



What a busy week it's been! Children have worked really hard in their assessments and seem to have done really well. As always, we aim to keep these very calm and simply encourage children to do their best and show us everything they have learnt. I'm sure they've been telling you all about how well they have done! Lots of events this week including our regular library visits. As I have stated on newsletters, dates letters, and according to home-school contact books, **ALL CLUBS HAVE NOW FINISHED FOR THE AUTUMN TERM!!** Children will have the opportunity to sign up for new clubs again as usual in the Spring Term when we return from the Christmas Holidays. Mrs O'Connor's Breakfast and After School club continues to run until the end of term, as does Fit for Sport at KS2. As always, there will be no after school club provision on the final day of term – Thursday 19th December – when we break up early. We continue with our Collective Worship theme of 'Advent' and we're learning about all the different ways people prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at this time. Next week we'll look at Mary's Song, the birth of Jesus and the Angels with readings from the Gospel according to Luke. Please see overleaf for all of our important dates leading up to the end of term!

Parent Governor Result

A message from Jim Hutchinson – Vice Chair of Governors: "We had two very strong applicants to fill the vacancy of Parent Governor. Both Chris and Jhimil have much to offer the school and both would be dedicated Parent Governors. The result of the election was a tie! Because the governors didn't want to lose either one, it was decided to toss a coin. One would become the Parent Governor and the other would be invited to join the Governing Body as an Associate Member. So, Jhimil is going to be the Parent Governor and Chris will become an Associate Governor. We have two for the price of one - excellent!"



Christmas Fair

As I write I'm really looking forward to our Christmas Fair today which I'm sure will be enjoyed by all! Many thanks to all our staff and children who have contributed and helped in so many ways. Many thanks also to our parents and carers who have donated so many things and helped, being extremely generous with their time, in any way they could! Your help and support is very much appreciated. Thanks also for the donations of cakes, and to those who came to bake yesterday! I would also like to thank Mrs Brenta for all she does with our parents, carers and wider community to initiate such lovely opportunities for us to come together and celebrate together.



Royal Marsden Fundraising 'Mad Hair Day'

Many thanks to everyone for engaging in our festive non-uniform/mad hair day today – it was lovely to see lots of wacky hairstyles! We're hoping we've raised a lot of money for this deserving cause which we continue to support whenever we can. We'll let you know how much we've raised when we have a total.



Southwark Food Bank/The Baby Bank

We are participating in Southwark Food Bank's 'Feed a Family 2019' campaign and are appealing for support from those around us to help raise funds for families in need. Christmas time can be a struggle for many, with the added costs of fuel and winter clothing for growing children, which puts added pressures on finances for many families. We want to emphasise the values of family, generosity and a shared sense of community and come together over the festive period to support one another and share what we can. Please ensure donated food has a long shelf life and is well within its use by date. Thank you for your support! Please donate from the following list: Mince pies, New children's books (2-16yrs old), Custard, Christmas Pudding, Christmas Cake, Chocolate and treats, Snacks and Nibbles, Jam, Rice Pudding, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Pork Meat. You can drop items at either site for Mrs Brenta's attention. Also, if you have new or good quality second hand baby items you no longer require, The Baby Bank in Camberwell would be very grateful to receive them. Please talk to Mrs Brenta for further details.



The Holly and the Ivy – Christmas Family Activity with the London Wildlife Trust

Join in with fun, free, family activities for Southwark residents at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening run by the London Wildlife Trust. Escape the crowds and spend a tranquil day with your children in their lovely garden and classroom. Make a wreath for your door, natural decorations and cards and learn about evergreen plants through games, stories and activities on Sunday 15th December at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening, 28 Marsden Road, SE15 4EE 10.30am – 3.30pm. This course is free and is suitable for families with children of all ages. To book, contact dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk



Surrey Docks Farm

Surrey Docks Farm are offering two FREE weekly (Saturday or Sunday) youth clubs for children aged 8-11 where they can learn about fruit and vegetables, looking after animals, take part in nature activities. For more details, go to <http://www.surreydocksfarm.org.uk>



Childcare Course for Beginners, Level 1 or 2

If you are interested in starting one of the above courses, please talk to Mrs Brenta who will book you in for an assessment with Southwark Adult Education to ensure you enrol on to the correct course. The assessment date is on Tuesday 10th December at the Thomas Carlton Centre – please pre-book for this. If there is enough interest, we will run either the Beginners’ course or Level 1 course here at St James’. The Level 2 course is currently running here at school (this in a one-year course) and will possibly run again from September 2020.



End of term - Dates in Advance...

Tuesday 17th December: Years 1 & 2 Nativity – St. James’ Church at 2pm.

Wednesday 18th December: Years 3-6 ‘Carols by Candlelight’ concert – St. James’ Church at 2pm.

Thursday 19th December: Christmas service – 09:30 at St. James’ Church. Break up for Christmas holidays – 1:15am OJR/1:30am Alexis St.



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	91 %	4 Kenya	92 %
6 Mexico	94 %	3 Norway	95 %
6 Peru	97 %	3 Sweden	94 %
5 China	99 %	Belgium class	98%
5 India	96 %	2 France	93 %
5 Japan	98 %	2 Spain	94 %
5 Russia	98 %	1 Germany	96 %
4 Egypt	93 %	1 Italy	96 %
4 Ghana	92 %		
Weekly Winners: 5 CHINA - Very well done! 😊			



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 9th December:

New Nursery children - Open Morning.



Tuesday 10th December:

1 Italy to the Library; 3 Norway to Vauxhall City Farm.



Wednesday 11th December:

Nursery Christmas Crafts & Songs – 9:30 at OJR; 3 Sweden to Vauxhall City Farm.

Thursday 12th December:

Christmas Lunch for all children; 4 Ghana to the Library; Year 5 School Nurse Puberty talk; Choir to Old Vic during afternoon.



Friday 13th December:

Reception Christmas Production – 2pm at OJR; Year 1 Green Trip day.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter—@St_JamesSchool

