

Dear Parents & Carers,

We've had a great week here at St. James' - more super learning is happening in every year group and class with lots to celebrate! We've continued to learn all about some inspirational 'Heroes of the Faith' in our Collective Worship this week including Peter, David and Lydia. Next week we will begin to think about Advent following Advent Sunday during the weekend. As always, a 'dates for your diaries' list for the rest of the term is attached to this email with lots of events coming up. Do note some of these important dates in advance.

Individual Photographs

On Wednesday all children had their individual photographs taken across both sites. Hopefully you've received a slip with a QR code which will enable you to view these online and purchase directly. If you mislay these, you can go straight to the 'VanCols' website and state the school and class to find your child's photo. Do contact Mrs Fox should you require any assistance with this.

Children in Need Fundraising

Many thanks to you all for your kind donations last Friday toward Children in Need – I'm happy to report we raised a total of £415.36 which will be sent to this amazing charity next week. The children had a great day and many wore really super 'Pudsey' inspired outfits which was great to see!

Royal Marsden Cancer Charity – Crazy Hair Day

Yesterday, all children attended assemblies which discussed the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity and all the work they do in preparation for our 'Crazy Hair' fundraising day next week – Friday 3rd December. Becoming one of our annual events, next Friday please encourage children to wear their hair as imaginatively as possible! This will also be a non-uniform day in exchange for a donation to the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity.

Parent Consultation Phone Calls

Class teachers will have phoned many of you already to discuss children's progress so far this year/term. As usual, if you have a preferred day/time for these phone calls please do let us know via e-mail and we'll pass this on to the class teacher. We have another week for these phone calls to happen so don't worry if you haven't received a call yet. If you get a phone call from an unknown phone number it may be your child's class teacher calling on one of our school mobile phones so do please answer if we try to get through. Many thanks!

Sports Team Successes

Some of our more senior children have had some amazing experiences and successes with a range of sports this term which we're so proud of! Some of these include:

- Year 5 children winning a Futsal (indoor football) tournament which was held at COLA;
- Year 6 children winning an Athletics tournament, also held at COLA this week;
- Year 3 Girls' football training in school each week;
- Our amazing Year 5/6 school football team winning this season's football league which was held at Bacon's College. They will now be able to compete at Crystal Palace training ground with other schools for the chance to be crowned Southwark Champions!

Many thanks to Mr. Brenta for organising these great events and a huge 'well done' to all children involved! Watch this space for more sports and football opportunities in the Spring term.

Punctuality

Please, please try to be at school on time – start times are 08:55 at Alexis St and 09:15 at OJR. We're having increasing numbers of children arriving up to 30 minutes late in many instances on a regular basis and children are missing out on lots of learning because of this. If you're struggling on a morning, please do let us know in case there's anything we can support with. Thanks for your co-operation.

Hedge Planting on the Rouel Road Estate

As mentioned previously, you are invited to help with the hedge planting behind Alexis St with your children. The organisers have however had to change the days for this, please see a message we've received from them and note the new days and times: *'We heard over the weekend that as a result of the mild Autumn weather, the fruit trees won't arrive until 3rd December. As such, we've delayed the fruit tree planting to **4th and 5th December** and the hedge whip planting to **11th and 12th December**. I am really sorry for the inconvenience but would you be able to advise the parents and pupils at the school. I've updated the Eventbrite and sent an alert to everyone who has signed up already.'*

Here's the updated link should you like to sign up on either of these weekends:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hedgerow-planting-rouel-road-estate-tickets-208868540427>

**Wishing you, the children and our whole school community a super weekend.
God bless,
from the St. James' team.**