



Dear All,

We've come to the end of a terrific, busy half term and have achieved so much in our learning and extra-curricular activities! We've been on some incredible trips including our annual Legoland attendance trips, our Green Trips this week as an incentive for positive behaviour choices, classes have visited the library on a weekly basis and we've been on lots of super enrichment trips including Forest Schools activities in Tunbridge Wells, Pizza Express for pizza making workshops and a range of museums. All children have also taken part in Black History Month 'Commonwealth contribution' workshops this week. Swimming has started well with Year 4 classes this half term in addition to their school PE lessons with Mr. Griffin. Miss Jess continues to devote her time to her drama, dance and choir clubs as well as teaching and promoting performance as part of our creative curriculum. Thank you so much to our staff and wider school community for providing such wonderful, fun and purposeful experiences for our children constantly. This half term we have had two super, thought-provoking church services – one for Harvest and one to welcome everyone back in September. Our collective worship theme this week focused on the Miracles of Jesus where we looked at Bartimaeus, the Feeding of the 5,000 and Raising Lazarus. Our theme for the first week back after half term will be 'Kindness' –linking with our major character trait of 'Social Intelligence' which we always try to promote and make explicit. From all of us at St. James', we wish our children, parents and carers a happy, healthy and fun half term break! Activities available for half term are suggested on this newsletter. If you're not already a member, why not pop to our local library – the 'Blue Anchor' – and borrow some books? Children can be members even if adults are not and late children's books do not require a fine to be paid. Happy reading over the holiday!

World Food Event

Our annual World Food Event took place yesterday and it was lovely to see parents and carers attend with different delicious cuisines and some even wore traditional dress from their cultures! Thank you to our parents for making this a lovely event for all concerned.



Tea and Toast (Reception)

It was lovely to see some Reception parents at 'Tea and Toast' with Mrs Brenta on Thursday morning. It was very enjoyable and will be a regular feature on our calendar. Next Tea and Toast session Thursday 1st November, at 09:15 at Old Jamaica Road. Friday 16th November will be a build-a bear session during the afternoon, for Reception parents and carers. Thursday 29th November Tea and Toast 09:15. It will be lovely to see you there!



NEW Reception Children's Open Mornings (for September 2019)

We're holding a series of Open Mornings for parents of those children due to start Reception next academic year – September 2019. These will all be held at our KS1 (Old Jamaica Road) site. Please do pop along for a look around at 10:00 on the following mornings: Wednesday 7th November at 10:00, Wednesday 21st November at 10:00, Tuesday 27th November 1t 10:00 and Thursday 6th December at 10:00. We're looking forward to welcoming any prospective parents to these mornings!



Sir Simon Hughes' Inauguration as Chancellor, London South Bank University - 1st November 2018

As you are now aware, Sir Simon has retired from his role with us as Chair of Governors – he will be missed! Two of our Head Girls and Boys have been invited to his inauguration for his new role on the above date. Parents and carers have now been notified about this.



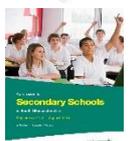
JTA

Junior Travel Ambassadors for 2018-19 are Bloom, Poppy-Rose, Isaiah and Romeo. Congratulations to them! They all attended the Southwark council training day where they took part in workshops and talks about safer and sustainable travel. Watch out for them at drop off or home time as they will be encouraging more children to walk or cycle or scooter to school. They are wearing lovely new JTA GOLD badges as we retain our gold award for this academic year. We will be working hard to ensure we stay on gold next year too. You may have noticed some changes to the parking around Alexis Street, we have been assured by Southwark Council that the yellow zig zag lines will be reinstated around school as soon as possible, ensuring the safety of our pupils.



Secondary School Applications

The deadline to apply for secondary school is 31st October; Mrs Brenta will be available on 30th and 31st October if you have any queries or problems applying.



Royal Marsden Fundraising

We had a lovely call from The Royal Marsden this week to say a huge 'Thank you' for the cheque they had just received from our recent Marsden March - they were delighted with the large amount (nearly £1,000!!) raised!



Christmas Fair

If you are having a clear out over half term we will be looking for good quality toys, games and books. Please do let Mrs Brenta know if you have anything and drop into school if you do. We can arrange to collect from you ready for the fair. We will be having non-uniform days in November for nice toiletries (bubble bath, shower gel, perfumes etc.) and bottles for the tombola. The fair is on Friday 7th December at OJR. Mrs Brenta will have some baking /preparation days which are always great fun! Look out for the dates (SEE SEPARATE DATES LETTER COMING HOME TODAY!).



Half Term events in the local area for our families

There are lots of ideas locally for Half Term events should you be looking for them! Three in particular seem lovely - **'Leaves, Seeds and Prints'** on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd October, 11am till 4pm at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening, 28 Marsden Road, SE15 4EE. Places are limited so booking essential. Contact Diana dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk or phone 0203 897 6151 for more information or visit www.wildlondon.org.uk/whats-on . Preference given to Southwark residents but others are welcome if there are spare places. It is a requirement that the same adult attends both days.

There is also a **'Wonderful Woodlands'** day on Sunday 4th November at Sydenham Hill Wood. Time: 11am – 4pm. Booking details for this are as above.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FREE half term activities at The Green Community Centre Nunhead SE15 3QQ, Thursday and Friday 25th and 26th October 11:00 -13:00. For families with children up to 10 years old. Activities: Arts & Crafts, creative writing, games, healthy cooking and lots more! (Refreshments will be provided). For this, Contact Margaret (07592575675) at parentskillstogo@gmail.com.

Information of Bicycle courses and opportunities over Half Term can be found on Southwark Council's website:

<https://www.cycleconfident.com/sponsors/southwark/>

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	100 %	3 Denmark	95 %
6 Mexico	100 %	3 Finland	98 %
6 Peru	99 %	3 Norway	97 %
5 China	92 %	3 Sweden	100 %
5 India	100 %	2 France	94 %
5 Japan	99 %	2 Spain	95 %
4 Egypt	97 %	1 Germany	99 %
4 Ghana	98 %	1 Italy	99 %
4 Kenya	100 %	Weekly Attendance Winners:	
4 Tanzania	97 %	6 Canada, 6 Mexico, 5 India, 4 Kenya & 3 Sweden!!!	
Belgium class	97 %		



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 29th October

Back to school for everyone for Autumn Term 2 – normal times at both sites.

Tuesday 30th October

Reception England visiting library.

Wednesday 31st October

No trips.

Thursday 1st November

3 Denmark visiting library.
Year 2 Green Trips today.
3 Sweden – Road Safety training during afternoon.

Friday 2nd November

No trips.



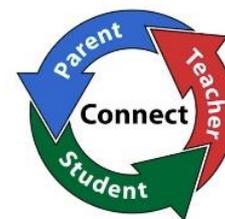
**Don't forget to follow us on Twitter—
@St_JamesSchool**



October

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

Monday 5th November: Year 5 to Story World Discovery Centre.

Wednesday 7th November: 2019-2010 Reception Open morning – OJR at 10:00.

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.

Wednesday 21st November: 2019-2010 Reception Open morning – OJR at 10:00.

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

Tuesday 27th November: 2019-2010 Reception Open morning – OJR at 10:00.

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: 2019-2010 Reception Open morning – OJR at 10:00.

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.



Please do keep on checking our weekly newsletter, the website calendar of events, or school app and your children's home-school learning diaries for trips and events!

