

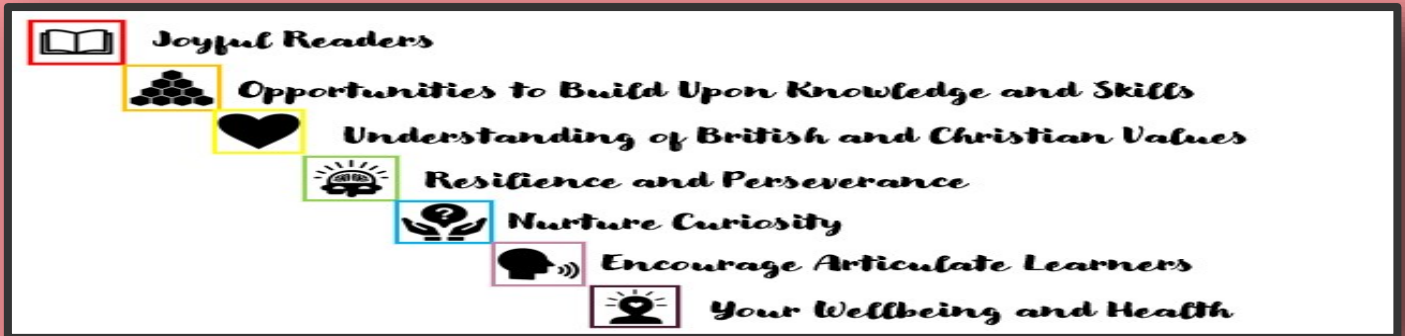


# NEWSLETTER

Email: [www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk](http://www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk)

Twitter: @StJamesCEsth

*Learn, Laugh and Live with the Love of God*



2023-2024 Issue Number 201 Friday 1st March 2024

**OUR VALUE THIS  
HALF TERM IS:  
JUSTICE**

A message from Mrs Young

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had such a busy week this week but it has honestly been a lovely week!



Our 'Moveathon' yesterday was so much fun - every class worked collectively to complete 366 laps of the daily mile track in recognition of 2024 being a leap year. Through your fantastic fundraising we managed to raise £325.74 which will go towards sports and play equipment.

Next week Y3 have their Pots of Gold trip to the Philharmonic and the Cathedral to look forward to and we all have World Book Day to look forward - one of our favourite days of the year! Mrs Atherton has sent out further information on this.

On Monday we have been informed that Saints will be visiting us - keep an eye out on X/Twitter to see who arrives!

Happy March - have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Young



# School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance	
Whole School	96.1%
Reception	97.8%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	96.7%
Year 3	99%
Year 4	94.4%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	90.8%




**148**

  
**pupils**  
**with perfect attendance this week.**

**Can we beat this next week?**



## Attendance Update

We need to try really hard each and every week to make sure every year group is beating our **97% target**—this will help us to succeed!

**Our attendance this week is:**

**94.9%**





## Spring Attendance Competition

At St James we place huge importance on regular school attendance—the research speaks for itself and proves that those with the highest levels of attendance achieve great things!

We therefore now invite you to take part in our Spring Attendance Challenge.

### What do you need to do?

Come to school on time, everyday, this half term!

### How can you win?

Those children that come to school every day, and on time, will have their name put in a prize draw to be carried out on the morning of Thursday 28th March (the final day of this half term).

### What can you win?

An Easter Eggstravaganza!

# Do I need to keep my child off school?

<b>Chicken Pox</b> At least 5 days from onset of rash and until all spots have crusted over	<b>Conjunctivitis</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Diarrhea &amp; /or Vomiting</b> 48 hours from last episode	<b>Respiratory illness</b> (e.g colds & flu) Can return when no longer have a high temperature and well enough	<b>Glandular Fever</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		
<b>Hand, foot &amp; mouth</b> No need to stay off if well enough, but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Impetigo</b> Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 hours after commencing antibiotics	<b>Head Lice</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Measles</b> 4 days from onset of rash	<b>Mumps</b> 5 days from onset of swelling		<b>German Measles (Rubella)</b> 5 days from onset of rash
<b>Scarlet Fever</b> 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	<b>Scabies</b> Until after first treatment	<b>Slapped Cheek</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Threadworms</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Tonsillitis</b> Can return when no longer have a temperature and well enough, school or nursery should be informed		<b>Whooping Cough</b> 48 hours after commencing antibiotics

Use this guide to find out when they should stay off, and when they can go back if they are well enough to do so.

# AWARD WINNERS

## Journey Driver Focus:

**Resilience  
and  
Perseverance**

<b>RECEPTION</b>	Penelope Elliott
<b>YEAR 1</b>	Joseph
<b>YEAR 2</b>	Ivan Forshaw
<b>YEAR 3</b>	David Varga
<b>YEAR 4</b>	Sebastian
<b>YEAR 5</b>	Matthew Murphy
<b>YEAR 6</b>	Cole Gallop

CONGRATULATIONS  
TIME TO  
**Celebrate**  
WELL  
DONE!

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT



### Whole School events Spring 2

Date	Event
01/03/24	Year 4 Class Assembly 9.00am
01/03/24	Year 5 Money Skills for Life
05/03/24	Year 3 Which Way Now
06/03/24	Year 3 Liverpool Philharmonic Hall Trip
07/03/24	World Book Day
08/03/24	Year 1 Class Assembly 9.00am
08/03/24	Reception Mothers' Day Stay and Play 1.30pm
11/03/24	Oral Health Survey (5 year olds)
12/03/24	Grandad Wheels Author Visit
12/03/24	School Nurse Drop in Session 2pm
12/03/24	Year 4 Football Competition
15/03/24	Non Uniform Day - in exchange for an Easter Egg
13/03/24	Year 3 Which Way Now
19/03/24	Year 1 Phonics Information Session for Parents 3.30pm
20/03/24	Year 3 Which Way Now
21/03/24	Year 3 Football Competition
21/03/24	St James' Easter Bingo 5pm
22/03/24	Coffee Morning - St James' Spirit
25/03/24	Parents Evening (part 1) 3.30pm
26/03/24	Parents Evening (part 2) 3.30pm
27/03/24	Year 3 Which Way Now
28/03/24	Easter Service and Eucharist, Year 3 Reading, Prayers, and Songs, (St James' Church), 1.15pm
28/03/24	School Closes for Easter 2pm



THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT

### PE Days Spring 2

Children are to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days.

<b>Monday</b>	Year 2, Year 1 and Year 4
<b>Tuesday</b>	Year 3 and Year 6
<b>Wednesday</b>	Reception, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5
<b>Thursday</b>	Year 4
<b>Friday</b>	Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6

### PE kit

A reminder that our school PE days are not own clothes days.

On PE days, your child should come to school wearing a **black tracksuit/red shorts and white -shirt and black trainers. No slogan/branded t-shirts of bright colours. This is part of school uniform expectations and expectations must be followed.**

Please note that children should not wear any form of jewellery (**only small stud earrings** are allowed and should not be worn on PE days)



### Clubs

We are running the following after school clubs this half term:

Booking is available on the app

- **Monday-Fun Fusion Club** for KS2 with the Sports Coach
- **Tuesday-FAB Club** for KS1 with Miss Barratt
- **Friday-Book Club** for Reception with Mrs Briers

In addition to these clubs , Y1 children are also invited to attend Mrs Lister's Phonics on Thursdays after school and there are Confirmation lessons for some children with Father Michael.

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

**READ YOUR WAY!**

UNLEASH YOUR READING SUPERPOWER...

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year, World Book Day will be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, and we hope you'll join us to celebrate across the school. This is an important day for us because we support the charity's mission to change lives through a love of books and reading. Reading for pleasure is a vital indicator of a child's future success and it is our aim to create 'Joyful Readers' at St James. We want to see all our children form a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and thus enjoy the improved life chances this brings them.



The theme for this year's World Book Day is 'Read Your Way!'. We are inviting children to come in dressed in their pyjamas or loungewear so they can SNUGGLE UP WITH A BOOK and a hot chocolate. We have lots of exciting activities planned for the day including an author visit, competitions, and Reading buddies!

We are asking for a donation of 50p per child to cover costs of the treats. Payments can be made via our School Money portal under school fund.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Atherton

English Subject Champion

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT



**AUTHOR BRIAN  
'GRANDAD WHEELS'  
ABRAM VISITS PARISH  
12TH MARCH 2024!**

**WE ARE THRILLED TO INFORM YOU THAT CELEBRATED AUTHOR, BRIAN ABRAM WILL BE VISITING ST JAMES ON TUESDAY 12TH MARCH TO READ STORIES FROM HIS 'GRANDAD WHEELS' SERIES TO ALL CLASSES.**

**BRIAN IS A FULLTIME WHEELCHAIR USER AND IN HIS BOOKS HE TELLS HILARIOUS STORIES OF HIS SILLY ADVENTURES WITH HIS GRANDSON. HIS BOOKS AIM TO SHOW THAT ANYONE IN A WHEELCHAIR CAN HAVE FUN AND BE FUN TO BE WITH. QUENTIN BLAKE (ILLUSTRATOR OF THE ROALD DAHL'S BOOKS) SAID OF BRIAN'S FIRST BOOK, "IT'S AN IMPRESSIVE PIECE OF WORK!"**

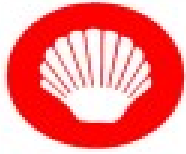
**BRIAN WILL BE SIGNING COPIES OF HIS BOOKS AND CAN INCLUDE A DEDICATION TO YOUR CHILD. YOU CAN BUY THE BOOKS AT A DISCOUNTED PRICE OF JUST £6.00 EACH AND BRIAN WILL DONATE ALL PROCEEDS FROM THESE SALES TO TWO IMPORTANT CHARITIES THAT SUPPORT PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUFFERED A SPINAL INJURY - THE SPINAL INJURIES ASSOCIATION AND BACK UP.**

**RETURN THE ORDER FORM SENT HOME THIS WEEK TO SECURE YOUR SIGNED COPY!**





THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT



# St James' PTFA Easter Bingo

Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 5-7pm

Doors open 4.30pm

School Hall



- Tickets are £1 anyone playing Bingo;
- Children Film Night 50p per child
- Tickets are available to buy from the office (cash). Limited Numbers
- Bingo £6 for a full book, (6 games)
- Please bring cash on the evening
- Refreshments will be available on the evening for a small cost.

Come along, join in the fun and help support our school!

## **Safeguarding Tip of the Week**

### **What is cyberbullying?**

Cyberbullying is any form of bullying that is carried out through the use of electronic media devices, such as computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets or gaming consoles.

As a school through St James Spirit lessons, we educate children on the appropriate use of devices but together with your support we can educate our children more effectively.

It is your responsibility as a parent to monitor children's use of these devices at home and decide on the appropriateness and the use of them.



## **Online Safety Tip of the Week**

### **Experiencing Bullying**

The latest bullying research from the DfE makes for upsetting reading. Almost half (40%) of schoolchildren in the UK have been bullied within the past 12 months – with 21% of them experiencing negative changes to their behaviour, including avoiding going to school. In 15% of those cases, the victim's behaviour suffers to the extent that they are ultimately excluded themselves.

Understanding and honest conversation can be an immense benefit to children who have become the target of bullying – but it's such a delicate subject that it can often be hard for trusted adults to know where (or how) to start. This week's #WakeUpWednesday guide this week contains ten practical tips for supporting a child who is experiencing bullying.



# Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

## 1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.

## 2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.

## 3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.

## 4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.

## 5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.

## 6. STAY INFORMED

Make sure you know your child's school's definition of, response to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information should be in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Class teachers or form tutors are usually the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.

## 7. PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE

Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're resolving disagreements and arguments, or addressing unintended verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to work out with your child whether any harm was intentional, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting concerns accurately will get the best outcome for your child more quickly.

## 8. SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE

When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced: what happened; when; where; and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.

## 9. LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL

Any school has a duty to ensure that the members of its community feel safe and included. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to restore these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to keep parents and carers informed of any action taken – and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.

## 10. CHECK IN FREQUENTLY

Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to rebuild relationships or develop new ones. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any relevant information should be shared, so that further support can be planned if necessary.

## Meet Our Expert

Bob Basley is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark-UK, which challenges and supports schools to develop sustainable whole-school approaches to prevent bullying, including working with parents and carers. More than 80 schools in England and Wales currently hold the quality mark.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

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**Christ Church URC, West End Road, Haydock.**



**Sit  
down  
meal**

**Come  
and  
join  
us**

**Games**



**Stories**

**Crafts**

**2nd March 2024**

**Puzzles**

**3.00/5.00**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult.**





# Schools Catering Service

2023/24



28th September 2023  
**VEG POWER!**  
**SIMPLY VEG SHOWCASE**  
 Celebrating and encouraging us all to eat more veg. A campaign by 'Veg Power'



6th - 10th November 2023  
**LACA - NATIONAL SCHOOL MEALS WEEK**  
 An annual celebration by LACA



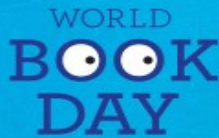
12th November 2023  
**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**  
 Honouring those who have served. (Actual day 11th November)



Across December  
**CHRISTMAS LUNCH**  
 A traditional Christmas lunch



25th January 2024  
**BURNS NIGHT**  
 A Scottish staple celebrating the poet Robert Burns



7th March 2024  
**WORLD BOOK DAY**  
 Bringing iconic stories to the table



8th - 17th March 2024  
**BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK**  
 Celebrating science within the UK and our fantastic achievements



28th April 2024  
**NATIONAL SUPERHERO DAY**  
 Fuel to save the world



10th May 2024  
**WOMEN'S FA CUP FINAL**  
 Football themed menu as 11 vs 11 play at Wembley (Actual day 12th May)



17th July 2024  
**PARIS SUMMER OLYMPICS 2024**  
 Starting 26th July, a huge sporting event bringing together nations from across the globe



# MUSIC SERVICE ENSEMBLES AT ST HELENS TOWN HALL

## 2023 - 24 FREE!

### TUESDAY...

**VOCAL GROUP**  
 4.30PM - 5.50PM

### WEDNESDAY

**WIDER OPPORTUNITIES BAND**  
 4PM - 5PM

### WEDNESDAY

**INTERMEDIATE WIND BAND**  
 4PM - 5PM

### WEDNESDAY

**INTERMEDIATE STRINGS**  
 4PM - 5PM

### WEDNESDAY

**MUSIC THEORY CLUB**  
 4PM - 5PM

### WEDNESDAY

**YOUTH WIND ORCHESTRA**  
 5.15PM - 6.30PM

### WEDNESDAY

**SINFONIA**  
 5.15PM - 6.30PM

### WEDNESDAY

**MUSIC THEORY CLUB**  
 5.15PM - 6.30PM



**ST HELENS MUSIC EDUCATION HUB**  
 INSPIRING MUSICAL CREATIVITY FOR EVERY CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON WE MEET, MEET



@sthelensmusic



@sthelensmusicservice

**01744 677946**

musicservice@sthelens.gov.uk  
 SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO JOIN AND REGISTER TODAY







## YEAR 6 TRANSITION FREE ONLINE PARENT / CARER SESSIONS

If your child has an SEN or significant worries and is due to transition to secondary school in September 2024, we would love you to join us on our online sessions to share preparation tips and advice.

By 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 you will have submitted a secondary school application to name your 3 preferred schools.

We are delighted to offer you some advice and support to be able to effectively plan the next steps of your child's journey.

Many of the strategies will work for most children who require that little bit of additional support.

Sessions will be delivered online through TEAMS directed to parents/carers (not to children); if you can attend all four it would be more beneficial.

For further information please email us on [LASCstransitions@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:LASCstransitions@sthelens.gov.uk) so we can send you a TEAMS link to the sessions

Session One - The Year Ahead	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Differences between Primary &amp; Secondary</li> <li>Independence &amp; Preparation</li> <li>Travel to school</li> <li>Next Steps</li> </ul>
Session Two - Building Blocks	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is a transition?</li> <li>Managing change</li> <li>Developing independence</li> </ul>
Session Three - A Helping Hand	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing worries &amp; nerves</li> <li>Emotions Scales</li> <li>Looking for the positives</li> </ul>
Session Four - The Finish Line is in Sight!	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Being Prepared</li> <li>One Page Profiles</li> <li>Communication</li> <li>Preparation &amp; Practice</li> </ul>

## Mental Health Support Team WELLBEING WEBINARS



Your MHST is running a series of webinars one Friday a month on a number of topics relating to mental health and wellbeing.

### TOPICS AND DATES

- Worry Management - 19 January
- Parenting for Anxiety - 23 February
- Low Mood - 22 March
- Neurodiversity - 26 April
- Parent Skills for Behaviour - 17 May
- LGBTQ+ - 21 June
- Emotional Regulation - 19 July



**WHEN**  
4pm to 4:45pm



**WHERE**  
Zoom  
(link will be emailed)



To register please email which webinar you want to attend to [events@merseycare.nhs.uk](mailto:events@merseycare.nhs.uk)

Webinars will be recorded.  
No chat function will be available for safety purposes.