



Newsletter

17th January 2020

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Spring Term is now in full swing, and despite some horrible weather, early signs of Spring are visible—we have blossom on trees and some of our daffodils have flowered, a bit too early, and I've noticed that daylight is lasting a bit longer. Your children are throwing themselves into their new topics and it's really lovely to see them all working so hard and enjoying their learning. I'm really proud of Green Jays who have coped so well with Mrs Hawkins' absence; she's really not very well at all and we're all wishing her a speedy recovery!

On a personal note, I've got two bits of good news to share. Firstly, my arm is out of plaster and I've begun my physiotherapy to get my wrist working; I can not tell you the relief to finally be able to use my arm. Secondly, I have been awarded Fellowship status of the Chartered College of Teaching. The CCT is the professional body which oversees the knowledge, skills and behaviours of the teaching profession and is focused on supporting and celebrating teachers as well as raising the status of the teaching profession. To be recognized as a Fellow, you have to be nominated by a colleague and evidence significant achievement over a period of time in different professional aspects. Fellows have to show a significant and sustained commitment to the teaching profession and their own professional development. After 30 years teaching, 15 of which have been in Headship, I'm really proud that my work has been recognized in this way. Now I'm a Fellow, I will be able to take part in various activities and events, including working with the All-Party-Parliamentary Group for the Teaching Profession in Westminster, having the opportunity to influence and engage with education policy at the highest levels, which is both exciting and a little intimidating.

Tomorrow a group of children will be forming the Guard of Honour at Bedford Blues' match, this is a real privilege for us to be invited along and will be a great day out for all concerned. If you're at the match, keep an eye out for us and give us a big cheer at half time! COYB! We're not sure if Mrs Hawkins will be back to work next week, but have put into place plans which will ensure a stable week for her class.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful weekend,
Maria & all the team at St James'



We're excited to have been selected to participate in Fishkeeper Fry 2020, a national learning programme developed by Maidenhead Aquatics, from the beginning of January to help teach children about the joys and benefits of fishkeeping whilst bringing some of their key science themes to life for them in the classroom.

Supported by our local Maidenhead Aquatics store, Green Jays will be following

an 8-week programme during school time, designed to teach the children how to set up an aquarium properly and care for their fish in the classroom. All the equipment for the programme and all the learning resources have been provided to us completely free of charge by Maidenhead Aquatics and their supporting partner Fluval. You can find out more about the programme and what the children will be getting up to here: <https://www.fishkeeper.co.uk/fishkeeper-fry-parents>.

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*Customers will be obliged to pay for the end of May 2020.

Event	Date & Time	Class	Staff Lead	Notes
Bedford Blues Rugby Guard of Honour	Sat 18th Jan	KS2	GH	A letter has been sent home tis week to invited children
Reception health screening	Tues 28th Jan	YR	DS	Letters have been sent out for this
Science Week	w/b 3rd Feb	All	TKL	
KS1 & 2 Gymnastics competition	Tues 11th Feb	Y1-6	GH	
Valentine's Breakfast	Fri 14th Feb	All	GH	Mrs Hawkins will send details home in due course
Half Term	17th-21st Feb	All		
Class Photos	Tues 25th Feb	All	DS	
Parents Information Session—phonics	Tues 25th Feb 5.00	All	CD, FL	Open to all parents, but of most interest to parents in Reception and Year 1
Book Week	w/b 2nd March	All	IL	
Multi sports event	Tues 10th March	Y3, 4	GH, LR	
Book Blink	Fri 13th March 3.00-3.30	All		Finishes at 3.30
KS1 SATs meeting for parents	Tues 24th March 5.00	Y2	SP	
Multi Sports event	Thurs 26th March	Y1, 2	SP, FL	
Easter Service	Thurs 2nd April 9.30	All		
MUFTI—last day of term	Fri 3rd April	All		

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



The Children's Speech and Language Therapy team in Luton and Bedfordshire are on Facebook! The page contains ideas and advice for supporting Speech, Language and Communication development. Please like and share the page by visiting:

www.facebook.com/paedstiltonbedfordshire
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Or search: 'Children's Speech and Language Therapy in Luton and Bedfordshire'




May Day Bank Holiday

Please be aware that the date has changed this year, and the Bank Holiday will be on **FRIDAY 8TH MAY 2020** (rather than Monday 4th)