

Friday 17th April 2026

We've had a great first week of the Summer term – children have started with their Shakespeare plays and learning ahead of next week's Shakespeare week in addition to Geography topic work. We had a lovely welcome back service in church on Monday led by Rev. Dom and a great book event for parents and children on Tuesday – many thanks for attending this!

Our Collective Worship theme for this half term has started with stories from Acts, what we can learn from these and apply to our lives. This theme will continue this half term.

Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings

Summer term Parents' Evenings begin next Wednesday. These 10-minute meetings with your child/ren's teacher/s are now bookable via your Arbor parent app and will remain available until 17:00 on the day of the consultation. If you have any issues regarding the booking of these, please contact the school office where Mrs Fox and Miss Ashby will be pleased to help you.

Miss Sheikh has already seen many 1 Matisse parents and carers as she has been called in for Jury Duty for 2 weeks from Monday and is therefore unable to attend next week. She can catch up with you via telephone or on another occasion if you haven't seen her after she returns.

- Wednesday 22nd April: Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 Parents' Evening in the OJR hall;
- Wednesday 29th April: Key Stage Two, Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 and Cezanne class Parents' Evening in the OJR hall.

Clubs

Our Monday after-school enrichment clubs will re-commence on Monday 27th April until Monday 6th July for the Summer term. Please see the attached document listing our offer for Years 1-6.

Do note you need to sign up via the Arbor app, many spaces have been secured already however do still sign up next week if you'd like you child/ren to attend.

Year 5 Ofili Swimming Sessions at Downside Fisher

From next Friday (24th April), 5 Turner will be going swimming to Downside Fisher every Friday morning until Friday 22nd May. Please find attached a letter from Mr. Brenta with details of this and what to bring each week.

National Tennis Association After-School Tennis Club

There are still a few spaces remaining in the after-school tennis clubs at Alexis St on Tuesdays. Open to all pupils in Years 3–6, no matter your ability — come along to learn new tennis skills with a professional coach while having loads of fun! They are running

two separate clubs please see the registration links: [Years 3–4](#) / [Years 5–6](#) . Also see the flier attached for further information.

Parent Gym

Thank you to those parents who came along to the taster session. It's not too late to join! Due to a clash of events this week we know a number of you were unable to attend. We will therefore start next Thursday, 09:00 - 09:30 for light breakfast, beginning at 09:30, at Alexis Street. Mrs Brenta is looking forward to welcoming you to another Parent Gym programme sharing lots of tips and hints on parenting! The first session, 'Chat' - how to listen when your child speaks, followed by Love, Behave, Care, Discover and Together. See you there!

Friday 24th April 2026

We've had a busy and productive week, continuing to learn about Shakespeare with many different plays and focusing our attention on Science topic learning. Nursery and Reception are taking part in story-telling workshops this afternoon; 5 Ofili begin their 6-week course of swimming lessons today; our KS1 Parents' Evening was very well-attended on Wednesday and sports competitions and events continue as we enter the summer term proper!

Our Collective Worship theme for this half term has continued with stories from Acts, what we can learn from these and apply to our lives. This week we've thought about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit – this theme will continue this half term.

Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings

Summer term Parents' Evenings have begun. For KS2, these 10-minute meetings with your child/ren's teacher/s are still bookable via your Arbor parent app and will remain available until 17:00 on the day of the consultation. Bear in mind date AND OJR VENUE below! Another reminder that Miss Sheikh has already seen many 1 Matisse parents and carers as she has been called in for Jury Duty and was unable to attend last week. She can catch up with you via telephone or on another occasion if you haven't seen her after she returns.

- Wednesday 29th April: Key Stage Two, Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 and Cezanne class Parents' Evening in the OJR hall.

Clubs

Our Monday after-school enrichment clubs will re-commence on Monday 27th April until Monday 6th July for the Summer term. Most clubs are now full, do note you need to sign up via the Arbor app. Have a look to see if spaces are available over the weekend if you're like your child/ren to attend.

Key Stage Two (Years 3-6) Mini Marathon

As advertised, all KS2 children will be taking part in the London Mini Marathon next Friday during the afternoon. PE Kits/sportswear and running trainers to be worn all day please. If you've any sponsor forms/money for sponsorship, please do send in to school in a named

envelope before on on the day. We're looking forward to this and promoting a fit and active lifestyle for all the children!

Flag Football Club – KS2, Alexis St, Wednesdays, After School

If your child/ren are in Key Stage Two (Years 3-6), there is an opportunity for them again to join a Flag Football club, running each Wednesday until 16:30 this term. Please see separate letter for further details of this and how to sign children up. Note this is a separate company and needs to be booked with them directly.

Family Lives Newsletter

Please follow the link to this month's Family Lives newsletter:

https://forms.southwark.gov.uk/showForm.asp?nc=7E5F&fm_fid=1647

Junior Parkrun

Southwark Park now has a Junior Parkrun! Junior Parkrun is a free 2km event for children aged 4–14. Children can take part on their own or with a parent, and they are welcome to walk, skip, jog or run. There are marshals all the way around the course so participants are always in sight, and also have a tail walker, which means nobody comes last unless they want to. Junior parkrun takes place every Sunday in Southwark Park at 09:00, with a warm-up starting 10 minutes beforehand. It is completely free, and families just need to register once to get a barcode for each child. The barcode lets children record their times and work towards milestone wristbands after 11, 21, 50, 100 and 250 runs. Registration is a one off and can be completed at: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/>.

The start and finish are just outside the café in Southwark Park, and all details are on the website: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/southwark-juniors/>.

Friday 1st May 2026

We've had another sunny and productive week, continuing to focus on Science learning for our topic work. 5 Ofili begin their swimming lessons today as they were sadly cancelled last-minute last week; all EYFS and Key Stage One children took part in drama workshops delivered by Drama4All on Tuesday, and 4 Kahlo have begun a series of art workshops with a local artist with a link to Southwark Park Gallery. Our KS2 Parents' Evening was very well-attended on Wednesday and performing arts, music and PE lessons continued to be enjoyed by all.

Our Collective Worship theme for this half term has continued with stories from Acts, what we can learn from these and apply to our lives. This week we've thought further about the apostles' actions and the Holy Spirit and celebrated this.

Cezanne Class 'Festival of Sport' at the Kia Oval

Next Friday, Cezanne class will be attending an exciting 'Festival of Sport' at the Oval. Please send them in (as usual each Friday) wearing PE Kits and trainers so they're ready for this trip.

Key Stage Two (Years 3-6) Mini Marathon

All children in Years 3-6 are taking part in this challenge today in the Alexis St playground. If you still have any sponsorship money, do send in in an envelope with your child/ren's name/s on next week for us to put towards the school fund. Many thanks.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 15th May

Our next BIG playground job will come in the Summer, where we have plans in place to renovate our large climbing frame and Early Years area at OJR. Thankfully we're still managing to fund big, on-going projects which need completing however we're asking for any donation – however large or small – on Friday 15th May in exchange for children wearing non-uniform. Many thanks in advance if you can help!

Cultural Diversity Day Thursday 21st May

Please find a flier attached again (designed by one of our children) to note the date of this year's 'Cultural Diversity' Day! On this day children are invited to wear clothes/costumes which reflect their cultures/identities. We will also be welcoming parents/carers/ families into the Alexis St playground after school for a celebration together.

Vacancy – SEND Learning Support Assistant

We find ourselves looking ahead already to the next academic year and have a potential fixed-term contract employment opportunity for a SEND Learning Support Assistant to work on a 1-1/small group basis. An advert will be placed on the website and Diocesan Board website soon – if you know of anyone who has this skill-set and might be interested in a role like this, do tell them to send a CV, FAO Mr. Oliver, via office@st-james.southwark.sch.uk .

Southwark Family Learning

As always, Southwark Council offer free Family Learning activities for half term, please see the attached flier with information about the Thomas Calton Centre and what they have to offer on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th May.

Friday 8th May 2026

Another busy week, this week focusing our attentions on Design and Food Technology learning for our topic work. 4 Kahlo have continued with their series of art workshops with a local artist with a link to Southwark Park Gallery; Years 1&2 are taking part in story-telling workshops this afternoon; Cezanne class attend the Kia Oval for a Festival of Sport today and Year 5 continue with their Mini-Police workshops with the British Transport Police this week too.

Our Collective Worship theme for this half term has continued with stories from Acts, what we can learn from these and apply to our lives. This week we've thought about Stephen and Saul/Paul.

Year 6 SATs Week

Next week, our most senior children sit their Year 6 SATs tests! The children have been working so hard in preparation for these and, as always, we ask them simply to try their very best with no unnecessary pressure. We know they'll perform brilliantly. **If your child is in Year 6, do ensure they're in on time every day from Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May!** Many thanks for your co-operation and encouragement with these.

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Mums for Lungs Coffee Morning – Wednesday 20th May

Please see attached letter with information for our exciting Mums for Lungs coffee morning, Wednesday 20th May, 09:15 at Old Jamaica Road. Refreshments provided, and all welcome.

Cultural Diversity Day Thursday 21st May

Please again note the date of this year's 'Cultural Diversity' Day! On this day children are invited to wear clothes/costumes which reflect their cultures/identities or even flag colours. We will also be welcoming parents/ carers/families into the Alexis St playground after school for a celebration together. Please do, if you can, bring in dishes which reflect our varied cultures and traditions for this.

Vacancy – SEND Learning Support Assistant

We find ourselves looking ahead already to the next academic year and have a potential fixed-term contract employment opportunity for a SEND Learning Support Assistant to work on a 1-1/small group basis. An advert will be placed on the website and Diocesan Board website soon – if you know of anyone who has this skill-set and might be interested in a role like this, do tell them to send a CV, FAO Mr. Oliver, via office@st-james.southwark.sch.uk .

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Friday 15th May 2026

What a week it's been! Year 6 have performed so well in their SAT's tests and we're really proud that they approached their tests with confidence and grit! Results will be available to share in July and be included in end of year reports. Many thanks for contributions today for our non-uniform fundraising day today to go towards our maintenance fund and playground development. Any contributions are really gratefully received.

Our Collective Worship theme for this half term has continued with stories from Acts, what we can learn from these and apply to our lives.

Year 3&4 Violin Recital – Monday 18th May, 14:00, OJR Hall

Year 3&4 parents/carers are warmly invited to see our violin progress in action on Monday! Do come to OJR for 14:00 to see our lower KS2 children perform.

Year 1&2 Production – Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th May, 14:00

Year 1&2 parents and carers are also invited to see their children perform on Tuesday and Wednesday next week – do choose a day and come for 14:00.

Mums for Lungs Coffee Morning – Wednesday 20th May

Please see attached letter with information for our exciting Mums for Lungs coffee morning, Wednesday 20th May, 09:15 at Old Jamaica Road. Refreshments provided, and all welcome. Please also see attached a flier from 'Mums for Lungs' detailing an exciting art competition for the children to take part in.

Cultural Diversity Day Thursday 21st May

Please again note the date of this year's 'Cultural Diversity' Day! On this day children are invited to wear clothes/costumes which reflect their cultures/identities or even flag colours. We will also be welcoming parents/ carers/families into the Alexis St playground after school for a celebration together. Please do, if you can, bring in dishes which reflect our varied cultures and traditions for this.

May Half-Term Tennis Camps in Southwark

Looking for an exciting activity this May half-term? Sign up for Tennis Camps in Southwark. Open to 5–10-year-olds, these fun-filled sessions are perfect for beginners and young players to learn tennis skills, stay active, and make new friends. Don't miss out! See flier attached for additional information or [Click here to sign up](#) .

Swimming Summer Term 2

Please see a separate letter detailing swimming lessons for both 5 Turner and 6 Hockney classes next half term. 5 Turner were sadly let down with Friday bookings

this half term, however we're thrilled to be able to take them next half term each Monday. Do note the change of day!

Walk to School Week

We are delighted to be taking part in 'Walk to School Week' next week, beginning Monday 19th May. If you do drive to school please consider leaving the car at home, or parking nearby and walking the remaining distance. We have a 'Gold' award for our active travel here at St. James' and we are currently re-applying for this. Part of our criteria is to have more children walk, cycle or scoot to school and we have 6 Year 5 Travel Ambassadors who are actively campaigning for this! They have delivered assemblies, organised a competition and prizes and are very passionate about active travel. Their motto is 'Ditch the car, it's not far!' Which is very apt as the majority of our families all live very locally and close to school and are lucky enough to be able to use active travel. PLEASE encourage your children to Walk/Cycle/Scoot for the whole week next week. Our Travel Ambassadors will be checking!

Friday 22nd May 2026

A happy, productive, and busy final week of the half term! Years 3&4 performed in a wonderful violin recital on Monday; Years 1&2 gave a lovely summer performance with songs, dances, and poetry linked to their current topic learning on Tuesday and Wednesday; Year 1 attended a trip to the London Transport Museum; our Year 5 children continued with their 'Mini-Police' citizenship course with a trip to London Bridge; Year 6 took part in a 'Fix-a-bike' day, and our Cultural Diversity day saw great, diverse outfits on display as well as a lovely after school event at Alexis St yesterday. Many thanks to Miss Reid for organising this and to many parents and carers for preparing and bringing a range of dishes for all to enjoy!

Our Collective Worship theme for this half term has concluded with stories from Acts, what we can learn from these and apply to our lives. Next term we'll further explore our school vision of 'Let your light shine' and our school aims and values with the children. ***We look forward to seeing everyone back, on time, and raring to go for summer term 2 on Monday 1st June at 08:45 (Alexis St) and 09:00 (Old Jamaica Road).***

Class Photos

Children are having their photos taken in their classes on Tuesday 2nd June – full school uniform as usual please. QR codes will come home after if you would like to purchase these.

Year 5 'Joy of Movement' Sessions with Millwall

In addition to Swimming sessions and usual PE days, can Year 5 wear PE Kits and trainers each Monday after half term – they will be participating in 'Joy of Movement' sessions with Millwall, promoting fitness, sports and a healthy lifestyle.

St. James's Church 'Toast' After School Every Wednesday

Please find a flier attached advertising weekly "Toast" sessions at St. James's Church. Pop along to church each Wednesday with your children to meet Katie and Dom, spend time with one another as a community and get to know the church team and each other. This will happen each Wednesday during term time and promises a weekly hangout for children and parents.

Swimming Summer Term 2

Please see a separate letter detailing swimming lessons for both 5 Turner and 6 Hockney classes next half term. 5 Turner were sadly let down with Friday bookings this half term, however we're thrilled to be able to take them next half term each Monday. Do note the change of day!

After School KS2 Tennis Club – Tuesdays at Alexis St

The after-school tennis club at St James School offers pupils in Years 3–6 a fun and active opportunity to develop their tennis skills in a supportive and engaging environment. Sessions will include movement and coordination work, rallying, game-based play, and technical coaching designed to build confidence, enjoyment, and ability in tennis. Please see the flier attached for this club with information and a link to book.



MAY HALF TERM

Wishing you, and our whole community, a happy, healthy and safe half term break! We look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 1st June for the final half term of the academic year ☺

God bless, from the St. James' team.