

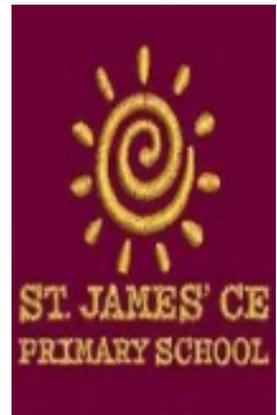


Dear All,

Welcome back to everyone after the long summer holiday; we hope you've had a lovely break. It's so lovely to be back at St. James' and to see all the children and hear about all they have been doing with their holidays! This week children have 'hit the ground running' and have been doing lots of creative work around their class countries. I'm sure they've been telling you all about their geography, art and design, cooking and lovely writing around this theme. We had a lovely 'Welcome Back' church service on Wednesday and I'm so pleased to say that the children have come back with calm, focused attitudes conducive to learning.

## School Uniform

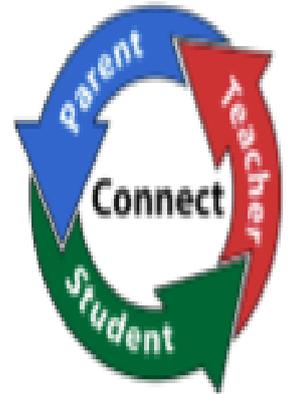
The children have arrived back to school really smartly; thank you for your efforts and continued support in making sure children are appropriately dressed for school. This not only promotes a positive image of our school, but also has a positive effect on children's behaviour and conduct. Thank you for your support with this and thanks in advance for ensuring children have full school uniform throughout the academic year. We are pleased to offer school uniform from stock at both sites. PE kit is available and at only £2.10 for shorts and £2.10 for T Shirts and every child should have our maroon shorts and yellow T Shirts, especially while it remains quite warm. Joggers are also available for only £5. You may have seen some children in our smart new blazers, please do ask at the office if you would like to order one, price £18. Uniform can be bought online as before if more convenient. Grey skirts, trousers, shirts, black shoes and plimsolls are all available from high street stores. A few children are wearing black trainers with coloured or white soles or details. Please do ensure our policy is to wear **plain black footwear**. Plimsolls are fine, as long as these are also plain black.



## Parent Information Evenings

Next week, our first full week back, we'll be holding parent information evenings for all year groups from 1-6. This will be a great opportunity to meet children's teachers and year group leads and ask any questions you may have about the new academic year. We're looking forward to seeing you there! These will take place as follows:

- **Monday 10th September:** Year 1 and Year 6 Parent/Carer meeting with class teachers and year leads at 17:00. (Year 1 – OJR Hall, Year 6 – Alexis St).
- **Tuesday 11th September:** Year 2 and Year 5 Parent/Carer meeting with class teachers and year leads at 17:00. (Year 2 – OJR Hall, Year 5 – Alexis St).
- **Wednesday 12th September:** Year 3 Parent/Carer meeting with class teachers and year leads at Alexis St at 17:00.
- **Thursday 13th September:** Year 4 Parent/Carer meeting with class teachers and year leads at Alexis St at 17:00.



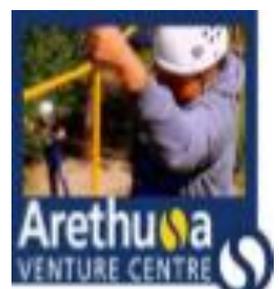
## Clubs

There has been a letter sent home for children to choose clubs. Please do encourage these to come back to us next week to avoid disappointment. Mr. Griffin & Miss Jess will assign children to at least one of their choices after children have returned these letters on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Please note all clubs will start week commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September and will run for the whole term, until Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Some exciting opportunities are being offered by our staff as well as Piano, Ukulele and Violin lessons from external teachers. Fit For Sport continues to run Breakfast and After School Clubs at Alexis St as well as Pat O'Connor's Breakfast and After School clubs at Old Jamaica Road.



## Arethusa Year 6 Residential Trip

Please see Mrs Brenta as soon as possible if you have a balance to pay or have any questions regarding the Y6 residential trip on 17<sup>th</sup> September. The coach will be leaving at 9am on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September, returning around 3.00 on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September. If you have mislaid your kit list they are available from the office. We advise taking old clothes and trainers as they get very dirty and often mislaid! The children can bring £5 pocket money in a named envelope, to be given to the teacher on Monday morning before they leave. Please do not bring mobile phones, jewellery etc. We will be in regular contact via twitter and text to let you know what exciting activities they are taking part in. If your child is not going they will need to be in school with trips and activities planned for the week.



### Dates for your Diaries

Look out for a 'Dates for your Diaries' letter which will come home with next Friday's newsletter with information on Parents' Evenings, school events and Year 6 secondary school meetings etc. There are lots of exciting things planned for the Autumn Term!



### Year 2 to 3 Transition

I'm pleased to say our new Year 3 children have settled into Alexis Street seamlessly with their new teachers and seem very happy at Key Stage Two already! Please do bear in mind the new start and finish times for the school day—08:55-15:30. The gate to the playground will be opened earlier for parents to wait or come in with their children. Year 3 teachers have collected children from the playground at the beginning of the day but very soon children at Alexis St make their way up to class on their own on a morning as usual.



### Level 2 TA Course

We are very pleased to offer the CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools. This is a part time course, EVERY Thursday 10-3 for 35 weeks, held at Alexis Street (sorry no creche available). The course does have a cost but if you are in receipt of JSA, ESW, WRAG it is FREE. There are only TEN places available, to register your interest call Mrs Brenta. The Thomas Calton centre is also holding an open day on Tuesday 11/9/18, if you need further information please contact the centre for an appointment, 02073582100. If you completed the Level 1 course last term and are a parent/carer with children at St James' School and now wish to take Level 2 please confirm with Mrs Brenta.



### Alexis St Gate

I'm pleased to inform you we have another gate which is being fitted to the Alexis St playground to relieve congestion at the end of the day. Until this is fitted, we will open both gates – the one in the playground as usual and the black one nearer the corner of Alexis St so do utilise both if one appears busier than the other. When we have a new gate it will be much easier to have a simple 'in/out' system.



### Physical Education

Children will start their PE sessions with Mr. Griffin next week. Please see below for PE days for each class so children come in with their school PE kits:

**Monday:** 3 Sweden, 3 Finland, 3 Denmark, 4 Ghana & 4 Tanzania.

**Tuesday:** ALL Year 1 and ALL Year 2.

**Wednesday:** 4 Egypt, 4 Kenya & 4 Tanzania and ALL Year 5.

**Thursday:** ALL Year 6.

**Friday:** 3 Norway.



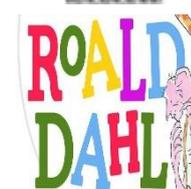
### Attendance Trips

Our annual trips to Legoland (Years 2-6) and the cinema (Year 1) are coming up this half term as a reward for attendance last year—look out for letters being sent home should your child qualify for these!



### Nature Week/Roald Dahl Day

Next week children will be learning about nature with our whole school 'Nature Week' focusing on the book 'It Starts with a Seed'. On Friday all children will do exciting activities around a Roald Dahl book to celebrate the day of his birth on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Do keep looking out for learning on our Twitter page and school website for the children's exciting learning.



**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 10th September**

Year 1 & 6 Parent/carer meetings as mentioned overleaf.

### **Tuesday 11th September**

Year 2 & 5 Parent/carer meetings as mentioned overleaf.

### **Wednesday 12th September**

Year 3 Parent/carer meeting as mentioned overleaf.

KS1 'Soundsteps' keyboard assembly at OJR.

### **Thursday 13th September**

Year 4 Parent/carer meeting as mentioned overleaf.

Year 3 & 4 'Soundsteps' keyboard assembly at Alexis St.

### **Friday 14th September**

Roald Dahl day – activities and workshops in school around Roald Dahl books for Ks1 & KS2.



Library visits will be arranged in due course.

*Don't forget to follow us on Twitter—@StJamesSchool*

