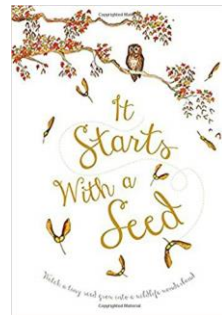




Dear All,

We've really 'hit the ground running' and had a productive, fun and purposeful first full week back of the academic year! All children have based their learning around the beautiful picture book 'It Starts with a Seed' and have been learning about nature and growth and thinking about how this can apply to their character traits. We have some beautiful work to display around school and everyone has had a terrific week. Children also enjoyed their activities in class today around Roald Dahl books to celebrate 'Roald Dahl Day'. KS1 children took part in dance workshops based around 'The Enormous Crocodile' delivered by West End in Schools. We have also begun our Collective Worship themes for the year and have been contemplating 'New Starts'. Next week we will begin our theme around the parables of Jesus.



School Uniform

As I mentioned last week, the children have arrived back to school really smartly - thank you so much again 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 conduct. 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 and can sell from our stock and take orders. As you'll have noticed, the office areas at both sites do get particularly busy at the beginning and end of the school day. Because of this we do ask you to be patient and wait until someone has time to see to your request, or alternatively, we'd advise you come to the office at either site between 2pm – 3pm where it is generally a quiet time. This would help relieve some congestion when lots of people want to purchase uniform at the same time. Our blazers, priced at £18.00, are proving very popular and lots of children already have these or have ordered them and look very smart. A few children are wearing black trainers with coloured or white soles or details. Please do note that our policy is to wear **plain black footwear**. Plimsolls are fine, as long as these are also plain black.



Clubs

Mr. Griffin and Miss Jess are in the process of allocating clubs and letters will be sent home next week to inform you of your child's allocation. Please note all clubs will start week commencing **Monday 24th September** and will run for the whole term, until **Thursday 6th December**. Our children are so lucky to have so many exciting opportunities being offered by our staff! 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.



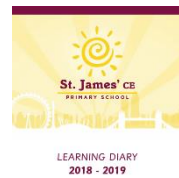
Arethusa Year 6 Residential Trip

It's that time of year again when our Year 6s leave for their residential trip on Monday (17th September). The coach will be leaving at **9am** on Monday, returning around **3pm** on Friday 21st September. We'd advise children arrive at school at **8.45am** on Monday. 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.



Dates for your Diaries/Home-School Contact Books

Please find attached a 'Dates for your Diaries' letter highlighting all important events for the whole Autumn Term. Our new, personalised home-school contact books are also coming home with the children, either today or on Monday, so you can record when children read and contact class teachers. These also provide all important dates for the whole academic year for yours and your child's reference.



Legoland Attendance Trips

Our annual trips to Legoland (Years 2-6) are on Friday 28th September (Years 2, 3 and some Year 4) and Friday 12th October (Remaining Year 4, Years 5 & 6). Letters will be coming home before these trips if children qualify with 98% attendance or above last year. Please do look out for these and bear in mind the letters will come to you in two batches – one before the first trip and the rest before the second.



Royal Marsden Cancer Charity Fundraising Events

One of the charities we're delighted to support as a school is the Royal Marsden cancer charity. We will be holding a 'Mini Marsden March' during the afternoon of Thursday 27th September which will be a sponsored walk around Southwark Park for children in Years 1-6. Sponsorship forms will come home with children next week. We will also be repeating our 'Mad Hair Day' event in December!



'Soundsteps' Music School

Children in Years 1-6 were treated to special keyboard assemblies this week to promote keyboard lessons from the company 'Soundsteps' held at Alexis St, after school, each Tuesday. Parents are invited to a demonstration held at Alexis St – 2nd Floor Hall on Tuesday 25th September at 15:45. Do pop along if you are interested in your child learning how to play the keyboard. I hope that leaflets inviting you to this found their way home this week.



Secondary School Open Days

Parents and carers of Year 6 children – it was so nice to see so many of you last week at our information evening. We hope the list of Southwark open days made its way home. You can always look for this and find dates of open days on Southwark Council's website or on individual schools' websites. Please do remember to look at different borough's websites should you wish to apply for a school place outside of Southwark.



School Reading Books

A reminder, should you have any school books at home, to please send them back in with the children. We're particularly looking for our reading scheme (colour banded) books as a lot have gone missing. Before we spend a lot of money replacing these we'd like to do an audit to see what we have and hopefully invest in newer, exciting titles to engage the children's reading habits even more. Many thanks in advance for this.



Class attendance for this week: 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 Canada	99 %	3 Denmark	96 %
6 Mexico	100 %	3 Finland	100 %
6 Peru	100 %	3 Norway	100 %
5 China	99 %	3 Sweden	97 %
5 India	100 %	2 France	99 %
5 Japan	98 %	2 Spain	95 %
4 Egypt	100 %	1 Germany	99 %
4 Ghana	97 %	1 Italy	98 %
4 Kenya	100 %	Weekly Attendance Winners:	
4 Tanzania	97 %	6M, 6P, 5I, 4E, 4K, 3F & 3N!!!	



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 17th September

Year 6 leave for Arethusa – residential visit – for the week!

Tuesday 18th September

EYFS Trip to Temple Grove in Tunbridge Wells (see separate EYFS Newsletter).

Borough Market 'Apples & Pears training – selected children.

Wednesday 19th September

No trips.

Thursday 20th September

No trips.

Friday 21st September

Year 6 back to school at approx. 3pm. (please watch out for texts).

Library visits will be arranged in due course.

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



September

Monday 17th – Friday 21st September: Year 6 children on their residential trip to Arethusa.

Monday 24th September: ALL clubs start for the Autumn term.

Thursday 27th September: 'Mini' Marsden March – children from Year 1 – 6 take part in Sponsored Walk in aid of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity in Southwark Park.

Friday 28th September: Year 2 & 3 (and some Year 4) Legoland Attendance Trip.



October

Wednesday 3rd October: Reception Parents' evening 15:30 – 19:00.

Thursday 4th October: Year 6 Parent/Carer meeting re. Secondary School Transfer – 14:30 at Alexis Street.

Friday 5th October: Poetry Day – poetry activities all day across both sites.

Monday 8th October: Harvest Service in St. James' Church – 09:30 – all welcome.

Friday 12th October: Years 4, 5 & 6 Legoland Attendance Trip.

Monday 15th – Friday 19th October: Black History Month activities and RE for the whole school.

Thursday 18th October: World Food Day – celebrations after school at Alexis St. Parents and carers invited to bring in cuisines from their own cultures and share foods from all over the world to celebrate our diverse school community.

Friday 19th October: Break up for Half Term – 3:15pm OJR/3:30PM Alexis St.

Monday 29th October: Back to school at normal times – 8:55am Alexis St/9:15am OJR.



November

Friday 9th November: Armistice Service in St. James' Church – 09:30 – all welcome.

Tuesday 13th November: Years Nursery, Reception & 1-2 Parents' Evening – after school @ OJR. EHCP Parent meetings during the day by invitation.

Wednesday 14th November: Years 3-6 Parents' Evening – after school @ Alexis St.

Friday 16th November: Children in Need Day – non-uniform day and Talent Show during afternoon in exchange for at least £1.00.

Tuesday 20th November: Individual photos taken of children.

Friday 23rd November: Non-uniform day in exchange for bottles, toiletries and items for Christmas Fair (more information to come home nearer the time).

Friday 30th November: Non-uniform day in exchange for bottles, toiletries and items for Christmas Fair (more information to come home nearer the time).

December

Monday 3rd – Friday 7th December: ASSESSMENT WEEK.

Thursday 6th December: ALL Clubs finish for the Autumn term.

Friday 7th December: 'Mad Hair Day' – Bring in £1:00 in aid of Royal Marsden Hospital, with Royal Marsden assembly at both sites.

Friday 7th December: Christmas Fair – 15:30-17:00 @ OJR.

Monday 10th – Friday 14th December: Christmas Week – all children from Nursery to Year 6 to base their learning around RE and Christmas.

Wednesday 12th December: Miss Jess's Christmas Cabaret (presentation by children in Performing Arts clubs to parents and carers at OJR – 17:00).

Thursday 13th December: Nursery Christmas open morning – 9:30 @ OJR.

Friday 14th December: Reception Christmas Production – 2pm @ OJR.

Monday 17th December: Years 1 & 2 Nativity – St. James' Church @ 2pm.

Tuesday 18th December: Years 3-6 'Carols by Candlelight' concert – St. James' Church @ 2pm.

Wednesday 19th December: End of term Christmas service – 09:30 at St. James' Church – all welcome.

Wednesday 19th December: Break up for Christmas holidays – 1:15am OJR/1:30am Alexis St.

