

Dear All,

This half term has been fairly short and has really flown by! There has been so much incredible learning and the children have produced some amazing things with their topics. Please continue to check our twitter pages—@St_JamesSchool—or individual year group pages to see some of the children's achievements. Next half term is fairly short as well with many activities, visits and trips for the children to look forward to including Science Week, Fairtrade Fortnight, World Book Day and Sport Relief. Do keep checking the newsletter and webpages/dates for diaries letter for updates. Many thanks to all our parents and carers for your continued support—we wish all our school community a happy, safe and healthy half term holiday. We look forward to seeing you back again on Monday 19th February at normal start times.

School Uniform

As commented upon previously, more children are looking really smart in full school uniform—thank you for your commitment to this as it really does make a difference to children's attitudes in school. A small number of children are still wearing trainers with white/coloured details upon them. Half term would be a great opportunity to ensure children have correct footwear. Shoes with any white/coloured detail on them are not part of our uniform policy which states **plain black footwear** must be worn. Plain black plimsolls are fine. Please also be aware of children's PE days (these can be found on the website) so full PE kits are provided for this. I'm really pleased to say that uniform, both for school and PE are improving. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

'Big Half' - Half Marathon, Sunday 4th March

As previously mentioned, we have a number of tickets for the 'Big Half' half marathon on Sunday 4th March. We have some places left! If you would like to reserve a space for this please do pop to the school office with £10.00 to secure your space as soon as possible. Lots of members of staff are taking part and it would be great to have some parents, carers or members of our school community join too. Please do spread the word and let's help contribute to the great causes this event supports!

Clubs/End of Term Dates

Clubs will continue until the end of term, the final club being held on **Friday 23rd March**. Breakfast and After School provision will continue at both sites until the final day of term—Thursday 29th March. Please note well in advance there will be **no after school club** provision on this day as children break up early for the Easter holidays at 13:15/13:30. We will be back to school for Spring Term 2 on Monday 19th February—normal start times.

Parent/Carer Reading Workshops

As previously mentioned, the next workshop we're planning to run, requested by parents, is a 'Help your child with Reading' course. This five week course will begin after half term on Wednesday 21st February, every Wednesday morning, 9.30 at OJR. Please call Mrs Brenta to reserve a place or for further details. We sent home a 'F.R.E.D.' letter (Fathers reading every day) to promote reading at home. Please also see Mrs Brenta or respond to the letter for interest in this.

World Book Day—Friday 2nd March

We're beginning to book and plan for lots of exciting visits and activities for World Book Day which we'll celebrate on Friday March 2nd. As usual, children will be invited to dress up as a character from a book. One activity is an Author visit for Year 1 & 2 children—a pre-order form was sent home with the children if you wished to purchase a signed copy of one of the books on offer here. Today was the deadline for these sales.

School Direct—Teacher Training

As many of you will know, St. James' offer our own 'School Direct' Teacher Training programme affiliated with Kingston University. Many of our current teaching staff have chosen this as their pathway into teaching. If you have a degree and would like more information, or if you know anyone thinking about finding out more about going into teaching, please do enquire and ask Mrs Willis or Miss Moore for further information.

Parking—Alexis St

We're becoming increasingly frustrated with cars dropping children off to school/parking illegally on yellow zig-zag lines outside our Alexis St site. Not only is it dangerous risking an accident, but harmful fumes make the air polluted too. Southwark Council have advised the following: "From 31st January, council parking enforcement officers will be issuing an £80 Penalty Charge Notice to parked up car, bus, taxi and HGV drivers, who refuse to switch off their engines when asked." Please, please try not to park or drop children off outside the gate at Alexis St. Thank you for your co-operation.

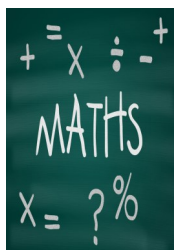
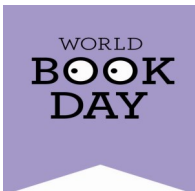
Maths Challenge—Please have a go at this week's maths challenge questions at home...

When 2016 is multiplied by 1000, how many digits does the answer have?

A 4 B 5 C 6 D 7 E 8

In a survey of 20 children, 8 had 1 brother, and 6 had 2 brothers. The mean number of brothers was 1. How many children had no brothers?

A 0 B 2 C 4 D 6 E 8



Southwark FREE Cycle Skills Training—February Half Term Thinking ahead to activities you can do during half term? Why not sign up for Children’s Group Cycle Skills Training? Southwark Council are offering this along with ‘Cycle Confident’ for children of any level. Visit the following website for details of group cycling in Southwark during the Spring Half Term: <https://www.cycleconfident.com/courses/child-group/>



Safer Internet Day KS2 Children had a letter home warning about safer internet use and social media this week with a message from the local police—we hope this found you well. All children have had special assemblies with advice about safer internet use at school and particularly at home. Please do ask them about what they have learnt.

Pop-up Upcycling Shop in ‘The Blue’ A message from Emma, a mum at St. James’: *“We’ve be able to open our pop up shop at the Blue in the old Santander Bank, and it’s now been running a week - very exciting! It’s called ‘Bermondsey Uprising’ (a famous women’s strike led by Ada Salter in 1911) and has a large cut out of Ada in the window. We’ve just had confirmation that fashion designer Daniel Blake is going to join us for a half term event. Daniel is a local parent and also designs clothes for well known faces such as the Prime Minister.”* Do pop along to show your support from Weds 14th—Sun 18th February between 10am-5pm.



Erasmus Programme Many of you will be aware of our links to partner schools abroad and our involvement with schools in Brazil, Italy and Sweden. As part of this link, Mrs Willis is delighted to have an Italian Head Teacher shadowing her after Half Term for two weeks. This will be so exciting and a way of continuing our Erasmus + involvement and the exciting work we’re doing at KS1 implementing the Reggio Emilia approach.



Class attendance for this Half Term: (Please see the website for a full breakdown our policy and criteria for attendance trips). **Please be advised of our start times—08:55 at KS2 and 09:15 at KS1.**



Class:	Attendance:	Class:	Attendance:
6 Brazil	96%	3 Finland	96%
6 Canada	96%	3 Norway	97%
6 Mexico	97%	3 Sweden	96%
6 Peru	95%	2 Austria	98%
5 China	96%	2 France	95%
5 India	97%	2 Greece	89%
5 Japan	98%	2 Spain	95%
4 Egypt	98%	1 Germany	95%
4 Ghana	98%	1 Italy	90%
4 Kenya	<u>99%</u>	WINNERS: 4 KENYA!!!	
3 Denmark	94%		



Dates and Trips: Any parents who could come on trips to help would be greatly appreciated; please let your child’s teacher know if you can help. Any last minute trips that may occur, we will try our best to let you know as well in advance as we can.

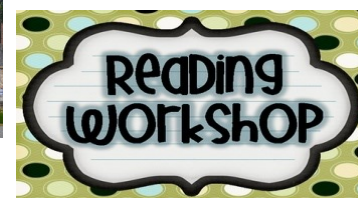
Monday 19th February

Year 2 to Tower of London.



Tuesday 20th February

Year 2 Fire of London Animation workshop.
ESOL Course for parents—13:00 @ Alexis St.
4 Ghana to library during afternoon.
Year 4 Author visit during afternoon (session 3 of 4).



Wednesday 21st February

Help your child with Reading course for parents—09:00 @ Alexis St.

Thursday 22nd February

‘FRED’ parents’ course launch—08:30 @ OJR.
3 Denmark to library during afternoon.



Friday 23rd February

No trips.

Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter—@StJamesSchool

