

Dear Parents & Carers,

We come to the end of another really busy productive week. Children have performed really well in their assessments and have been keen to show us all they have learnt; our Reception and Nursery Christmas Craft mornings were well attended and enjoyed by all; our Year 3 & 4 Cycle Confident workshops have been great – a slight change to the schedule and Year 4 will continue next week with more sessions for Year 5 in the Spring term; our Year 6 Athletes have stormed to victory in an Athletics competition this week with other schools and we continue with our PE, Performing Arts and music lessons. It's great to see so many children with 'Crazy Hair' today in support of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity today. Thanks as ever for your generosity 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 – next week, Advent and Christmas begin.

### **Clubs – Last Day of Autumn Clubs Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Don't forget that Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December is the LAST DAY OF CLUBS for the Autumn term (excluding wraparound care). There will be an opportunity to sign up for clubs again in the Spring term – do look out for these on newsletters and then sign up for these on SchoolsBuddy when ready.

### **Open Evening – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December until 17:45**

Thank you for attending recent parents' evenings – these were well attended and really informative. To see children's work and learning environments, do attend our Open Evening next Wednesday – after school until 17:45. After that time, our school keepers will need to get ready to lock the buildings at 18:00. Children will take you to their classrooms, show you around and show you their work books which will be laid out in situ. While our teachers will be around, do remember they are still working and we've had parents' evenings for longer discussions around children's progress. For parents and carers in 5 Japan, we apologise that we had to postpone parents' evening with no notice – Miss Gutch will be in touch to report on progress or arrange new times imminently.

### **Non-Uniform Day – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

Next week will be another non-uniform day – again, in exchange for any contributions towards the school fund. Many thanks for your generous support.

### **Cycle Confident**

Due to the popularity of these courses, the Level 1 course offered for Years 4 & 5 next week will only be for Year 4 pupils. We have already booked Level 1 for Year 5 in April next year, if you are in Year 5 and did not hand your form in, you can do this in April (we will keep the forms we have). Mrs. Brenta is sorry to disappoint the children but of course is delighted so many wish to take part! There will also be a Level 2 course for more proficient cyclists in Years 5 & 6 (this takes them out on local roads, not just in the playground). We have had 'Learn to Ride' courses this week for Years 3 & 4 children who could not ride a bike, and I am delighted to say that all children were up and pedalling across the playground; What a success!

### **Reception 2024 Applications**

If you have children born between 01.09.2019 and 31.08.2020, remember to apply on line for Reception 2024. You can find further information here <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-admissions/applying-for-a-primary-school-place>  
If you would like any assistance, please see Mrs. Brenta who will be happy to help.

### **ESOL for Parents/Carers**

If you would be interested in attending ESOL classes (English for Speakers of Other Languages) please let Mrs. Brenta know as she hopes to have a course starting in January 2024. Please email her [cbrenta.210@st-james.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:cbrenta.210@st-james.southwark.sch.uk)

### **Cost of Living Crisis**

Once again, if you are worried about the current cost of living, do see Mrs. Brenta (in confidence) who may be able to help signpost you to some further assistance.

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

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

### **Events Next Week**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Year 4 Cycle Confident sessions continue; Belgium trip to National Maritime Museum Greenwich as part of their History topic learning; 2 France visiting the library; LAST DAY OF MONDAY CLUBS FOR THE AUTUMN TERM.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Year 4 Cycle Confident sessions continue; 3 Sweden and Belgium to the library.

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Year 6 Scholar's Programme continues; OPEN EVENING AT BOTH SITES (as above).

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec:** No events.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Non-uniform day – details above.

### **Christmas Events**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December:** Nursery Christmas Songs in the Old Jamaica Road Hall at 14:00. All welcome.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 watching a production of 'Peter Pan & Captain Cook' by Booster Cushion Theatre in the OJR Hall during afternoon; Year 6 Scholar's Programme tutorials; Christmas lunch served to all children at both sites.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Reception Nativity and Christmas Songs in the Old Jamaica Road Hall at 14:00. All welcome to attend.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Jumper/festive non-uniform day. No donations.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December:** Year 1&2 Nativity in St. James's Church – 14:00. All welcome.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** Year 3-6 Carol Concert in St. James's Church – 14:00. All welcome.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Service in St. James's Church at 09:30. All welcome; Break up for Christmas Holidays. HALF DAY – 13:15 Old Jamaica Road/13:30 Alexis St. **Please note there is no after-school club provision on the final day of term.**

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and Advent Sunday ☺

God bless, from the St. James' team.