

Dear Parents & Carers,

Another really busy and very productive week with some wonderful learning, events, trips and opportunities for the children. All children from Reception – Year 6 have engaged with super Anti-Bullying Week workshops which promoted kindness and social intelligence from 'One Day Creative'; Years 1-6 attended a moving Remembrance service on Monday; Reception attended the National Gallery on Wednesday; Year 3 attended the Unicorn Theatre for a production of 'The Bolds' on Wednesday; it's great to see everyone excited and engaged in charitable giving today to support Children in Need and we're looking forward to our talent show this afternoon and also our bake sale at Alexis St later. Library trips continue, violin and recorder lessons continue, Surrey Cricket have been into school to deliver cricket lessons to Years 1&2 and the London PE Network have attended to deliver Year 5 Girls' Football sessions too.

Our Collective Worship theme this week has continued to be focused around the Parables of Jesus and the messages we can all take from these. This week we've had a great focus on Forgiveness.

### **Key Stage Two HIIT Workouts and Athlete Visit**

**Sports For Schools Athlete Visit:** We are incredibly excited to announce that on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November** former Commonwealth Games Competitor and 6 x National gymnastics champion, Courtney Orange will be paying a visit to Alexis Street. He will be leading all the children in KS2 in a HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training) workout session and a motivational assembly talking about the importance of staying active. **Sponsorship:** The children are being asked to try and raise some money to go towards new sports equipment for the school and should have all received sponsorship forms. These are due back with any money they have been able to raise no later than **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. Please send any money in a sealed envelope with your child's name clearly labelled on it. It is important that the sponsorship forms are returned also as the children are able to win prizes based on how much they have raised, so it is important we have all the correct information. All children at Key Stage Two from **Years 3-6 should come into school wearing PE kits on Monday** in addition to their normal PE day please ready for their HIIT workouts.

### **Individual Photo Day – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

Next Wednesday, individual photos will be taken of the children – make sure hair is tidy and all are smart and wearing full school uniforms for this! Children are generally given a QR code to bring home for you to order photos online so they can be with you before Christmas. These are then delivered to school. We'll let you know when they arrive and send home with the children when ready.

### **Parents' Evenings**

Sessions for parents' evening are now live to book on SchoolsBuddy. Our Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 parents' evening is on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November from 15:30 – 18:50. Our Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 parents' evening is on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November from 16:00 – 19:20. Please note that both events take place **in the hall at Old Jamaica Road**. If you need a reminder of how SchoolsBuddy works, you can find a guide on our website page [Contact Us\SchoolsBuddy at St James](#). If you have any queries, please email the school [office@st-james.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-james.southwark.sch.uk). We're looking forward to seeing you all there! Remember, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December is an Open Evening as per the dates letter, where you'll get to see the children's learning in situ.

### **Family Lives Newsletter**

Follow the link should you be interested in reading the latest Family Lives newsletter:

<https://mailchi.mp/familylives.org.uk/family-lives-newsletter-nov23?e=82d627eec2>

### **Non-Uniform Day – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

Remember next Friday is another non-uniform day – for this we're asking for contributions towards our school maintenance grant and school fund. Any money we raise for our school enables us to still spend parts of our budget on lovely trips and enrichment opportunities for the children – experiences we think are vital for our children. As a Church of England school, we are advised to ask parents and carers for a voluntary, annual fee towards the cost of school estate maintenance, however we do not want to do this. Instead, we are asking for any contribution you feel you'd like to make for opportunities such as this, and also charging small fees for events such as our recent Key Stage Two concert in church. Thank you in advance if you are able to support our school fund in any way you can.

### **Mr. Oliver's 'Robes Sleep Out 2023'**

A gentle plea for any help for the Robes charity <https://robes.org.uk>. Every year, Southwark Cathedral provide the opportunity to sleep out under the stars, raising awareness of rough sleeping and the chance to support homeless residents of Southwark and Lambeth. This year, I am sleeping out next Friday (24<sup>th</sup> November) at Southwark Cathedral and aiming to raise a modest amount of money for this very deserving cause. All proceeds go to Robes, who provide holistic support to help their homeless guests rebuild their lives. Should you wish/be able to provide anything the Robes charity and the homeless people they support would be enormously grateful! The link can be found here for donations, or indeed to read any further information on what the charity does:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/michael-oliver-1699960783534?utm\\_term=bxyvzPXap](https://www.justgiving.com/page/michael-oliver-1699960783534?utm_term=bxyvzPXap)

### **Southwark's Winter of Food and Fun**

Please see attached flier should you be looking for activities or child care during the Christmas holidays.

### **Cost of Living Crisis**

If you are struggling with the cost of living at the moment and are in need of any assistance, please do see Mrs Brenta (in confidence), as she may be able to help signpost you to some additional help.

### **Flu Immunisation Catch Up Letter**

Please find information attached regarding Flu immunisations, in case you're interested and didn't manage to give consent for this in school.

### **Events Next Week – yet another very busy one!**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Key Stage Two Paralympian visit and sponsored HIIT workouts; Year 4 Trip to the Tate Britain; Belgium class Cinema trip; Year 2 Trip to the Tate Modern; 6 Brazil to the library.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov:** Year 1 Trip to the Tate Britain; Year 5 Trip to the Tate Britain; Year 6 Trip to the National Gallery; 4 Kenya to the library.

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov:** INDIVIDUAL PHOTO DAY – photos taken of all children at either site; Year 3 to the National Gallery; Year 4 to Unicorn Theatre to see 'The Bolds'; Year 6 Scholar's Programme in school; Miss Rudd's Belgium class to the Tate Modern; Key Stage One Multi-skills PE sessions; Nursery, Reception, Years 1&2 Parents' Evening.

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov:** Year 6 Junior Citizenship Workshop at the Old Kent Road Fire Station;

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Non-uniform day for contributions to school fund as above; Year 6 Girls' football event at Grange Primary School; Miss Fox's Belgium class to the Tate Modern; 1 Italy to library.

Wishing you, the children and our whole school community a really lovely weekend.

God bless,  
from the St. James' team.