.00	All	SM	
MUFTI	20.12.19	All		

Starting School September 2020

We have a number of dates available for tours of the school for prospective parents. If you know any-one who is getting ready for their child to start school next September, please do encourage them to contact us and book a tour of the school. We also offer tours for families in other year groups. Unlike many other schools, our tours do not take place on one-off Open Days, so offer an opportunity to see life in action at St James' on a 'normal' school day.

Domestic Abuse Notification Scheme

Since September 2015, our school has been participating in the RELAY Scheme in partnership with Bedford Borough Council and Bedfordshire Police. The scheme is changing name and is now called the Domestic Abuse Notification Scheme (D.A.N.S)

The D.A.N.S acts as a school notification service where incidents of domestic abuse have been reported in the previous 24 hours to Bedfordshire Police from households where children reside and are on the school roll. Are reported to the school.

The D.A.N.S is coordinated by the Safeguarding Lead (Ms Soulsby)

at our school and is facilitated by the Early Help HUB within the MASH team at Bedford Borough Children's Services. The Scheme has been implemented within the majority of schools in Bedford Borough.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) reported that 4.3% of men and 7.5% of women stated that they have experienced domestic abuse in 2016/17. This is equivalent to an estimated 713,000 male victims and 1.2 million female victims.

- For every three victims of domestic abuse, two will be female, one will be male.
- For every four victims of stalking, three will be female and one will be male.
- On average victims experience 50 incidents of abuse before getting effective help
- Every minute in the UK police receive a call for assistance concerning domestic abuse
- 30% of domestic abuse starts during pregnancy
- 70% of high risk victims have children

The aims of the scheme are to:

- Raise awareness of the circumstances under which a child may be attending school and how subsequently they may present in terms of their behavioural and emotional responses throughout the school day.
- Provide a source of support through the educational setting for families impacted by domestic abuse.
- Make referrals where required for safeguarding purposes to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, or where parental consent is given, and where it is appropriate to do so, complete an Early Help Assessment for additional support.

As a school we feel it vital that we work alongside Bedfordshire Police and Bedford Borough Council to achieve these aims.

If you would like more information about the Scheme or support that can be offered around Domestic Abuse please speak with your child's class teacher.

Bag 2 School



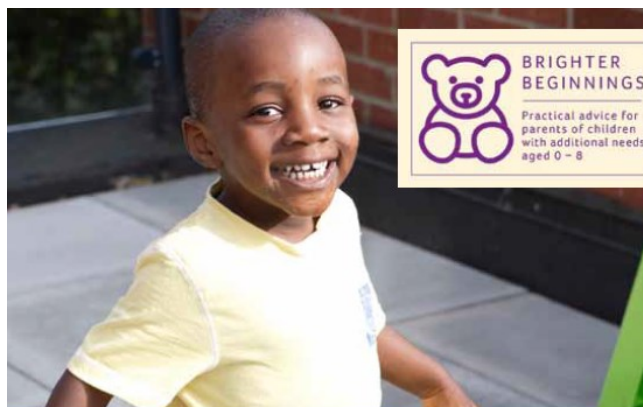
20th November at 9am. PSA have arranged a Bag2School collection. This raised over £100 previously. Please get collecting at home using the bag provided or any other bag. This time we ask that you bring donations to school on the morning of 20th November please, not in advance. Please leave donations at the front of school to the right of the pedestrian gate.

Items to include in your bags:

☐ Men's, ladies' and Children's clothing ☐ Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around) ☐ Handbags, Hats, Bags, Belts, Socks and lingerie ☐ Scarves and ties ☐ Jewellery ☐ Soft toys ☐ Household linen (table cloths) ☐ Curtains ☐ Towels ☐ Bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Items NOT for the bags:

☐ School uniform – logo or no logo
☐ Duvets and blankets
☐ Pillows and cushions
☐ Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats) ☐ Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing ☐ Corporate clothing and workwear ☐ Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded materials



DO YOU CARE FOR A CHILD WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS AGED 0-8

Come along to our FREE workshops!

Our welcoming and informative sessions cover a range of topics, including:

Managing sleep | Encouraging positive behaviour
How to get what you need for your child | Money matters

Venue: Child Development Centre, Hill Rise, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7EB

Dates: Tuesdays from 14 January 2020 for 5 weeks

Time: 9.45 am refreshments, 10 am start – see overleaf for times

To book your places please email bookings@contact.org.uk
If you need support with additional childcare in order to attend,
Please ask at the time of booking.

contact For families with disabled children

Contact is a trading name of Contact a Family. Charity registered in England and Wales (284912) and Scotland (SC039169).



DJR Tennis Services

39 Dewlands Oakley Bedford MK43 7RN Tel: 01234 826266 Mob: 07494534595
e mail david.j.revell@talk21.com

Junior Tennis Lessons

At: Biddenham Upper School

Tuesdays 5.00 – 6.00pm (Reception to Year 4 children)
November 5th to December 10th 2019

We are pleased to offer lessons for new and returning children as above. This series will help the children develop their key tennis skills through a variety of appropriate drills and games. Tennis balls and rackets are provided.

The lessons will take place in the Dance Studio at the Biddenham Upper School.

Cost: £36.00 (6 sessions)

Online payment: Mr D Revell

Sort Code: 40-30-39

A/C No: 61150588

Or A cheque, payable to 'Mr D Revell'

Biddenham Tennis Club membership is required after one course of lessons and must be applied for separately. It costs £8 per Junior, £18 per Adult or £40 per Family for one year's membership. A key requires an additional £5 deposit. Collect a membership form from Dave.

RETURN SLIP

Name(s) and age(s) of child(ren):

Mailing Address:

Email

Telephone

Parent/Guardian name and signature:

Please note overleaf any allergies or medical conditions of which we need to be aware.



Christmas wreath making workshop

Start the festive season with an evening of mulled wine, mince pies and craft, creating your own Christmas wreath.

All profits raised will be donated to the St James' PSA.

Ticket price includes all materials needed to create your wreath.

Thursday 28th November
The Church Barn, Biddenham
7:30 - 9:30pm

Tickets £25



Black Friday 2019!

Black Friday 2019 will be upon us very soon and we will have fantastic offers for both schools & parents!

To Schools - 15% OFF All Mapac Bags

To Parents (online only) - 15% OFF all uniform

Please tell all your parents to register at www.mapac.com so they don't miss out!