



Newsletter 8 – Friday 17th January 2020

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and that you are looking forward to the year ahead as much as we are.

The whole school topic is “Inventions” and the children are already working hard on designing, investigating, making and testing. Watch this space and keep an eye out for the contact letters and in the contact books for requests for junk from home. Cereal boxes, egg boxes and cellotape seem to be the basis of most school projects so we will let you know when they are needed.

New member of staff

Eirene Naismith started with us on Monday. She will be taking over the teaching in Deer class when Mrs Oakley begins her maternity leave (planned to begin in mid-February), so there will be plenty of time for handovers and getting to know the children. Mrs Naismith is a very welcome addition to our team and we all look forward to working with her.

Exciting news

Mrs Russell, our teacher in Chestnut class, is expecting a baby in June. We would like to offer her our congratulations and very best wishes. We will let parents of Chestnut class know the arrangements for covering the class for the last few weeks of the school year as soon as we can.

School website

This is a reminder that the school website URL is <https://st-james.kent.sch.uk>. At present it still does not work when prefixed by www, so if you are having difficulty accessing the site, please ensure you are using this address.

Parent Prayer Group

This term the parent prayer group will be meeting on Friday mornings in the church meeting room to pray for the school. Our meetings are short (about 9.00-9.45) and all are welcome. You are also welcome to sign up for a weekly prayer email. If you are interested, please contact Nicola Becker at nicolabecker29@gmail.com.

Christmas Collections

Thank you for your generosity – we raised £554.43 for Hospice in the Weald and £186.40 for Save the Children in our Christmas collections.

TA vacancy

We are looking for a Teaching Assistant to join our Key Stage 2 team. The post is three days a week (currently Monday to Wednesday). If you are interested please contact Penny Wardell or visit www.kent-teach.com for more information.

Lantern parade

As you may be aware, the annual Lantern Parade is a community event which this year takes place on 8th February at 5.30pm. It's a great way of getting children to do something creative and join in with their wider community. Many children from St James's take part and really enjoy it.



The leaders of the lantern parade are currently desperate for volunteers to help with weekend workshops and on the evening itself. Please use the link below if you are able to offer help.

<https://www.facebook.com/WinterLanternParade>

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 7 th January	First day back for children
Friday 31 st January	Vole Class Assembly
Wednesday 5 th February	Squirrel Class Assembly
Wednesday 12 th February	Chestnut Class Assembly
Friday 14 th February	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 24 th February	First Day of Term 4
Friday 28 th February	Kestrel Class Assembly
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Friday 6 th March	Nightingale Class Assembly
Friday 13 th March	Annual reports home today Dormouse Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 th March	Junior disco
Friday 20 th March	Infant disco Badger Class Assembly
Wednesday 25 th March	Rabbit Class Assembly Sharing learning (afternoon)
Thursday 26 th March	Sharing learning (morning)
Friday 27 th March	Junior Easter Egg Bingo
Wednesday 1 st April	Last day of Term 4
Thursday 16 th April	First day of Term 5
Monday 11 th May	Beginning of SATs week
Friday 22 nd May	Last day of Term 5
Monday 1 st June	INSET day



Tuesday 2nd June First day of Term 6 for children

Wednesday 22nd July Last day of the school year

Tuesday 1st September INSET day

Wednesday 2nd September First day back for children

Once again, have a very Happy New Year

John Tutt

January 2020

