



Newsletter 6 – Friday 22nd November 2020

Dear Parents,

Sponsored bounce – message from the PTA

The children took part in the sponsored bounce on Thursday and all did amazingly well. Between them the children bounced a whopping 71,994 times during the morning! We're well on our way to our target but there's still time to donate if you can. Just £7.14 from every family means we'll reach our £4,500 target which will be doubled by match funding. Thanks to everyone who's already donated.

<https://localgiving.org/charity/stjamespta/>

I (Mr Tutt) would also like to add a big “thank you” to all those who bounced and all those who helped at the sponsored bounce yesterday. It went brilliantly and we should raise a great deal of money for the PTA. Some of the bouncing techniques had to be seen to be believed and it was clear that some children had put in some practice bounces in preparation. Thank you to all the adults who gave up their morning to take part in the intense counting.

Skiing

Hedgehog class went skiing in Chatham this week and had a great time. The other Year 2 classes are due to ski next week – Squirrels and Rabbits ski next week.

The Big Sing

A really big well done to all the children in the Key Stage 2 choir, who performed brilliantly at the Big Sing at the Assembly Halls on Wednesday 20th November. Our choir was by the far the largest on stage with almost 60 members from Years 3 to 6. The children give up their lunchtimes once every week to practise - there were lots of tricky songs to learn and lots of lyrics to remember and they all did the school proud. I would also like to say a big “thank you” to Mrs Piper who leads our Key Stage 2 choir.

Nuts in school

This is a reminder that St James' is a nut free school, so please ensure your child does not have any items containing nuts in their packed lunches. This also applies on school trips. We have children at school with severe allergies to nuts and we need to ensure they are safe.

Applications to St James' Primary School

The online application window for entry here in September 2020 opened on Tuesday 5th November and closes on Wednesday 15th January. Please remember to complete our own Supplementary Information Form which is available from either the infant school office or the website.

St James' Church Christmas Fair – 30th November

We support the church fair every year by running a toiletries stall. We would be very grateful if you could please donate any relevant items that we could sell by bringing them to the infant office on 28th November. Typical examples are soaps, shampoo, bubble bath, cleansing wipes, moisturising cream etc.

A sport update from Mr Hodges:



Football

We have finally managed to get some fixtures in! On Friday, our Girls' played Claremont in cold, dark and very boggy conditions! Despite conceding first, the girls dominated the game and created lots of chances. Goals from Sophie and Kitty gave us a 2-1 lead at half time. The team battled on and played superbly in a solid performance, eventually running out 5-1 winners with second half goals from Sophie (2) and a second for Kitty. Player of the match was Kitty for her incredible dribbling skills and sheer determination to win.

On Wednesday, our A team played their first game of the season against Southborough. Alfie S caused all sorts of problems down the right-hand side and good play from Ollie led to a chance for Oliver, who struck sweetly from the edge of the box to put us into a 1-0 lead at half time. Both Ollie and Alfie L had good chances which struck the post. In the second half, the boys pushed on and were much more dominant, creating several chances and a flowing, one-touch move involving our front three led to a goal for Ollie. The victory was sealed late on with a second for Ollie, flicking in audaciously after more fantastic play from Alfie. A well-deserved victory: 3-0.

Basketball

Last Thursday, our basketball team went to Skinners' to compete in a tournament. The team won all their group matches convincingly and made it through to the semi-finals to face Claremont. An excellent victory took them to the final, where they faced a particularly physical Staplehurst team. Although we played the better basketball, Staplehurst broke through our defence often and it was a very tight game, we unfortunately lost 6-7. The children represented the school excellently throughout and were a real credit to St James'.

Upcoming events

On Monday, the Girls' football team take on St Matthew's and the Girls' Basketball tournament takes place on Wednesday at Hayesbrook. The Sportshall Athletics competition for Years 5 and 6 is scheduled the following week on Tuesday 3rd December. Good luck to all our children taking part!

Dates for the diary

Monday 25 th November	Rabbit Class skiing trip
Tuesday 26 th November	Squirrel Class skiing trip
Wednesday 27 th November	Deer Class assembly Flu immunisations
Thursday 28 th November	Christmas Story Day
Thursday 28 th November	Donations of toiletries please today for the St James' Church fair
Saturday 30 th November	St James' Church Christmas Fair
Wednesday 4 th December	Secret Presents Room open Disco for Years 3 to 6 after school
Tuesday 10 th December	Infant Christmas Play (morning) – toddlers welcome to this one Year 4 Christmas Play (afternoon)
Wednesday 11 th December	Infant Christmas Play (morning) Year 4 Christmas Play (afternoon)



Thursday 12 th December	Infant Christmas Play (morning) Infant Christmas Play (afternoon)
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Lunch Class Parties Disco for Years R to 2
Monday 16 th December	Infant Church Service 2:15pm Christmas Raffle prize draw
Tuesday 17 th December	Junior Church Service 2:15pm
Wednesday 18 th December	Last day of term
Monday 6 th January	INSET day for staff
Tuesday 7 th January	First day back for children
Wednesday 18 th March	Disco for Years 3 to 6
Friday 20 th March	Disco for Years R to 2
Friday 27 th March	Easter Egg Bingo for Years 3 to 6
4 th July	Summer Fair
10 th July	Year 6 leavers' party

Have a lovely weekend.

John Tutt
November 2019

