



Dear All,

What a busy week it's been! Children have now started their new class books and topics and have produced some amazing work around these. Year 4 visited London Zoo on Tuesday as part of their Science topic, our 2nd Legoland trip for Attendance has been very successful today and we've been on our first swimming and library visits for this academic year. Our Collective Worship theme for this week has been on 'The Parables of Jesus' and we've thought carefully about the messages of kindness that Jesus taught us through the Good Samaritan as well as how important each and every one is in the eyes of God with the Parable of the Mustard Seeds. Next week we'll continue to reflect upon and think about more parables Jesus told and the messages they provide. Children's behaviour continues to be super; this is helped by a full school uniform – most children are looking really smart but I'll include the usual reminder to supply **plain black** footwear for school!! Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

Year 6 Residential Trip to PGL – Marchant's Hill, Surrey

On Monday the majority of our Year 6 cohort will leave for their residential trip to Marchant's Hill. Year 6 parents and carers are always eager to come and wave them off – please arrive for normal school time on Monday morning equipped with the items on the kit lists which have been sent home. The year 6 team will tweet and we'll text with regular updates. Please provide a healthy packed lunch on Monday (no fizzy drinks/sweets) for the children to eat when they arrive. The children will arrive back on Wednesday and we'll keep in touch regarding timings for this. We wish them all a wonderful time and we're sure they'll enjoy the range of adventurous activities on offer.



Clubs

Your child(ren) should by now have been informed of which club they are to attend from the choices provided. Clubs will start on Monday (23rd September) and run until the end of the Autumn Term – the last being on Thursday 5th December. These dates are also printed in children's home-school books as a reminder both for them, and for you when you read with your child. As always, a huge thank you to our staff for giving their time to provide an excellent range of extra-curricular clubs for our children to attend.



Mini Marsden March – Thursday 26th September

As advertised, children will take part in a fundraising event in aid of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity on the above date. Children from Years 1-6 will be able to take part in a sponsored walk around Southwark Park. Sponsorship forms are coming home today should your child(ren) wish to participate. Only children who bring forms in will attend and all sponsorship forms will be due in by Wednesday 25th September (morning) at the latest so we can arrange groups. Let's try to raise as much money as we can for this very deserving cause!



Parent/Carer Expectations

Sadly, it has become necessary to politely remind parents and carers of an acceptable way of communicating with our staff and other adults in and around school playgrounds. We always listen to any concerns you might have and a member of our Senior Leadership Team is always on the gate at both sites at the beginning and end of any day. Should you need to raise an issue or voice a concern, please do so in a pleasant way without shouting or using intimidating or threatening language as this will not be tolerated. We would hate to remove the implied licence of any adult to enter school premises however we would be well within our rights to do so, or indeed call the Police, should behaviour fall below a polite and courteous manner. We also believe passionately that we as adults must always model a courteous tone to the children and it is never fair for children to witness adults being abusive or intimidating. Thank you to the vast majority of parents and carers in our school community for always demonstrating the kindness we strive to provide.



Parent/Carer Working Party for Relationship & Sex Education (RSE)

As you will have seen on the news recently, RSE will become a statutory requirement to be taught in schools from September 2020. We are obviously preparing for this in advance so we can deliver it – which can be a sensitive issue, dividing parents' opinions – in the most purposeful way. Mr. Burton will be inviting people to be part of a working party so your views and opinions can be shared. Should you wish to be a part of this working party, please do write to him care of office@st-james.southwark.sch.uk We'd love to have your involvement with this!



Party Bags/Cake for children's birthdays

Another reminder that due to our being a Healthy School, and also aiming to cut down on waste with packaging and plastic, we have decided to ban any party bags, sweets or cake being handed out to our children on birthdays. We do know parents' intentions are really kind, however we have lots of things to consider – eg. Allergens and other parents feeling pressure to accept unwanted sugary food. Please do not bring any food, sweets, cake or drinks in for birthdays in the future and please don't be offended when we politely decline your requests to do so.



Year 6 Secondary School Open Days and Advice

We will have a meeting at Alexis St on Wednesday 2nd October at 14:30 for Year 6 parents and carers to come and meet Mrs Brenta regarding secondary school transfers so do come to this, or alternatively contact Mrs Brenta for any questions regarding this process. Remember the deadline for applications for Southwark is the end of October so not too far away!



Workshop for Wider Public - Children and Young People's Wellbeing

A message from Southwark Council – 'We are committed to improving outcomes for children and young people through our Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Services. We want to invite young people, their parents and their carers to a workshop to help us consider what kind of offer would be most beneficial in supporting the wellbeing of our young residents. Details of the event: Date - Thursday 26th September. Time - 17:30 – 19:30. Venue - ORTUS Conferencing and Events Venue, 82-96 Grove Lane, Camberwell, London, SE5 8SN.'



Class attendance for this week: Please see the website for a full breakdown our policy and criteria for attendance trips. **Please be advised of our start times—08:55 at KS2 and 09:15 at KS1. Children are arriving to school increasingly later – please do be prompt and ready for school!**

Class:	Attendance:	Class:	Attendance:
6 Canada	98 %	4 Kenya	98 %
6 Mexico	95 %	3 Norway	95 %
6 Peru	98 %	3 Sweden	97 %
5 China	97 %	Belgium class	93 %
5 India	93 %	2 France	96 %
5 Japan	99 %	2 Spain	98 %
5 Russia	100 %	1 Germany	97 %
4 Egypt	96 %	1 Italy	98 %
4 Ghana	99 %		
Weekly Winners: 5 RUSSIA - Very well done! ☺			



Some Dates in advance this Half Term:

Monday 23rd September: ALL clubs start for the Autumn term.

Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th September: Year 6 children on their residential trip to PGL.

Thursday 26th September: 'Mini' Marsden March – children from Year 1 – 6 take part in Sponsored Walk in aid of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity in Southwark Park.

Wednesday 2nd October: Year 6 Parent/Carer meeting re. Secondary School Transfer – 14:30 at Alexis Street.

Friday 4th October: Poetry Day – poetry activities all day across both sites.

Monday 7th October: Harvest Service in St. James' Church – 09:30 – all welcome.

Tuesday 8th October: Nursery and Reception Initial Parents' Evening.

Friday 11th October: Abel & Cole Cookery School workshops at both sites.

Monday 14th – Friday 18th October: Black History Month activities and RE for the whole school.

Wednesday 16th October: King's College Teddy Bear Hospital workshops with Reception children.

Thursday 17th October: World Food Day – celebrations after school at Old Jamaica Road. Parents and carers invited to bring in cuisines from their own cultures and share foods from all over the world to celebrate our school community.

Friday 18th October: Break up for Half Term – 3:15pm OJR/3:30PM Alexis St.



Dates and Trips: Any parents who could come on trips to help would be greatly appreciated; please let your child's teacher know if you can help. Any last minute trips that may occur, we will try our best to let you know as well in advance as we can.

Monday 23rd September – 4 Kenya to church for Schools' week; 5 China & Japan Orienteering; ALL CLUBS START.

Tuesday 24th September – Year 5 Football Competition; Year 1 Italy to the Library.

Wednesday 25th September – 4 Egypt & Ghana to church for Schools' week.

Thursday 26th September – Year 3 Sweden to the Library; Mini Marsden March Years 1-6 during afternoon.

Friday 27th September – Year 3 trip to Hyde Park; 6 Canada & Mexico to church for Schools' week.

***Don't forget to follow us on Twitter—
@StJamesSchool***

