



Newsletter 2 - Friday 20th September 2019

Dear Parents,

What a lovely sunny week it has been!

Last week we discovered a time capsule within the school grounds, full of information about the history of our school and our community. This was a real piece of luck as it exactly coincided with our topic planning for this term. The children took turns to look at the capsule and classes have had a chance to look at the contents.

Most of our clubs have now started and at the end of this newsletter we have listed them for your convenience.

Early Years

Please remember that children in the Reception classes start full time from Monday.

Parent Governors' election

Hopefully you will have received the (now corrected – again, many apologies) ballot papers and candidate statements. Just to reiterate the process: each parent can vote for three candidates. Once the ballot paper has been completed please place it in an unmarked envelope and seal it. This envelope should then be placed into a second envelope which should be marked "Parent Governor Election". Beneath that you then need to write the name(s) and address(es) of the voters and the children in the school. The voter(s) then need to sign across the seal. If you need envelopes, please come into either of the school offices and we will be happy to supply you with them. The deadline for voting is Monday lunchtime (23rd September).

It is really important that this process is followed, as ballot papers not returned in this way will not be counted.

Hair

I'm going to be honest with you... this really isn't my area of expertise.

If your child has long hair (shoulder length or longer) it must all be tied back to prevent the spread of headlice. Plain green headbands are permitted, but please no fancy clips, braiding or bands. School uniform information is on the school website.

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

Applications can be made on-line at www.kent.gov.uk/ola. If you need further information on secondary admissions please visit www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions. Please let us know when you have applied and the schools applied for. The easiest way to do this is to forward the email confirmation to us or print it off and give a copy to the school office.



Getting in touch

The phone number for the school is now just 01892 523006. If your call/query relates to a child in years R to 2 please select option 1 and select option 2 for a child in years 3 to 6.

We always like to know about minor issues quickly so that they do not become bigger, therefore if you have any concerns please come and talk to us as soon as possible. Please contact the class teacher in the first instance either via a letter given to your child/contact book, by speaking to the teacher at the end of the day or by email.

Emails should only contain requests for a meeting to discuss the matter in person and teachers have been told not to reply in depth to any emails. Teachers may not check their emails each day, and will not check them outside working hours, so any urgent messages should be given to the school office.

For years R – 3 the teachers are available after school at handover. Teachers in years 4 - 6 teachers will do their best to be on the playground at the end of the day as follows:

Monday Year 6

Wednesday Year 5

Friday Year 4

If, after speaking to your child's teacher, you do not feel the matter has been resolved please speak to the appropriate Phase Leader:

o Year R and 1 – Miss Greenfield sgreenfield@st-james.kent.sch.uk

o Years 2, 3 and 4 – Mrs Dennett cdennett@st-james.kent.sch.uk

o Years 5 and 6 – Miss Hayward lhayward@st-james.kent.sch.uk

Drop off and pick up

Please ensure that your children and their younger siblings are closely supervised before and after school. They should not be playing in the car park, climbing on rails or running around the trees and bushes.

St James' School Parent Prayer Group

If you would like to support the school with your prayers you are welcome to join the school parent prayer group. The group will meet this term on Monday mornings after drop-off in the church basement meeting room (down the stairs next to the preschool entrance). The prayer meetings are informal and short, running from 9.00 to 9.45. You could also sign up for weekly prayer emails to give you ideas to pray about (useful if you can't get to the meetings). If you are interested please contact Nicola Becker: nicolabecker29@gmail.com or 07773664426.



Parent Reps

We would like to invite parents to volunteer as a Parent Rep for their class. Parents Reps are invited to meetings at the school to share information and to ask questions about the school. These meetings are led by a member of the school's leadership team. Parent Reps can also act as a liaison between the class and the PTA. Please contact Angie Pierce in the infant office or Dawn Johnson in the junior office for more information.

Clubs

	Club	Time	Person Responsible
Monday	French Club	12.00- 1.00	La Jolie Ronde
	Football Club Y3/4	3.25 – 4.25	mSPORTi
	Judo Club	3.30 – 4.25	Next Generation Judo
	Judo Club	5.45 - 6.25	Next Generation Judo
	Judo Club	6.30 – 7.30	Next Generation Judo
	Judo Club	7.30 – 8.45	Next Generation Judo
Tuesday	Netball Club Y5/6 Team Practise	8.15 – 8.45	Miss Gibson
	Football Team Practise	TBC	Mr Hodges
	Flute Group	12.30- 1.00	Mrs Mattheopoulos
	Football Club Y5/6 – Free - funded by school	3.25 – 4.25	mSPORTi
	Netball Club Y3/4	3.30 – 4.30	NGC – Mrs Dragon
Wednesday	Netball Club Y5 Team Practise	8.15 – 8.45	Miss Gibson
	Spanish Club	12.30- 1.00	Sue Heller
	Chess Club	12.30- 1.00	Karen Shilstone
	Netball Club Y5/6	3.30 – 4.30	Miss Gibson
	Judo Club	3.30 - 4.25	Next Generation Judo
	Judo Club	4.30 – 5.15	Next Generation Judo
	Tag Rugby Y3/4 - Multi-Sports Club	3.20 – 4.20	Sprint
Thursday	Netball Club Y5/6 Team Practise	8.15 – 8.45	Miss Gibson
	Yoga Club - 2 x 30 min grps	12.00 – 1.00	Mrs Elcock
	Poetry Club	3.30 - 4.30	Gemma Baker
	Running Club	TBC	Mr Wyke & Mr Hodges
Friday	Art Club	12.30 – 1.00	Mrs Groenewold
	Football Club (Girls) Y4/5/6	12.30 - 1.00	mSPORTi
	Bridge Club Y5/6	3.30 - 4.30	Mrs Erichsen
	Basketball Club (TBC)	3.30 – 4.30	Cliff Allen

School Games Mark

We are delighted to announce that we, St James Primary, have achieved the School Games Platinum Award for the 2018/19 academic year. This is the first time we have ever attained this award and we are one of only four schools in the Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells area to have accomplished this. At St James, we are extremely thankful and proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport and have participated in various competitions both in and out of school. As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to Mr Hodges for all his hard work in achieving this special award and we look forward to applying once again in 2020!



Aldi's Kit for Schools

As you may have seen advertised on TV, Aldi have launched their 'Get Set to Eat Fresh' campaign. From September until November 3rd, when you spend £30 or more at an Aldi store you will receive Team GB stickers to send into school with your children to place on our school poster. If we collect 300 stickers, we will receive an exclusive school sports kit and could win one of four £20,000 prizes. The poster will be displayed in school for all to see. We will leave a collection box in the office for any stickers collected. If you would like more information, please visit getsettoeatfresh.co.uk. Thank you!

A message from the PTA re: PTA AGM

Dear parents,

We hope you are settling back nicely into the school routine and enjoying the last of the summer sun.

We will be holding the PTA's AGM on Thursday 10 October at 8pm in the Infant Hall. All the PTA meetings are open to anyone who is a parent or guardian of a child at the school. The generosity of school families in supporting PTA events, whether with time, donations or both, helps the school provide a great experience for all the children.

Please come along and find out more about what is happening this year, and maybe how you can get involved! The agenda for the meeting and the minutes from last year's AGM are attached. If you have any questions, please speak directly to one of us at drop off/pick up or send a message via your class reps or our Facebook page.

We hope to see you on the 10th.

Your PTA Committee

Have a lovely weekend.

John Tutt
September 2019



