

# St James Newsletter

December 2020

**Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,**

What a term it has been! Thank you for all your help and support in what has been a very challenging year. It has been wonderful to see so many children learning and enjoying coming to school.

## School values

We have worked hard on our school values over the last few months which are: community, peace, respect, forgiveness, Courage and Trust. We have been focusing in on Peace in the lead up to Half term.

Next half term we will be looking at how we can show respect.

Autumn 1	Community
Autumn 2	Peace
Spring 1	Respect
Spring 2	Forgiveness
Summer 1	Courage
Summer 2	Trust

## Curriculum:

It has been a wonderful term with so many amazing learning experiences on offer for our children. My highlights were:

1. Year 1 and 2 making music with Dave Morrison whilst finding out about their local area
2. The amazing design technology work we have done with Mr Hepp DT- moon buggies, Greek mazes and Christmas trees.
3. Our drama sessions with Alex Fellows were just wonderful.
4. Seeing so many of our children outside having wonderful experiences!

## Physical Activity and Forest Schools

It has been a wonderful term for PE and Physical Activity.

1. Multiple Forest School Groups have been working hard developing their skills
2. Cook and Move has gone from strength to strength as we combine healthy eating and physical activity.
3. Our PE provision has been amazing to watch this year:

<https://academystjames.com/pe-skill-development-videos/>

As a result of our work with JUMP we have bought bikes, scooters and lots more playground equipment to support children to develop skills at playtime.

Our provision has developed so much that we have won **2 awards:**

1. We have been given PE status of excellence by Yorkshire Sports Trust
2. We won the West Yorkshire Sports Premium Award for Physical Activity

**Mr O'Brien also has a weekly PE award he gives out.**

## Reading

**To develop our reading at St James we are:**

1. Reading at the end of the day to make sure pupils listen to stories
2. We have bought some lovely curriculum books to help and support everyone.

## Music

Our music grows from strength to strength and after and we have recorded a Christmas song with the help of Helen Varley. Our Furthering talent programme is well underway and 3 of our pupils are excelling under the careful guidance of Helen Varley from Bradford music service.

Our Y3 pupils are enjoying their music lessons and the Academy Blast has started playing again!

## **Hot Chocolate Monday!**

Our new initiative for 2020 was called Hot chocolate Monday. Each week each teacher has chosen 2 children who have excelled that week. They all come to my office and have hot chocolate! It has been really successful so far. It also allows weekly good work and behaviour to be celebrated by the whole school.



## Christmas and Community Events:

This term we have had weekly church meetings with Harry who has done all our worships on a Thursday. These have been very successful. We have had a great week leading up to Christmas with:

1. **Santa and his reindeer visiting**
2. **Christmas Parties**
3. **A visit to Thornton Church**



## Reminders

- **Black school shoes must be worn in school**
- **All pupils in KS2 are expected to wear a tie.**
- All pupils should be wearing a blue t-shirt with black shorts and pumps.

## The School Gate:

Please remember that if you are picking your child up from school or dropping them off at breakfast club you must **park outside the school gates** for safeguarding reasons. The gates are open at staggered intervals in line with our Covid rules.

## Pick up and Drop off and Coronavirus updates.

We will continue to have staggered starts after the holidays and ask you to continue to:

1. Wear masks on site
2. **Social distance**- this is the most important thing for you to do.
3. Restrictions- please see the guidance **During the Christmas period different rules on social contact will apply.** Here is the guidance on forming **Christmas Bubbles over the holiday period**-<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family>
4. **West Yorkshire outside of the Christmas period is still in Tier 3 for now. Here is a reminder about the rules for this:**  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-3-very-high-alert>

## Attendance

Our attendance for the whole year is now around 94.7%. Our aim is to get that back up to 96% by the end of the year. We need your help to make your children are in school every day.

School starts at 8.30am and we have 3 starting times and your children must be in school by that time.

### Staffing:

Mrs Cooper will be staying with us for another term to cover Squirrels until Mrs Harrison comes back. Miss Stone and Miss Bibi have joined the team for a year helping in Year 1 and 2 and Year 4 respectively. We would like to thank Mrs Middleton who leaves us this Christmas- she has worked tirelessly over many years to support the school. We wish you the very best in your future endeavours.

### **Breakfast Club**

We are continuing to link up with '**Magic Breakfast**' and are still offering free bagels in a morning. It is £2 per day. This cost covers the childcare and food as the food is subsidised.

### From the office

In 2021 we will be having a push on parent pay and if you need any help please let me know.

### **Keep In Touch!**

Please keep looking at our website for updates and information or follow us on @church\_prim  
<http://academystjames.com/>

### **Dates of Diary-Spring**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	School starts back
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Hook Day for all classes
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Swimming starts for Year 4
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Y6 Grand Finale- Dragons Den Event
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Grand Finale- end of half term celebration
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School finishes for Half term

### Golden Learners for the half term

<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>
<b>N- AM</b>	<b>Jacob Ross</b>
<b>N- PM</b>	<b>Freddie Fielding</b>

<b>Reception</b>	<b>Aviah Canning-Easy</b>
<b>Swans</b>	<b>Arianna Canning-Easy</b>
<b>Starlings</b>	<b>Layla Webster</b>
<b>Ducklings</b>	<b>Romana Hussain</b>
<b>Whales</b>	<b>Kalilah Smith-Taylor</b>
<b>Badgers</b>	<b><u>Riley Hargreaves</u></b>
<b>Squirrels</b>	<b><u>Agniezcka Beenish-Chin</u></b>
<b>Seals</b>	<b><u>Ali Bukhari</u></b>
<b>Otters</b>	<b><u>David Karchnak</u></b>
<b>Monkeys</b>	<b><u>Connor Fielding</u></b>
<b>Lions</b>	<b><u>Kelsie Mongan</u></b>

**I would like to wish you and your family a very peaceful and happy Christmas- 2020 has been a year like no other in my lifetime but it has also shown some amazing acts of kindness and let us take this into 2021. Thank you for all your support and help this term- your children are fantastic!**

Best wishes  
Mr C Tolson  
(Headteacher)

**Aspire to do our best  
Achieve our dreams  
Believe in ourselves**



@Y1/2church\_prim  
@y2church\_prim

A future carpenter/ builder/ engineer in the making?  
We have really enjoyed our time with @hepdt learning how to drill, hammer and saw! The final product will be revealed later this afternoon...



12:31 pm - 2 Dec 2020 - Twitter for iPhone

1 Retweet 1 Quote Tweet 15 Likes

👍 3 ❤️ 17 📎

Church Primary PESSPA  
@PEchurchprim1

More Christmas craft in #ForestSchools this week! We all enjoyed learning outside the classroom. Check out our weaving skills! Amazing creativity and focus 🎨📖  
🌲🎄 #CreatingActiveSchools #Naturefriendlyschool #Wellbeing #childcentered @church\_prim @NatureFSchools @JoinUsMovePlay



Church Primary PESSPA @PEchurchprim1 · 15 Dec  
🎄🎄🎄👍👍👍 WOW our children are very lucky! This morning we have been visited by the 'big mans' very own Reindeers 🦌🦌🦌🦌 An incredible experience for our pupils 😊 @church\_prim @WeAreBDAT @JoinUsMovePlay



💬 1 🔄 3 ❤️ 14 📎

@year5church\_prim @year5church · 9 Dec

Otters 🦉 did a fantastic job this afternoon making their moon buggies with @hepdt 🌙 so many links with maths having to measure things precisely @Donnaxj600s 📏 before sawing 🪚, drilling and constructing! Great job everyone! Finished products to come! @church\_prim 🙌 #DT



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