



Newsletter – 11th November 2022

Dear parents,

2022 is winding down, signaled by the recent flurry of Christmas adverts online and on TV. Did 2022 actually go more quickly than 2021, or is my perception of time changing as I get older? I have barely got used to writing the date 2022 on letters and now it is almost over.

Hasn't the weather been crazy? The rain was truly torrential at the start of the week and we had some minor flooding on site; the wind has also been very blustery all week. Then this morning I cycled to work in a short-sleeved summer jersey – mid November at 7am! If it hadn't been for the grey skies, wind, roads covered in wet leaf slop and the odd bit of fly-tipping (there is an entire fly-tipped bedroom suite plus mattress on a pretty lane between Eridge and High Rocks) - I could have been cycling in Majorca.

Parking...not again...really? Is he still going on about it?

Yes he is, albeit in a world-weary and slightly jaded way. You are not allowed to even stop outside the school or on the zigzags to drop off. The zig zags look like this:



As a reminder the highway code says:

Rule 191

You **MUST NOT** park on a crossing or in the area covered by the zig-zag lines.

Rule 243

DO NOT stop or park:

- near a school entrance

Thanks again to all those people who park legally, responsibly and with due regard for our lovely neighbours.

Anti-bullying week

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week; the theme this year is "Reach Out". At St James' we are getting the week started on Monday by asking children to wear odd socks to school. Odd Socks Day is a chance for schools to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a positive way, to celebrate everything that makes us unique as individuals and diverse as a community. There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks, it could not be simpler! Socks can be worn over tights if preferred. Please send the children in full school uniform other than the socks. We will be exploring the theme throughout the week.



School photographs

Braiswick will be coming to school on Monday to take individual photographs (whole class photos are taken in the summer term). Please comb that hair (or, in my case, polish that crown) and ensure the children are looking their very smartest.

The children's odd socks won't feature in the photos as they are of the upper body only, but feel free to take a photo of your children's lower half separately and then glue/tape the two parts together if you prefer a full-length portrait.

Nourish school lunches

Thank you to those parents who were able to make the school meal taster session yesterday. In response to your feedback in the survey last term, Nourish have agreed to make some changes going forwards, and some just started this week. There is now a pasta option every day, so children have four options to choose from. They have also introduced measured scoops for all year groups (they are larger for older children) to ensure children have consistent and appropriate portion sizes.

I am looking forward to seeing how this goes and, as always, appreciate feedback from the children or from you as parents.

Building work

That awful eyesore in the middle of the school (not me - the temporary mobile classroom block) is finally being removed and replaced with a permanent building. Work is due to start on the 28th November. I am meeting the contractors on Monday and will let you know if/how it may affect any school routines.

Year 6

We had such a fun evacuee day last Friday. Lots of us dressed and up and really got into role. We built Anderson shelters at Forest School; we learnt basic first aid that people may have needed during World War 2 and we used the motto of, 'Make do and Mend' to sew up some old socks and make them into sock puppets.



Mrs Holland

Key Stage 2 Accelerated Reader Challenges 11/11/22

Many congratulations to all the children for their incredible achievements with reading last term. Here are **last term's winners**:



Highest Individual Word Count	Highest Class Word Count	Highest Individual Number of Quizzes Passed	Highest Class Quizzes Passed
Faith in Owl Class 1,651,947 words	Owl Class 7,427,490 words	Divit in Chaffinch Class 49 quizzes	Stoat Class 352 quizzes

A special mention for **Tessa** in Kestrel Class, **Divit** in Chaffinch Class and **Newton** in Swift Class as they also read over one million words last term. Well done!

As we start a new term, each Key Stage 2 child and class has the opportunity to take part in the reading challenges again and try to improve on their successes from last term. Here are **this week's winners**:

Highest Individual Word Count	Highest Class Word Count	Highest Individual Number of Quizzes Passed	Highest Class Quizzes Passed
Sasha in Badger Class 658,030 words	Kestrel Class 3,092,682 words	Alex V in Deer Class and Minghao in Stoat Class 10 quizzes	Deer Class 90 quizzes

Happy reading and quizzing everyone!

Ms Simpson

Dates for the diary

Here are some dates for the remainder of the term ahead. Please look at the calendar on the school website for more dates and information.

- 14th November: Odd socks day for Anti-Bullying week
School photographer - individual photographs
- 23rd November: Sharing learning (8:45am to 9:15am)
- 28th November: Sharing learning - (2:45am to 3:15pm)
- 30th November: International story sharing - please contact Mrs Featherstone if you can help
- 2nd December: Parent Rep meeting 9am
- 5th December: Christmas performances this week – please see the school website calendar
Pre-loved uniform sale
- 13th December: Year 3 led Christmas service
- 15th December: School Christmas lunch (change of date) – please complete the form sent this week
- 16th December: Last day of term
- 4th January: First day back for children

Kindest regards,

John Tutt

