



Newsletter – 4th March 2022

Dear parents,

Ukraine

You cannot have missed the awful events that are happening in Ukraine. Many of the children have been talking about it and some of them are worried. In school we have been talking to the children in their classes. We are stressing how, in war, there are victims on all sides and how we need to think of those suffering and in need and do what we can to help them.

Most of all we empathise with those caught up in the conflict and the refugees. In school we are sharing the message that we cannot blame groups of people for what is going on. Our diversity is a strength of our school community and we are proud to have children of both Ukranian and Russian heritage among us. We must remember to stand against hatred rather than particular groups of people.

I know I have your full support and do hope that you will reinforce this message with your children.

Please also try to protect the children from some of the more frightening messages in the news (I know with all of the coverage that this is extremely difficult, especially for the older children); more than one child has been talking in school about possible nuclear war which is a thought none of us need in our heads, let alone our children.

I also know that many of us wish to give support to those suffering from the war and those who have been displaced as refugees. I have copied in two links below with information on how to give:

[Home | Disasters Emergency Committee \(dec.org.uk\)](http://dec.org.uk)

[Ukraine crisis: donate now to protect children - Unicef UK](#)

World Book Day

It was lovely to see the children in their costumes on Thursday. There was an even greater buzz than usual around the school as the children got involved in their various activities. It was particularly lovely to see some of the junior classes reading with some of the infant classes – both the older and younger children clearly loved it.





COMIC RELIEF RED NOSES

Thank you to everyone who bought a red nose in aid of Comic Relief. They sold like hot cakes and we could have sold the same amount all over again. We raised £351.25. Thank you for your support.

Netball Tournament News



Having not been able to compete in this tournament for the past two years, St James was keen to take part this year. The tournament was broken up into four sections and we played the teams in our section twice. The games were only six minutes long and although they were competitive St James always was able to control the matches because of their speed down the court and accuracy when shooting. They won their section easily with only one goal conceded. In the semi-final they played Broadwater Down. Again, accuracy and speed were the reasons why they won, again without conceding any goals. The final against Ide Hill was very competitive, however St James' dominated play and won which meant that we are the champions! Well done to the team!

Miss Gibson

EYFS and KS1 Marvellous Middle

Last week Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were visited by Mr Starman and his travelling Planetarium for our Marvellous Middle. We went inside the enormous dome and we saw the stars and planets and how they move in the night sky. We pretended we were astronauts about to journey to the moon. Did you know it takes four days to get there? Mr Starman showed us films of astronauts having fun on the moon and jumping really high. We also saw and heard Neil Armstrong take the first steps for man on the moon. We had an exciting morning and learnt lots about Space!





Forest School news

Exciting news. We have begun to take delivery of hundreds of young trees and shrubs! Most are from the Woodland Trust, but the older trees have been funded by the Lund Grant and have been supplied by Potash Farm, Coblands Garden Centre and TreesDirect.

Over the next month, lots of the children will help plant these in various locations within the school grounds with the hope that they can be enjoyed by our current school community and future generations.

One of the areas to be planted up is the stretch of grass just inside the main gate to the school in front of the Junior playground. Please do not let your children walk or climb on this area so that the baby plants get a chance to take root without being damaged and to avoid being hurt, as some plants will have prickles. Thank you!

Mrs Hadley

Medicines in school

Please do not give your children medication to self-administer while in school – I am sure you understand why it is not safe or appropriate for children to take medicines themselves. If you have prescription medication that needs administering during the school day, please come to the school office to complete a form.

If you have non- prescription medication for a child, you will need to come into school to administer that yourself. Thank you.

Key Stage 2 Accelerated Reader Challenges – 04.03.22

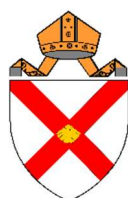
As well as enjoying all the costumes and fun reading activities of World Book Day in school, we were delighted to celebrate the winners of our Key Stage 2 Accelerated Reader challenges this week.

They were:

| Highest Individual Word Count | Highest Number of Quizzes Achieved | Highest Class Word Count |
|--|---|---|
| Harry in Kestrel Class 998,752 words | Isabelle in Deer Class 28 quizzes | Kestrel Class 2,503,149 words |

Congratulations to all children.

Ms Simpson



World Book Day book tokens

Your child has now received their £1 World Book Day book token. This can be swapped for one of the exclusive, new and completely FREE World Book Day books available from participating booksellers or used to get £1 off any full price book or audiobook instead. To find out more about the free books, please visit <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>. The tokens are valid until Sunday 27th March 2022.

We are also accepting the World Book Day book tokens at our school Book Fair next week. They can be used towards the payment of a book purchased there.

A message from the PTA

We are looking forward to the spring and summer events - lots of fun for the children and fundraising for the school. In the pipeline we have discos, Easter Egg Bingo for Key Stage 2, Easter Bunny Hunts, a sponsored event and the much missed Summer Fair. All lovely things for the children to enjoy, while we make a final push to fund the all weather path on the school field.

If you'd like to be involved in any of these events, you can contact us directly or let your class rep know. There will be dates and more details coming out via Parentmail and your class reps over the next few weeks so keep an eye out.

If you are a class rep, please make sure you have joined the class reps Facebook group, as it's the main way we share information with reps - there are too many different discussions at one time to make WhatsApp work. It's also a great place to check with other reps if your class has a question you're not sure about.

Please get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions or need the link to the class rep group. The best ways are through our Facebook page or by email - stjamespta@gmx.co.uk.

And don't forget to pop along to the preloved uniform sale on Monday (7 March) at drop off - there's lots of lovely items in need of a new home.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Key dates for this term

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 7 th – 9 th March | Book fair in KS2 hall |
| 18 th March | Red Nose Day |
| 1 st April | Last day of term 4 |
| 19 th April | First day of term 5 |

Thank you all, as always.

John Tutt
Headteacher

