

Dear Parents & Carers,

We've had a lovely, sunny week here at St. James'. Year 2 have been on a trip to Southwark Park and our Year 5s continue to go for their weekly swimming lessons. Mr. Brenta has managed to secure Year 6 swimming lessons later on in the year too as previously mentioned so we'll let you know when dates are available for these. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have joined us at OJR today for our Easter hat making and parade! Our Collective Worship theme for this week has seen us learn about Jesus at Easter time and 'The Way to the Cross' where we've learnt about Palm Sunday, a Mother's Request and when Jesus Cleared the Temple. Next week we'll continue with this theme, culminating in an end of term Easter Service on Friday at 09:30 which parents and carers are welcome to attend.

The calendar dates are attached again as a reminder of events for the rest of the year. Term dates (as previously mentioned) have been revised for Summer half term and are attached too.

Parent Consultation Phone Calls/Open Evening

We hope everyone has managed to have a catch up with our class teachers over the previous couple of weeks. We're planning on welcoming everyone to an open evening during the Summer term where you'll be able to come into children's learning environments and children can show you some of the wonderful work they produce – we'll let you know when we have a date for this with plenty of notice.

Years 1 & 2 Easter Production

We're really excited to welcome Year 1 & 2 parents and carers to our Key Stage One production which will be performed next week - on Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st March at 14:00 on both days. There is no need to book tickets, or tell us which day you are attending, we have space for 150+ seats which should be more than enough for the two performances. We always remind you to be considerate of others and ensure we provide some disabled access should you need this. Do remember these dates and be punctual on these days and only come to one of the performances to allow room for everyone to see the shows.

TfL STARS Scheme

We had a visit on Wednesday afternoon from Gary Douglas, Southwark's Sustainable Travel Officer. He was so very impressed with the number of children who cycle, scoot and walk to school. He met with Mrs Brenta at Alexis Street as he also wanted to see how the barriers were working. Once again, he praised us for the initiative as of course it does involve a member of staff standing at the barrier to allow access to residents and deliveries (in all weathers!). He saw all the children leaving the Alexis Street playground and spoke to a few of them who said they felt much safer now as there is so little traffic. We are 'Going for Gold' again this year and need to keep up the good work! Thank you to all our parents and carers who are able to travel to school without using their cars. We do know that there are some parents who of course have to drive, and we ask that you drive slowly and park sensibly, so not blocking our neighbours. Gary was even more impressed at Old Jamaica Road; he said he has never seen so many scooters!

Easter of Food and Fun Programme – Easter Holiday Programme

Should you be looking for activities and things to do during the Easter Holidays, do think about this scheme which has been run by Southwark Council for a few years now. It promises free fun activities including cooking, dancing and sports. This will be held from Monday 4th April – Thursday 7th April, 10am-12noon or 1:30pm-3:30pm daily at the Leyton Square Children's Centre SE15 6TP. Families who are interested in joining the programme should fill in the attached form and sent it back to Andrea Ingrassia:

aingrassia@ivydale.southwark.sch.uk. You can also call 0203 848 5780 for further details.

Easter Holiday Family Activities – London Wildlife Trust

Please see the attached flier for information on family activities at the London Wildlife trust in Dulwich on 4th & 5th April and 11th & 12th April. Details of contacts and booking can be found on the flier.

Wishing you and your families a lovely weekend,

**God bless,
from the St. James' team.**