

Dear Parents & Carers,

A long newsletter this week with lots of information for you as we approach the end of term. We've come to the end of a strange yet very successful school year. Our children have all coped amazingly with the challenges faced during lock down and our teachers and support staff – along with all parents and carers and members of the wider community – have all been amazing too. Happily, if the news and advice from the Government is to continue, we can look forward to school being back to at least 'near normal' in September; we're all looking forward to this! Details of times are included below and we'll e-mail re gates and arrangements for drop offs and collections before the children return to school in September.

### **Celebrations**

A couple of amazing things to celebrate which have been reported today – our Year 3s are now 13<sup>th</sup> in the 'Hall of Fame' for Athletics in the whole of the UK – very well done to them and their engagement with this. Lots of Gold certificates have been issued this year. Also, Niko in Year 6 has recently achieved a Gold medal for 100m Butterfly and a Bronze medal for 50m Butterfly at Surrey Swimming Championships in Guildford – an amazing achievement after much hard work. Well done to him and to each and every one of our children for all they achieve in and out of school.

### **Staff**

We have a few members of staff who are leaving us this year who will be greatly missed. Mr. Burton, a member of our SLT, is leaving to pursue a career in medicine; Mr. Griffin, our PE Lead is leaving to lead PE in a school in Kent; Miss Bolton is leaving us as she is relocating to Hertfordshire; Miss Brooks is leaving us to pursue a career in another school; Mr. Lavaly and Ms Cuthbertson, both 1-1 teaching assistants are leaving us; Mrs Holland and Mrs Hines are both retiring after an amazing 33 years and 37 years of service respectively, first working at Alma Primary School and then St. James'; Miss Crookes, Miss Boothroyd, Mr. Bull and Mr. Ramsay have all completed their School Direct teacher training with us this year and are moving to other primary schools. We wish everyone the very best of luck for their future careers/endeavours and I'm sure you'll join me in thanking them all for all they've added to the school over the years. We pleased to announce Mr. Brenta will join us as our newly appointed PE teacher in September – he has been able to come in and meet most of the children this week.

### **Family Lives Newsletter**

Please follow this link for this month's Family Lives Newsletter:

<https://mailchi.mp/familylives.org.uk/family-lives-newsletter-jun21-2872731?e=10e6384bfc>

### Summer Production Films

Hopefully you've managed to watch our Summer Production videos which are on the website. The Nursery graduation is also on the website. Visit these web pages to see them through Vimeo:

**Summer Productions, years 1-6:**

<https://www.stjameschoolbermondsey.com/page/?title=Performing+Arts&pid=86>

**Nursery Graduation:**

<https://www.stjameschoolbermondsey.com/page/?title=Welcome+to+our+Reggio+Emilia+Nursery&pid=25>

### Free School Meals – Summer Holidays

If your child is currently eligible for Free School Meals, you will receive a voucher via Edenred as you have before. If you have any queries you must contact Edenred directly as we will not be available to help with any queries during the Summer holidays. Please email: [freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com](mailto:freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com)

If your child is not eligible for FSM, please find attached leaflets of Southwark's 'Summer of Food and Fun' initiative and also further support if you need it.

### Summer Holiday Maths

Mr. Brooksbank has found the following Maths initiative which offers free workbooks should you want to catch up with Maths over the Summer. These are free for year groups from 1-6 and are available from Morrisons stores.

### Uniform

As requested before, do start thinking about full school uniform and a fresh start in September! It's been really encouraging that this has slowly improved and we haven't expected anyone to go to great expense before the Summer holidays, however we will insist on plain black footwear (no other colours on shoes apart from black) after the Summer holidays as well as full school uniforms and PE kits. Our uniform shop and policy can be found here: <https://www.stjameschoolbermondsey.com/uniform>

**Please, please ensure all items are labelled with children's names as items often go missing!** To help everyone get back on track with full, smart uniforms, we will give every child a school tie when we return in September as it's recently been brought to our attention these are not for sale on our online shop.

### Attendance and Punctuality

We have been very lenient with some punctuality this year but this will have to stop in September once we reinstate the normal start and finish times as a lot of learning time is being missed and lessons interrupted etc. Also, please try and make doctor/ dentist appointment outside school time if at all possible. Congratulations to 6 Brazil, who had the best attendance for the whole school for this academic year!

### **Walking/Cycling/Scooter to School**

As always, we encourage sustainable travel. We have reapplied for our Gold award through TfL and are confident we will remain on gold. Next year we will have to work harder to stay on gold and there will be various initiatives to encourage children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. One initiative will be similar to attendance, a record will be kept in class every week of how children travel. Certificates will be given for sustainable travel and there will be prizes for the best class at the end of the year. At Alexis Street, the removable barriers will still be there at drop off and pick up times, please do not park beyond them, even if you arrive slightly early and they are not in place. We have noticed some parents are doing this, making it unsafe for all the children. There will also be increased traffic due to the construction on Cherry Garden site.

### **Breakfast/After School Clubs**

If your child is at KS2 (Years 3-6) in September, they will need to be booked into Fit For Sport in advance online:

<https://www.fitforsport.co.uk/extended-school-clubs/find-your-school/detail/st-james-ce-primary-school?lat=51.4926884065476&lng=-0.0658067249831&id=160>

If your child is in Nursery, Reception or KS1 in September you can book into Pat O'Connor's Breakfast and After school clubs via the school office e-mail or by contacting Pat on [poconnor10.210@lgflmail.org](mailto:poconnor10.210@lgflmail.org)

Our Whole school end of year service was held on MS Teams this morning and Year 6 had a special service in church in their 'bubble' on Tuesday.

From September we will be reinstating our previous start and finish times:

**Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 at Old Jamaica Road:**

09:15-15:15.

**Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 and Belgium class:**

08:55-15:30

**Do look out for an e-mail before we return to school with information on new gates etc in light of new fences and improvements which are happening to the playgrounds at both sites over the Summer holidays.**

**Wishing you, the children and our whole school community a super, happy and safe Summer holiday! We look forward to the children's return on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.**

**God bless, from the St. James' team.**