

Welcome to St James' C.E. Primary School



New Entrants 2022



Why we do what we do!

We believe all children learn best when:

- they feel confident about themselves
- they enjoy their learning
- they have a growth mindset

We give them opportunities to learn how to learn

- to ask questions
- to persevere when things get tricky
- to work collaboratively with others
- to learn to be responsible for how they learn



How do we do it?

By making learning:

- Relevant
- Exciting
- Stimulating
- Challenging





Key teaching staff

- John Tutt - Headteacher
- Lucy Hayward - Deputy Headteacher
- Penny Wardell - Inclusion Manager & Assistant Headteacher
- Sarah Greenfield - Assistant Headteacher & Lower Phase Leader
- Lucy Coward - Maple Class Teacher and Early Years Leader
- Adele Smith - Cherry Class Teacher
- Amy De Lucy - Cherry Class Teacher
- Jo Mill - Oak Class Teacher
- Lizzie Russell - Oak Class Teacher



Key Support Staff

Teaching Assistants

Shane Jacob Jo Starritt Jennie Clark
Karen Buckthorpe Mandy Baker
Danielle Cleaver Laura Willis

School Admin team

Angie Pierce Angie Walker
Lindsay Ayton Juliet Walters
Dawn Johnson Sarah Hilliard

Safeguarding

- All staff in school have a duty to follow safeguarding procedures.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputies collate information and refer to other agencies or support providers as needed.
- Parents can contact DSLs for support and signposting to services (child behaviour support, family support, bereavement, young carers etc)

Safeguarding Team



Lucy Hayward
Deputy Headteacher
Lead DSL



John Tutt
Headteacher
Deputy DSL



Penny Wardell
Assistant
Headteacher/SENCO
Deputy DSL



Sarah Greenfield
Assistant Headteacher
Deputy DSL



Angie Pierce
Admin Team
Deputy DSL



Sarah Moriarty
SEN Assistant
Deputy DSL

Early Years at St James'

- EYFS Statutory Framework – covers Early Years provision across Nursery/Pre-School and into the first year of school (Reception)
- Holistic – focuses on developing the whole child (not simply the traditional academic skills).

Communication and
Language

Personal, Social and
Emotional Development

Physical Development
(Fine and Gross motor)

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding
the World

Expressive
Arts and Design

Play!

95% of what
a child
learns is
through
direct
experience.
M. Mendizza
the imagination tree



Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood.

~Fred Rogers



It is thought that:

'it takes approximately 400 repetitions to create a new synapse in the brain—unless it is done with play, in which case, it takes between 10 and 20 repetitions!

(attributed to Dr. Karyn Purvis)

‘Play is essential for children’s development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults.’

(Early Years Statutory Framework 2021)

School Uniform

Please visit Price & Buckland at: price-buckland.co.uk

There is a full uniform list within your new entrant pack and can be accessed on the school website.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

The PTA are holding a second hand uniform sale our the school summer fair on Saturday 16th July between 2pm and 4pm.

From Pre-school to Reception

To support the transition process we:

- Discuss children with their pre-school staff and visit pre-schools to meet children (where possible)
- Hold Stay and Play sessions in July and September
- Conduct Home visits in September prior to starting.
- Start Part time in September



Starting School - Classes

- Each class has 30 children. For transition events these are split into two groups of 15.
- Children start part-time - one group of 15 attending in the morning and the other attending in the afternoons.
- All stay and play sessions are also based on this split.

* N.B. We assign the morning/afternoon sessions based on pre-school information to ensure children have a familiar friend where possible.

Stay and Play

- All children invited to attend two 'stay and play' sessions to meet their teachers and explore their classroom.
- First session alongside a parent in July.
- 12th July (am entrants), 14th July (pm entrants).
- Second session alongside a parent in September.
- 2nd September (am entrants and pm entrants).

Home Visits

Before your child starts at school, we like to visit them at home for a short amount of time. Times are allocated based on location.

- Monday 5th / Tuesday 6th / Wednesday 7th September
 - Two members of staff (usually class teacher and teaching assistant)
 - Opportunity to go over arrangements for first days and to meet your child again in a familiar environment.
 - Please contact the school if you are unable to keep this appointment as we have a very tight schedule.
- * You do not have to have an appointment if you would prefer not to!



Part-time start

In September, all children start part time.

- Thursday 8th – Friday 23rd September
- Two identical sessions
- Morning session – 8.45 until 11.30
- Afternoon session – 12.30 until 3.15
- 15 children in each session
- All children full time from Monday 26th September



The first day!

- Thursday 8th September
- Your child will attend part time until Friday 23rd September.
- Come through to the classroom with your child to help them find their peg and settle at an activity.
- Collection is also from the classroom at the end of the session.

What to bring

- Book bag – for school reading books and letters. Please do not send your child in with a BIG backpack – there is little room on the pegs.
- Water bottle
- Coat
- Spare underwear

PLEASE ENSURE EVERYTHING IS CLEARLY NAMED!

Snack and Milk

- All children will be provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable each day.
- You can sign up for your child to receive milk – free until they are five at: www.coolmilk.com



After the first day

- Drop off will gradually move to the Reception entrance door as the children settle.
- Any notes can be sent to the class email address – mornings are very busy and all adults are needed to welcome and settle the children.
- Bring in P.E. kit and wellies
(to be kept in school)

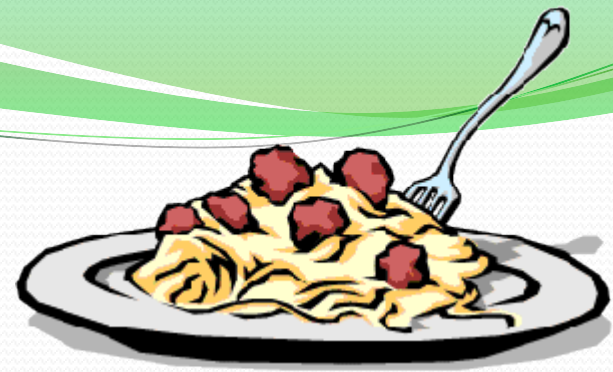




School Dinners

- All infant children are entitled to a free school meal every day.
- Children eat their lunches in the school hall and need to be able to use a knife and fork.
- The meals are nutritionally balanced over the school week.
- Parents can choose whether to give their children a packed lunch or a school meal.

Taster lunches



All children are invited to a taster lunch during the final week of part time attendance.

Wednesday 21st September – Maple Class

Thursday 22nd September – Cherry Class

Friday 23rd September – Oak Class

- Afternoon attendees will arrive at **11.30**
- Morning attendees will stay until **1.00**
- All children will need a named apron or tabard.

Important points

- If your child is unwell please contact the school office on the morning of their absence.
- 48 hours required for sickness and diarrhoea
- Refer to 111 online for COVID symptoms
- Please inform the school of collection arrangements through either the class email or a call to the office – we CANNOT let your child leave with another parent/relative without being informed.



Full time

- Monday 26th September – all children attend full time.
- Drop off will be at the Reception cloakrooms for the first couple of days, before we then ask you to drop off at the Reception steps in the car park.
- Collection is via the classrooms leading out and around the back of the school.
- Lunches – all children are entitled to a free school dinner (can choose to be packed lunch if you would prefer – just let us know on the day).

Meet the Teacher

Parents are invited to a short meeting with the class teachers to talk through the daily routines.

- Tuesday 20th September at 11.15 for morning entrants and 3.00 for afternoon entrants.

Summer holidays

Before starting school, it is useful if your child is able to do the following things:

- Putting on their coat
- Dressing independently
- Using a knife and fork
- Toileting independently
- Most importantly: HAVE FUN TOGETHER!

Parent Partnership



We encourage links between home and school and appreciate any support provided by parents.

- Helping in class once the children are settled
- Special books
- Trip the bear
- Reading with your child
- Weekly contact note sent home via email
- Parent Teachers Association (PTA)

You know your child best – please don't hesitate to speak to your child's teacher if needed.

Dates to Remember!



- 12th July (am entrants) and 14th July (pm entrants) – Stay and Play
- Friday 2nd September – Stay and Play (am and pm sessions entrants)
- Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th September– Home Visits
- Thursday 8th September – Children start part-time
- Tuesday 20th September – Meet the Teacher (11.15 or 3.00 depending on am or pm session)
- Weds 21st (Maple), Thurs 22nd (Cherry) and Fri 23rd (Oak) September – Taster Lunches
- Monday 26th September – All children full time

Class Contact Details

Maple Class: mapleclass@st-james.kent.sch.uk

Cherry Class: cherryclass@st-james.kent.sch.uk

Oak Class: oakclass@st-james.kent.sch.uk

