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St James CE Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. J Young (BA Hons, PGCE, NPQH)

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know, our Journey Curriculum is centred around 7 journey drivers. Everything that we do here at St James is designed to help us better provide children with the opportunity to experience/develop these 7 things:

Our Journey Drivers:

- Joyful Readers**
- Opportunities to Build Upon Knowledge and Skills**
- Understanding of British and Christian Values**
- Resilience and Perseverance**
- Nurture Curiosity**
- Encourage Articulate Learners**
- Your Wellbeing and Health**



Next week is Democracy week and as we are keen on improving the opportunities, we provide for our children to 'influence their aspirations' we will be having our '**Journey Leaders**' once again. We want our pupils to aspire to be the leaders of the future! So, our Journey Leader initiative will mean that every child from Year 1 to Year 6 will be a member of a pupil leadership team. One afternoon every half term, all leadership teams will meet, discuss priorities, make plans, be given tasks and celebrate successes. These afternoons will be called 'Aspiration Afternoons'.

The Vision Ambassadors (School Council) will be a separate group to this and so will meet at a different time - not on Aspiration Afternoons. We are also going to nominate a Head Boy and Head Girl from our Year 6 class. We hope that this will become a lovely new St James tradition.

Friday 15th September is Democracy Day and so we will use this day to choose our leadership teams and to vote for members of the Vision Ambassadors (School Council) and Head Boy and Head Girl.

What does my child need to do? (parents and carers, they will need your help with this please!)

Journey Leaders:

Look through the Journey Leaders Handbook. Read the information about each Journey team (10 teams to choose from in total). Choose 3 teams that they would like to be part of. On Democracy Day your child will be given a slip of paper and asked to indicate their top 3 preferences. We will try to accommodate this as much as we can!

Vision Ambassadors (School Council):

Although every child will be a Journey Leader, it is optional if children wish to also be a Vision Ambassador. On Democracy Day, we will choose 2 pupils per class (Y2-Y5) to be a Vision Ambassador. Talk with your child about if they would like to do this. If they wish to nominate themselves, they will need to be prepared to stand up in front of their class and deliver a small speech on why they would like to represent their class. All children in each class will then vote via a secret ballot. Again, aspiring Vision Ambassadors may benefit from some help in preparing their speeches!

If your child is in Year 6, then nominations to be in the school council are also nominations to be Head Boy and Head Girl. Instead of delivering a small speech to their class, these children will deliver a speech to the school in the hall and all children will then return to classes and vote via secret ballot.

Head Boy and Head Girl will carry out a wide range of duties over the year including participating in worship, showing visitors around our school, helping to host school events, and of course representing the school at special occasions. They should be exceptional role models to all!

I hope you agree that this is an exciting new approach for our children and one which will help all children to feel that their voice matters! Let's inspire our children to be tomorrow's leaders today!

Kind Regards

Mrs Briens

Deputy Headteacher.



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