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St. James' C.E. (Aided) Primary School Sandrock Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3PR

Newsletter – Friday 12th March 2021

Dear parents,

For such a momentous week, this is a surprisingly short newsletter. It has been wonderful seeing the children back at school and equally mind-blowing at seeing so many people in one place at one time each day.

There must have been a lot of anxious parents, children and staff on Sunday evening so it was lovely to see so many smiles on so many faces on Monday morning. The sheer joy of the children being at school with their teachers and friends is palapable.

Continuing with the good news, more and more people are now being vaccinated, including an inceasing number of the school's more elderly staff members. Being one of the youngsters in the team, I am still waiting for my turn to come up.

Football clubs

These are run by MSporti. If you have a younger child, please have them practise getting changed into their football kits at home, as otherwise the club becomes "Getting dressed for football club club". MSporti staff will help the children with laces and support them with getting ready, but really the children need to be able to change independently.

Parent Consultations

We will be having consultations via Teams at the end of this term. These will be a chance to discuss how your child has settled into school following lockdown, and areas where we will need to focus over the summer term. Most classes will have their meetings on 30th and 31st March, although some will vary by a day or two either side of that.

A separate message with instructions for booking a slot will be sent closer to the dates.

Dropping off

I have included the timetable again below which gives timings for each year group to help to reduce crowding. If you have more than one child, they can be dropped off at either the time for the earliest child or the latest. If you are able to keep to the drop off times, it will help reduce crowding. Once you have dropped off your child(ren), please leave straight away via the one-way system.

Remember that although we have given suggested start times, you can drop off your children at any time between 8:40 and 9am. The car park becomes significantly less crowded closer to 9am, so this would be a good time to bring the children in. Please stick to one parent per family.

Pick up

Please do not arrive early to collect your child as this will lead to crowding in the car park. The school gates will open 5 minutes before the first class finishes each day.





Pick up timings are not flexible and you need to collect your child at the time listed below. If you have more than one child you can pick up all of your children at the same time as the latest child's finishing time.

Please pick them up from the appropriate exit at the time listed below - we have some children having to wait to be collected when they do not have siblings in other classes.

Years	Start time	Home time	Entrance/Exit
Reception	8:50 until 9:00	3:00	Early Years
Year 1	8:50 until 9:00	3:10	Infant entrance
Year 2	8:50 until 9:00	3:00	Year 2 gate
Year 3	8:45 until 9:00	3:10	Year 3 side gate
Year 4	8:45 until 9:00	3:10	KS2 playground
Year 5	8:40 until 9:00	3:20	KS2 playground
Year 6	8:40 until 9:00	3:20	Main entrance

Red Nose Day – Friday 19th March 2021

You should have received a separate letter about this at the start of the week. 'Thank you' to everyone who has already dontated through our JustGiving page:

<u>www.justgiving.com/fundraising/StJamesPrimaryTW</u> . There's absolutely no obligation to donate but we do hope that everyone will join in by dressing up in something red and telling us your best joke next Friday.

Key Stage 2 Accelerated Reader Challenges

There has been lots of really good reading going on so far this term both at home and at school, so a big well done to all the children. Special congratulations to the winners of this week's Accelerated Reader Challenges.

Highest Individual Word Count	Highest Number of Quizzes Achieved	Highest Class Word Count
Lily in Chaffinch Class	Divit in Fox Class	Chaffinch Class
791,590 words	36 quizzes	3,477,258 words

Please keep encouraging your children to read and complete their AR quizzes as every word really does count!

Ms Simpson

Forest school news

Forest School have been very busy making what currently resembles a wattle sheep pen on the Junior field, in preparation for Year 3 and 4's Stone Age activities next week. Below is a "before" shot and we'll let you see how well the children daub the wattle with an "after" picture as soon as they're finished with it. In months to come, we might even get round to making a roof if we have other willing workers! Mrs Hadley







Uniform donations

The PTA uniform shop is open online with orders received by Wednesday ready for collection on Friday https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stjamespta/448389 . Hopefully sales will be back in the school car park soon.

If you have any donations, especially junior jumpers, please drop them in the marked box in the school office foyer. Please don't donate the old style of junior PE kit or tights/socks. Thank you for your support.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you all, as always.

John Tutt March 2021



