

St James' CE Aided Infant School News



7th September 2018

A message from the Executive Headteacher

A very warm welcome to you all at the start of this new academic year.

We are delighted to welcome all new children to the schools and some new members of staff. In the Infant School we welcome Mrs Greenaway and in the Juniors, Mrs Peet who will both be supporting Mrs Hadley and Mrs King in Forest School. We also welcome Simon Wyke who joins us teaching in Year 5 (5Y), as well as two new Teaching Assistants, Lisa Tobin in 3P and Jen Blanchette in 5W. Adele Smith has returned from her travels and we are very pleased to have her back on the Infant staff team teaching in Cherry Class.

You may have seen our new Head of School, Debbie Johnson, on the school gate each morning. This year she will be helping me to lead both of our schools and we are all very excited to be working with her.

The year ahead promises to be an exciting one and we are pleased to tell you that next week we will be starting Woodpecker Forest School in our woods in both the Infant and Junior Schools.

This term our topic in the Infant School is Superheroes and the children will be learning about people who help us and how we can all be better learners by using our learning powers. In the Junior School the topic is Save the World and the children will be learning about environmental issues and how we can make the world a better place.

If you have any worries or concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. If this has not resolved the issue, or if you still have worries, you can speak to Sarah Greenfield if your child is in Reception or Christina Dennett if your child is in Years 1 or 2. Penny Wardell remains our Special Educational Needs Coordinator and will be happy to discuss any worries you may have.

Other Information

New Entrants

Reception children will be starting school part-time from Monday. The morning session will be 9.00-11.45 and the afternoon session is 12.30-3.15. The PTA are providing Tea and Coffee following the drop off at each session on Monday for New Entrant parents.

Midday Supervisors

We currently have vacancies for Midday Supervisor roles in school. If this is something that would interest you, please contact Mrs Pierce in the office for more information.

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Belongings

Please ensure all uniform and belongings are clearly named. Children are allowed to wear summer uniform until October half term. The uniform requirements are on the school website. Please see Mrs Pierce if you would like to purchase any uniform.

Car Park

Please note that the school gates are closed between 8.35 and 9.05 and then again between 2.50 and 3.35. Parking on site is reserved for staff and visitors. Please do not use the car park to drop off or collect your child. Children should be with an adult at all times when walking through the car park. Bikes and scooters can be parked in the bike stop on the Infant pathway – please do not allow your child to ride them on the school site.

Voluntary Fund

The school has a voluntary fund which is used to pay for activities for the children such as theatre group visits, curriculum enhancements and 'extras' for the children. We ask for a voluntary contribution of £15 a year or £5 a term per child to enable us to continue providing these exciting opportunities for the children. Please make cheques payable to St James' Infant School and send in to your child's class in a named envelope.

Morning Drop off

The children have all settled well into the morning routines. Please ensure Year 1 children wait at the bottom of the steps and then walk in independently. Any messages should be passed on to the TA on duty. Teachers are available to speak to at the end of the day if needed, and contact books will be checked regularly for any messages. Please keep your child with you at all time when dropping off and collecting at the end of the day. They should not be climbing on the walls/fences or the bank between the cars and the school building.

Diary Dates

September

- 10th - YR start Part Time
Tea and Coffee for New Entrant parents (9.00 in Hall, 12.30 in Library)
- 18th – YR Meet the Teacher (11.30 & 3.00)
- 19th – Maple Class Taster lunch
- 20th – Cherry Class Taster lunch
- 21st – Oak Class Taster lunch
- 24th – YR full time

October

- 8th - Harvest Festival in church (children only)
- 19th - End of Term
- 29th - INSET DAY
- 30th - Children back to school

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November

- 14th - Consultation Evening
- 15th - Consultation Evening
- 16th - Superhero Training Day
- 29th - RE Day

December

- 11th - 9.30am Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsal (Pre-School children welcome)
- 12th - 9.30am Christmas Performance (Creche available)
- 13th - 9.30am & 1.45pm Christmas Performance (Creche available)
- 14th - Flu Immunisations
- 17th - 2pm Christmas Church Service
- 19th - **End of Term**

January

- 3rd & 4th **INSET DAYS**