

Dear Parents & Carers,

A busy, productive week to end a busy, productive term! Years 3&4 performed their wonderful production of 'Matilda'; Years 5&6 went to the Royal Festival Hall on Wednesday to see a London Symphony Orchestra concert of 'The Firebird'; Nursery, Reception and Key Stage One children were all treated to a performance of 'Old MacDonald' on Monday by Booster Cushion Theatre; Reception and 1 Italy have had their library visits; Years 5&6 are taking part in workshops with the Author Mini Grey today and Years 3&4 will get to have any books signed which they have bought; Years 3&4 have their final performance of the week with their Violin recital this afternoon as per below and 5 Japan have their final Swimming session today.

Our Collective Worship theme this week has been about all the Holy Spirit and how God is always there. We've discussed this and the connection to Ascension.

### **Years 3&4 Production of 'Matilda'**

I was amazed with the children this week – they all performed wonderfully! Many thanks as always to all teachers and of course, Miss Jess, for producing another wonderful show. There are lots of pictures and video reels on our Instagram account - [@st\\_jamesschool](https://www.instagram.com/st_jamesschool) – for you to see. Wednesday evening was so well attended we ran out of seats, however thank you for being so co-operative and understanding of this. I can't wait to see what other year groups have to offer now in their Summer term 2 productions!

### **Years 3&4 Violin Recital – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May in the OJR Hall**

Years 3&4 also have their Violin Recital at 2pm this afternoon – 26<sup>th</sup> May – in the OJR hall at 2pm. All parents and carers are warmly invited to come to this!

### **6 Brazil – Swimming Sessions Summer Term 2**

Parents and carers of 6 Brazil children – you should have received an e-mail regarding swimming session details for next half term. Swimming sessions will commence on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June for 6 weeks. Kit required is all on the e-mail sent earlier in the week so everyone has plenty of time over half term to get prepared for this.

### **Free School Meal Vouchers – Summer Half Term**

Another reminder that these will be delivered to you in the same way as the Easter and February Half Term holidays – do look out for e-mails to redeem these. A reminder of how you can redeem these vouchers with information sent from Southwark Council:

- Where we hold an email address for the parent/carer of an eligible pupil, the POP vouchers will be sent directly to their email address today, **Friday 26 May 2023**;
- Where no email address is held and only a postal address is provided, the POP voucher will be sent to the parent/carer of the eligible pupil by post, from w/c **Monday 29 May 2023**;
- The POP voucher greeting will state 'Dear parent/carer of (pupil's name);
- Parents who receive their POP voucher via email, are not required to print the POP voucher and are able to use the electronic voucher to get their payment. Where parents receive the voucher via letter, they will need to take their POP voucher letter to any Post Office branch within 1 month of the date of the letter to get their payment;
- The POP voucher provides the parent/carer with additional information on how to redeem the voucher;
- Each voucher will have a face value of £15 – This equates to £3 per meal voucher, per day for the 5 days of the May half term holiday.

### **New JAG (Junior Adventure Group) Club Opportunities**

Please find information below for two new club opportunities which will be run by Imran and the JAG team at Alexis St. during Summer term 2. Links are provided for booking and payment.

Join us for unforgettable Friday adventures at Junior Adventures Group!

After the half term holiday, get ready for an afterschool club filled with:

Arts and Crafts; Cookie decorating; Chocolate rice crispy cakes; Talent shows and much more!

Let your child's creativity soar and taste the sweetness of fun. Secure their spot today by booking online at: <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk>

Join us for Years 3 & 4 Football Club each Tuesday!

Join our Children's Football Club every Tuesday after the half term holiday, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

Here you will: Learn skills; Improve technique; Play matches.

Secure your child's spot now by visiting: <https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk>

### **Year 5 Parents and Carers – PGL School Journey June 2024**

Year 5 parents and carers should have received an e-mail and letter this week giving dates and payment details/options for next year's Year 6 Residential. We'll let you know when SchoolsBuddy is set up so deposits can be made to secure places. Do discuss this with your child; Year 6 always have a super time away on these residential trips!

### **SchoolsBuddy App – School Booking System**

We have found many ways that the St James' SchoolsBuddy account can help us organise school events. Please make sure you download the app and can logon, or contact the school office if you need any help. Bookings can clearly be made, or cancelled, and any outstanding balance or credit will show on your account when you logon. This webpage explains how to logon and use its' features:

<https://www.stjameschoolbermondsey.com/page/?title=SchoolsBuddy+at+St+James%27&pid=172> . We already rely on SchoolsBuddy for parents to book their parent consultations with

teachers. Our current Year 5 will be using the app to pay instalments towards the children's PGL residential trip in Summer 2024, as mentioned above. Many thanks to our Early Years and KS1 parents for using SchoolsBuddy to book Breakfast and After School Club sessions at Old Jamaica Road. This makes the organisation of staff available and catering for the children so much easier. Sessions for Summer Term 2 will be available to book on the app from **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June**.

### **Events Next Half Term – please check the updated 'dates' letter for more events and trips!**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June:** Back to school for Summer term 2 at normal school times.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June:** Class photos at both sites – all children to have their photos taken in class groups. Full, smart uniform please!

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June:** Year 4 to the British Museum for a tour of the Mesopotamia Exhibition as part of their History topic work; Nursery tour 13:30 for prospective parents.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June:** 6 Brazil swimming sessions start as per separate e-mail, each Friday for the final Summer term for 6 weeks; Ivana from @storyingspace joining Year 4 for a story-telling workshop at Alexis St.

**We're wishing you, our children, and our whole community a really lovely, happy, restful and safe half term break. We look forward to seeing you all back to school for our final half term on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June at the usual school times.**

God bless,

from the St. James' team.