

Dear Parents & Carers,

A VERY BUSY WEEK! Children continue to have terrific learning and enrichment experiences both in and out of school. All children from Reception – Year 6 have visited the Tate Britain & Modern and the National Gallery for inspiration for their Art topics this term; Key Stage 2 children took part in HIIT workouts and assemblies with athlete Courtney Orange on Monday and gained lots of sponsorship from this; Year 4 visited the Unicorn Theatre for a production of 'The Bolds'; Key Stage 1 children have continued with their Cricket sessions in school; Year 6 attended a Junior Citizenship workshop at the Old Kent Road fire station yesterday; 6 Brazil have visited the library this week too and we have another non-uniform day today for contributions to the school fund and more trips, enrichment opportunities and projects. Many thanks for any generous support for this!

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 – these will continue next week before we start to think about Advent and Christmas soon.

Year 3 PE DAY SWAP – Next Week Only

To facilitate a Year 6 Athletics event on Tuesday (message to come separately for this), Year 3 children (including those in Belgium class) will have PE on Friday 1st Dec instead of Tuesday 28th Nov next week. This is 'Crazy Hair'/non-uniform day – as long as children are wearing loose clothes they can move in and trainers, this shouldn't affect participation in the fund-raising day – Mr. Brenta will do fun PE activities and games as part of the celebrations of the day for the children. Many thanks!

Reception and Nursery Christmas Craft Mornings

As advertised, we are having Christmas Craft mornings for Reception and Nursery children and parents/carers are warmly invited to join us at OJR for these. Come to OJR and stay after the children are dropped off for a 09:30 start on the following days:

- Monday 27th November: RECEPTION Christmas craft morning;
- Tuesday 28th November: NURSERY Christmas craft morning.

We're looking forward to seeing many of you there for these!

Individual School Photos

These were taken on Wednesday – thanks for your patience for those of you who came to Alexis St with siblings – the photographer wasn't very efficient and didn't start on time which we've fed back to the company. You should by now all have your QR codes to see photos online and order. These can then be delivered to school when they are ordered and we'll send home with the children when they arrive.

Parents' Evening – Years 3-6 at OJR Wednesday 29th November

Sessions for parents' evening are still live to book on SchoolsBuddy. Our Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 parents' evening was very well attended and hugely positive on Wednesday. Our Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 parents' evening is next Wednesday - 29th November - from 16:00 - 19:20. Please note that this will 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. We're looking forward to seeing you all there! Remember, Wednesday 6th December is an Open Evening as per the dates letter, where you'll get to see the children's learning in situ.

Crazy Hair/Non-Uniform Day – Friday 1st December

Remember next Friday is our ever popular annual 'Crazy Hair' and non-uniform day in support of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. WE KNOW we ask for lots of contributions and support for either school or different charities at this time of year. Don't ever feel pressure to donate large amounts. If you wish to support school/a different charity more, then you can always choose which Friday to contribute to. We do appreciate your support and are very glad we can still support our favourite deserving causes.

Years 3 & 4 Cycle Confident Sessions

These will happen next week – Year 3 on Monday & Tuesday and Year 4 on Wednesday & Thursday. These will only be for children who were signed up when we first advertised this earlier in the term. Children will take part in sessions in the playground at Alexis St during the school day.

Assessment Week

A quieter week in school next week as we assess the children in comfortable environments where we always just encourage them to do their very best and show us all they know. Please do tell them to do the same – assessments are such a valuable way of us planning what we need to teach the children in the following terms. We're so proud of all our children and their unique talents; we're sure they'll impress us as usual with their super attitudes to learning next week!

Mr. Oliver's 'Robes Sleep Out 2023'

Tonight's the night I sleep out in support of the homeless charity Robes. I'm so grateful for your support and kind words supporting this very deserving cause and so incredibly humbled by your generous contributions towards the JustGiving page. 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

Southwark's Winter of Food and Fun

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

Flu Immunisation Catch Up Letter

Please find information attached again 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 27th Nov: Reception Christmas Craft morning – OJR at 09:30 – details above; Year 3 Cycle Confident sessions; 3 Norway visiting the library.

Tuesday 28th Nov: Nursery Christmas Craft morning – OJR at 09:30 – details above; Year 3 Cycle Confident sessions; Year 6 Athletics competition for selected children – details to follow separately; 1 Germany to the library.

Wednesday 29th Nov: Key Stage Two Parents' Evening after school at OJR; Year 4 Cycle Confident sessions; Year 6 Scholar's Programme continues.

Thursday 30th Nov: Year 4 Cycle Confident sessions.

Friday 1st Dec: 'Crazy Hair'/non-uniform day – details above; YEAR 3 PE DAY; 2 Spain to the library.

Wishing you, the children and our whole school community a super weekend!

God bless, from the St. James' team.