

Dear Parents & Carers,

Our first week back for this final half term of the academic year has been a busy one, albeit shorter than usual! We hope you all had super half term breaks and a great time celebrating the Platinum Jubilee last weekend. Children have come back eager to learn and have continued to produce some wonderful work – we've been focusing our attentions on Art and creating portraits of the Queen to mark her Platinum Jubilee. Classes have started new topics and class books and some super learning is happening in every year group! Year 2 have continued with their Ukulele lessons; Year 6 with their swimming lessons; some Year 4 children attended (and won!) a local cricket tournament on Wednesday (see Mr. Brenta's write-up below); Year 1 went on a wonderful trip to the London Aquarium on Tuesday; Year 6 had a great Circus Skills Day on Wednesday and Reception, Years 1 & 2 are all to be treated to a performance of 'Hansel & Gretel' at Old Jamaica Road this afternoon.

Our Collective Worship theme for this week has been based around Pentecost and The Holy Spirit. Next week, we'll think about Jesus's 'I AM' statements and consider all the different ways He is important to us in our lives today. You'll find the 'dates for your diaries' letter attached as usual as a reminder of events for the rest of the year. Do have a quick look at this as always and make a note of anything that affects you/your child/ren's year group.

### **Platinum Jubilee Service**

Children from Years 2-6 engaged with a lovely service devoted to Her Majesty the Queen's 70 years of service on Tuesday – this was postponed from before half term and we're so glad it could be re-organised for this week.

### **Class Photos**

All children had their photos taken in classes on Tuesday – you should have been provided with a barcode from which you'll be able to see these and purchase online. When you do, they should be delivered to us at school (unless you choose otherwise) and the photos will come home with the children.

### **ESOL Classes – Ivydale Children's Centre**

Please find attached a flier advertising ESOL courses (English as an Additional or Other Language) should any of our parents, carers or school community be interested in this.

### **Year 4 Cricket Team Success**

A message from Mr. Brenta: *“The future of England Cricket is in safe hands as this Wednesday the Year 4 cricket team got our summer term off to a very successful start. The Bermondsey Platform Cricket Festival saw six teams from across Bermondsey go head to head to decide who would be crowned champions and go onto represent the district in the all London finals later in the year. Our team won all five of their group games to finish top of the group and then faced off against second place in the final. Mr Brenta had to get out his umbrella because it was literally raining sixes from our batters and that along with some superb bowling and fielding meant St James’ ran out convincing winners to take the gold medals. The team were a credit to school with their sportsmanship and teamwork and a special shout out must go to Levi and Isaiah K who were named players of the tournament for St James!”*

### **‘History Heroes’ Workshops**

Next week, as you’ll see from the attached ‘dates’ letter, children from Year Reception – 5 will all take part in History workshops delivered by historians with hands-on activities and artefacts. Do ask them all about these workshops next week!

### **Alexis St Playground Gates**

Another reminder that Years 3, 4 and Belgium class – parents and carer please collect from the gate closest to the school building. Years 5 and 6 – please wait outside the other gate, nearer the garden. The works in and around the building are an on-going process however the environment is improving all the time for the children.

### **Next Week/Upcoming Events**

Ukulele and swimming lessons will continue next week, some Year 6s will be representing the school in a local Rounders competition on Wednesday and we’ll have our History workshops as outlined above. Do remember to save the dates from the attachment letter – particularly for our Open Evening where children will take you to their classrooms to show you their learning in books. Next week is also our first Joss Bay trip with Nursery Rome heading to the seaside on Wednesday!

**We’re wishing you, your families and our whole school community a wonderful weekend!**

**God bless,**

**from the St. James’ team.**