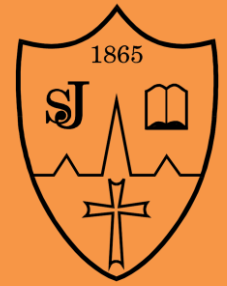


# THE SCOOP @stjamescofe

Working together to achieve and enjoy



Issue 1 – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

## THE NEXT FORTNIGHT AT A GLANCE....

**Focus on: Co-operation – We share and co-operate with parents in learning and play**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Y2 Parent info session 9am** (this is a time to meet teachers and find out about the year, curriculum and routines)

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> – Tatty Taster Session in the hall**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Y4 Parent info session 9am + Dean Close Hockey + Ethos Committee Meeting + Cl 13 swimming**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Y3 Parent info session 9am + Y6 Parent info session**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Whole school assembly introducing our 'Musicate' project + Y4 Tri Golf Festival**

**Wednesday and Thursday Cheltenham Town football coaching for Y6 weekly**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – Class 8 swimming**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> – Y5 Parent info session 9am**

## Welcome Back! Welcome Back!



Welcome back everyone; we do hope that you have all had an enjoyable break. We are very much looking forward to this term at school; the teachers have planned exciting learning opportunities to engage your children with a focus on ensuring as always that our curriculum is broad and balanced.

Our club list has been sent out today and clubs will start on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September, children should all attend the first week unless notified and if it is then oversubscribed we will let you know of any changes. Dates are being finalised for the year and I hope to share these with you next week. Remember that all dates agreed so far will be displayed on our calendar <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=stjamescofeprimary%40gmail.com&ctz=Europe%2FLondon>

(a Google calendar that you can download) or on our website. A new sporting and clubs calendar can also be found at <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=47atf6sdgih4li3i3gv26lkubs%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Europe%2FLondon>

May I also take this opportunity to welcome our new teacher **Miss Jess Skelton**; she is teaching in year 3 and we are very excited by her appointment and the ideas she brings. **Mrs Tracy Clarke** is also working in our office and happy to help with any of your concerns. **Mrs Alistair Beevers** continues to work, now permanently as our caretaker but is not around during school hours. We welcome them all to our team!

Staff at St. James' are very happy to talk to you about your concerns, needs or just to introduce yourselves; getting to know the whole family is important to us. Staff are usually busy before school but more than happy to chat after school, if you need more privacy then please make an appointment via the school office. Alternatively you can talk with staff at the information meetings listed.

Finally, welcome to all our new children and parents; St. James' is a happy friendly school which truly is at the heart of the community – we hope you and your children are very happy here!

Lisa Harford

## Start of term arrangements... just a few things to remind you about!

### Attendance

All children should enter school using the gate and make their way round onto the playground. **The gate opens at 8:25 and will be locked at 8:40am** (to allow parents time to leave after the 8:35 drop off time). If children arrive after the gates have been locked they should come to the school office or parents of younger children should bring their child to the office and a member of staff will then ensure that the children are taken to their classrooms.

**Registration takes place between 8.35 am and 8.50 am for the morning session.**

- Pupils arriving **during** registration, i.e. after 8.35am will be marked late.
- Pupils arriving **after** the registration period is over will be marked with an unauthorised absence mark unless there is an acceptable reason for lateness when they will be marked with an authorised absence mark.

### Year 1 starting the day

We hope that your child is feeling happy coming in to the big playground at the start of the day. We are hoping as the week goes by they will be happy being dropped off at the picket fence. Of course, if your child is struggling then please bring them to their teacher for a handover. In order for the rest of the school (320 pupils) to be able to get in to school can we ask you to keep the access path clear and once you have dropped your child off return to the parents' area to wave goodbye. The gates also need to be closed promptly to ensure the children safety. If you are at all concerned please come and speak with us. Year 1 have settled back in to school – we are super proud of them!

### Communication with Teachers and the school

If you need to pass on a message to your child's teacher in the mornings please write a note and take it to the office and they will ensure that the teacher receives the message, i.e. regarding a dental, medical appointment etc.

### School uniform

The children have come back to school looking very smart in their uniforms. May I please remind parents of the importance of ensuring that all items of uniform are named; it is impossible to return unnamed uniform to its' rightful owner and we really do not have enough space to store a lot of lost property. Any unclaimed, un-named lost property will be disposed of at the end of each half term. If your child has lost something, parents are welcome to look in the lost property box after school. This is located in the entrance hall. **Please remember we do not allow any type of earring to be worn, those that have newly pierced ears may cover them with tape until they can take them out. A no earring policy ensures that all children at all times. Please come and speak with me if you have any concerns.**

### Nut Allergies

We currently have several children in school who have very severe nut allergies. May I please remind parents that they are asked not to provide peanut butter sandwiches, bags of peanuts (or mixed nuts) or other products which are obviously peanut based. I am aware that many food products display warnings such as 'may contain traces of nuts'. Parents do not need to eliminate all of these from lunchboxes but be sensible. Please also remind your child that snacks should be: fruit, fruit based products e.g. fruit bars, bread sticks, cereal bars or similar. Freedom Friday is the only day that we allow other snacks. Any child bringing in crisps etc. on any other day will be asked to put them away. We hope to encourage healthy eating but also the ability for children to make choices and understand how balancing a diet works.

### PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS:

**These are a chance to hear a short presentation about the year. It typically includes timetables, events and curriculum but is also a chance to ask questions. The dates are listed above in the 'fortnight at a glance'. If you are unable to attend, don't worry, the information will be handed out. All information sessions are at 9:00 am in the hall with the exception of Year 6 which will be in the classroom.**

Please look out for our Reception Curriculum evening and phonics evening (a maths evening will follow after Christmas) and for Y1 and Y2 there is a planned phonic evening again this term. Year 3,4,5 will be invited to a maths event later this term and Y2 and Y6 look out for our SATS information sessions for parents.

### Parent Questionnaire

After the 'failures' of the parent questionnaire we are planning to send a paper copy out in the next few weeks to take on board your thoughts and feelings. The online questionnaire didn't suit our needs both as parents and staff – we apologise and hope the old style form is more helpful to all!



## **Orchestra**

Orchestra will now take place on Wednesday after school from 3-4 in the hall. Any instrument welcome from grade 1 upwards, (If you're not sure if this is your child please ask their peripatetic teacher who should be able to give you an idea if they will be orchestra ready.) Alex and I have lots of exciting plans for orchestra so come along and get involved. The time shift means there will be much more opportunity for fun and games alongside rehearsals. If you are a parent who would like to be involved please see Mrs Hughes.

## **Peripatetic music lessons**

Peripatetic music lessons are available in school for the following instruments; woodwind, brass, piano, drums, guitar and ukulele. Please collect a letter from the office if you are interested in your child beginning to learn.



**We are delighted to tell you that St James' has been awarded the SAPERE Bronze School Award in recognition of their commitment to the Philosophy for Children (P4C) pedagogy.**

The Bronze award is for schools that have made a commitment to P4C as a whole school pedagogy and started on the SAPERE training pathway.

## **About Philosophy for Children**

Philosophy for Children (P4C) is a powerful approach to learning and teaching that boosts children's reasoning, social skills, and overall attainment. Children are taught how to create their own philosophical questions. They then choose one question that is the focus of a philosophical enquiry, or dialogue. The teacher, as facilitator, supports the children in their thinking, reasoning and questioning, as well as the way the children speak and listen to each other in the dialogue.

Research published by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) in 2015 showed that the more disadvantaged pupils, participating in weekly P4C sessions over one year, saw their reading skills improve by four months, their maths results by three months and their writing ability by two months. Feedback from teachers throughout the trial suggests that P4C had a beneficial impact on wider outcomes such as confidence, patience and self-esteem too. [Click here to see the full report.](#)

## **About the School Award Scheme**

SAPERRE's three awards - [Bronze Award](#) [Silver Award](#) and [Gold Award](#) - celebrate a school's progress in establishing high quality P4C. The award framework provides guidance on progression towards achieving outstanding and sustainable P4C practice for the pupils, the teachers and the school. Each application undergoes rigorous scrutiny and only those who meet the criteria will receive an Award.

## **About SAPERE**

Founded in 1992, SAPERE is the internationally recognised educational charity that promotes Philosophy for Children, known as P4C. SAPERE's mission is to train teachers in Philosophy for Children which encourages children to think critically, creatively, collaboratively and caringly. We help children, particularly those facing disadvantage, to become lifelong learners. Approximately 5,000 teachers a year are trained in P4C by SAPERE.

**Here is our P4C question of the week for you to have a go at discussing at home with your children:**

**Can kindness change the world?**

## ***FROM THE OFFICE...***

*Please remember to return your signed data sheets as soon as possible **even if you have not made any changes.** These form an important part of our information base and help when we need to contact you.*

*Please bring medicines to the school office and complete a permission slip if you need medicine administered.*

## **Congratulations to...**

### **Values Worship 7/9/18**

#### **Infants**

**Class 1** - Not yet in worship

**Class 2** - Not yet in worship

**Class 3** - All of Class 3

**Class 4** - All of Class 4

**Class 5** - Jacob Thomas and April

**Class 6** - Alfie Doe and Erin Berkova

#### **Juniors**

**Class 7** - All of Class 7

**Class 8** - All of Class 8

**Class 9** - Jack Harris and Tia Long

**Class 10** - All of Class 10

**Class 11** - Amy Cratchley and Karl Nicklin

**Class 12** - Seb Berko and Joseph Rahmanou

**Class 13** - All of Class 13

**Class 14** - All of Class 14

#### **Extra Certificates**

Summer Reading Challenge - Phoebe Stokes, Hannah Vincent, Emily Goddard, Jonathan Wang, Liberty Powel

Bronze Violin - Mia Kent

Grade 1 Violin - Amy Darwin

Grade 2 Violin - Grace Baynham-Powel

To all the Year 5 pupils who created a summer reading river - they are amazing, so watch this space for photos to come.

