



St James'
Church of England
Primary School
Starter Pack

May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to St James' Church of England Primary School.

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to a place in our reception class starting in September 2020. Children will start to join us during the week commencing * Monday 14th September, and we will write to you separately with a starting date. We hope to have a Teddy Bear's Picnic, the week before, so you can meet the teacher and familiarise your child with the surroundings.

* (This may be subject to change due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic).

The pupils follow a Reggio Emilia inspired curriculum in our reception class rooms. We will explain how this works and how we work in partnership with you to enhance your child's learning experience.

Please do check our website www.stjameschoolbermondsey.com, each year group has their own page with up to date information about trips, and projects, as well as the range of Reggio Emilia provocations. The weekly newsletter is on the website along with a constantly changing twitter feed. There is a link to twitter (@St_JamesSchool) from the website; do follow us. Children in nursery and reception receive a weekly newsletter in their home learning book.

If we have to contact you, we will text you from the school office. Please make sure we have your correct mobile number and email address along with two other emergency contact details.

I look forward to meeting you,

Mrs Willis

The Basics

Nursery Start and Finish Times

Nursery

30 hour children (2 and 3 year olds)

Monday to Friday

9am – 3pm – Children attend the nursery

15 hour children (2 and 3 year olds)

Monday, Tuesday

9 am – 3 pm

Wednesday

9am – 12 – Children to be collected at midday – 12 o'clock

Reception, years 1 and 2 at Old Jamaica Road

9.15 am – 3.15 pm

Monday to Friday

Children should wait outside their classroom in the playground in the morning, and the teacher will let the children in to the classroom

Parents should wait in the playground for their children at the end of the day outside their classroom

Please note that parents can speak to their child's teacher if needed at the end of the school day.

Years 3 to 6 at Alexis Street

08.55 am – 3.30 pm

Monday to Friday

The gates open at 08.45 and children walk in to the school building on their own.

Parents should wait in the playground for their children at the end of the day outside their classroom.

If you would like your child to walk home on their own, please do let us know via email or letter.

What to do if you are late

Please go to the office, this will ensure your child is registered as present and will be included in lunch numbers. Your child will then go to their classroom.

If you are late to collect your child from school at the end of the day, please make your way to the school office. If you know you are going to be late to collect your child and want someone else to collect them, please let the school office know that you have authorised this person to pick up your child.

What to do if your child is sick

Phone the school office on 0207 237 3111 to let us know that your child is sick, you can leave a message if there is no one available to take your call. You can also text school 074401 900262, or use the FREE Studybugs App, register on www.studybugs.com and use the service if your child is going to be absent from school.

Head lice – If your child has head lice you can bring them into school as soon as you have treated the lice. Please let us know if you suspect your child has head lice.

Ringworm – Once discovered, treat it and unless advised leave uncovered. It is fine to send your child into school once you have done so, but do let the school office know.

Sickness/Diarrhoea – Please keep your child off school for 48 hours after the last episode to prevent the spread of the virus.

Chicken Pox – If your child has chicken pox you will need to keep them away for as long as they are contagious – until the pox have scabbed over.

Medicine

If your child needs medicine during school hours, you will have to sign a consent form at the office. Medicine can only be given in school if it's been prescribed for them by a GP and only if it's for 4 times a day.

If your child is sick at school

If your child becomes unwell whilst at school, you will be phoned immediately – this includes if he or she develops a high temperature. Please keep the school office up to date with your phone number. When you join we will ask for 3 emergency contact numbers.

Asthma and allergies

Please let us know if your child has any allergies. If they use an epi-pen the school will work with the school nurse on a care-plan.

If your child suffers from asthma and requires an inhaler, please provide one for use in school. You will need to complete an Asthma Care Card.

Please let us know the strategies you use to help your child to manage their inhaler and when your child may need it. Children have their asthma inhalers with them during school hours. Inhalers, epi-pens and full medical kits are taken on trips out of school. Please ensure that the medication is replaced when out of date.

If your child has an accident at school

Head injury – if your child hits or bangs their head they will be given a sticker and letter to let you know. The school will also text and/or phone you to let you know what has happened.

Serious Accident/Injury – If the school think that the injury is serious they may phone an ambulance and arrange to meet you at the hospital. The child will be accompanied by a member of staff. If an accident is deemed to be serious but not urgent the school will phone you and let you make the decision to take your child to hospital or we will take your child there and meet you, if you are unable to make it to the school.

School Dinners

Our school menu operates over a 3 week period and can be seen on the website. If your child has any dietary requirements (dairy, vegetarian, vegan, allergies, etc.) please let us know.

School dinners are currently free for all children in reception to year 6.

Snacks

All children are given a healthy snack mid-morning. Please do not send in an additional snacks.

As a Healthy School we do not allow birthday cakes, sweets etc to be distributed in celebration of your child's birthday. If you would like to send in a treat for classmates, please only send in fruit to be shared in class. Alternatively a packet of seeds such as sunflowers might be a good idea as a birthday treat.

Uniform

The school uniform is burgundy and grey with yellow summer dresses. We have school sweatshirts, jumpers and cardigans and grey trousers or skirts/pinafore dresses, children can wear blazers.

Uniforms can be ordered online and paid for in the same way.

Girls and boys – burgundy jumper/sweatshirt/cardigan, white polo shirt or white short/long sleeved shirt, grey trousers, shorts, pinafore or skirt, elasticated ties are available.

Children can wear grey, white or black tights or socks. Yellow summer dresses can be worn in summer.

Plain black shoes should be worn, NO trainers please.

Nursery children have a sweatshirt and jogging trousers available to order. Nursery children should bring in to school a pair of slippers for indoor wear, and a pair of named wellingtons boots.

Children in nursery can wear tracksuit bottoms, but NOT from reception upwards. Please clearly name all of your clothes, there is a lost property box at both sites.

PE and Sports Kit

Boys and girls – Yellow plain t shirts with burgundy shorts and burgundy tracksuit bottoms. Please do send your child in to school with their PE kit in a named bag.

Physical Education

Nursery children do not have formal PE as they engage in physical play during their normal day

The rest of the children are taught PE by a secondary PE specialist teacher, and a trained dance teacher. Please ensure that the children have a pair of plimsolls or trainers as they may do PE outdoors.

Each term has a different PE focus which will include:

Dance – children are taught by a professionally trained dance teacher

Team games – Cricket, football – girls and boys, Tag Rugby, Hockey, Tennis and Rounders

The PE focus for the term will be on your child's class page on the website

When your child is older they may be asked to represent the school in a sport.

School Outings

When your child goes on a school outing you will be informed in the weekly newsletter.

The school will provide a packed lunch for your child which will include, a sandwich, fruit, a healthy snack like bread sticks or rice cakes. Please ensure they bring a refillable water bottle to take on the trip.

They should always have a refillable water bottle with them daily in school.

Acts of Worship

During their reception year the children will start to attend Acts of Worship in school. Children all attend the daily Acts of Worship in school. Children regularly attend church to celebrate festivals and other important events for the school.

Reggio-Emilia at St James' Nursery and School

In September 2017 the school implemented the Reggio Emilia approach in the nursery and reception classes. Children learn in a natural environment, with no plastic toys and equipment. The children learn skills and develop self-confidence and independence as learners through focused provocations. Children all have lunch together, serving each other and eating at a table with cutlery. After lunch the children have rest time, reading a book or sleeping. The parents are valued educators and we ask that you capture any experiences at home in your child's home learning journal.

Parents' Evenings

These meetings are held termly and are an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with the class teacher. If you need to speak to a teacher before the parents evening please do ring the school for an appointment, or ask the teacher to ring you back.

School Reports

Your child will receive a report annually in the summer term. This will be a summary of your child's achievements during the year.

Home Learning

In nursery, reception and year 1 your child will have a home learning book. In other year groups children have home learning projects (see class page on the website). Children are also given spellings to learn, maths and English homework. Spellings and homework will be put on the website. Please hear your child read at home every evening.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Disabilities

Generally, if your child is defined as having SEND it normally means that they have a particular additional need. This need cannot be met without extra support or expert advice.

The school's Assistant Headteacher – Mr Wood has the SENCO award (MA) and he is responsible for inclusion and pastoral support for all the children in the school. If you feel your child needs extra help you should first approach your child's teacher who will liaise with Mr Wood.

Specialist help is available in St James' we have a Speech and Language Therapist who works one day a week in the school, we have an Associate Psychologists who work in the school full time. The school also has an Educational Psychologist who visits the school every two weeks. The school website SEND page shows the local offer for the school and Southwark.

Parent Support

Mrs Brenta is available in the school office to offer support and advice, please do ring her if you want a chat or want some help. Mrs Brenta runs parent courses throughout the year, do check the website for dates.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Breakfast club runs from 7.30 – to the start of the school day at both sites the cost is £2 per pupil. The breakfast and after school club at Alexis Street is run by a company called Fit For Sport (FFS), and children need to be registered on their website prior to your child starting KS2.

After school clubs run at both sites from the end of the school day until 5.45pm. The cost is £10 per night or £40 for a week at KS1. Prices vary at KS2 depending on hours required, see Fit for Sport for further details at KS2. An evening snack is included and your child will be able to engage in free play, art and craft, outdoor play and board games.

Please note due to Covid there is no breakfast and after school club on offer at the moment and no after school clubs.

School Clubs

These clubs change termly. Most clubs are free although there are charges for some clubs these are marked with an asterix *.

An example of some of the clubs on offer:

Multi sports, Badminton, Football, Drama, Athletics, Netball, Bible Zone

Violin*, Ukulele*, Keyboard*

Languages: French, Spanish and Italian

As above no clubs are on offer at the moment due to Covid 19.