





NEWSLETTER


Email: www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk


Twitter: @StJamesCEsth


Learn, Laugh and Live with the Love of God


 **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**

2023-2024 Issue Number 27 Friday 26th April 2024

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

A message from Mrs Young



Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term seems to be absolutely whizzing by and I can hardly believe that we entering the 4th week of Summer 1 already!

This week I had the pleasure of watching maths lessons right across school and I must say that I was blown away by the mathematical thinking and reasoning of all of the children. The scheme we use for Maths is called 'Maths No Problem' and more information about this and all of the subjects we teach in school (including year group overviews etc) can be found on the school website.

Thursday was the 2nd week of our workshops with 'Hands' - Gemma and Ian are teaching British Sign Language to our Reception and Y2 children in a very fun, engaging and interactive way. At the end of the project, Reception and Y2 will perform what they have learned to parents and carers - date to follow.

Week beginning 13th May is Y6 SATs week and I have been so impressed with how hard our Y6 pupils have been working in preparing for their tests. They have been a credit to themselves and their families and I know they will do so very well.

Have a lovely weekend - let's hope some sunshine comes our way,

Best Wishes,

Mrs Young



School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance	
Whole School	95%
Reception	98.1%
Year 1	94.5%
Year 2	95.7%
Year 3	95.7%
Year 4	91.5%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	90.8%




147


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:

94.7%



Summer 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 Summer Attendance Challenge.

What do you need to do?



How can you win?

Those children that come to school every day, and most importantly on time, Monday-Friday each week will have their name put into a prize draw. 1 winner will be selected each week in Celebration Assembly.

What can you win?

A brand new game of their choice....perfect for Family or Friend's Games Nights.



Well done to all of those children who attended school everyday on time for the this week. Your names all went into the prize draw. We are pleased to announce that this week's winner was **Olive-Chistina Adabie** and last week's winner was **Stephanie-Mae Smith**.



Every Lesson Counts



At St James' CE Primary School

Days off school add up to lost learning and impact on your child's life chances.

175 Non School Days a year



175 DAYS TO SPEND ON HOLI DAYS, FAMILY TIME, VISITS, SHOPPING, HOUSEHOLD JOBS AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

190 school days each year for your child's education
EXCELLENT
96% - 100%
Most effective way to success and sets your child off to a flying start.

10 days absence
180 days of education
CONCERNING
LESS THAN 96%
School monitors attendance; it is less than expected.

19 days of absence
170 days of education
WORRYING
Less than 90%
Less chance of success; harder to make progress in learning, friendships and relationships with others.

29 days absence
HALF A TERM MISSED
161 DAYS OF EDUCATION
Serious concerns
Less than 85%
This is not fair on your child. You risk prosecution and a jail term.



Journey Driver Focus:

Nurturing Curiosity

RECEPTION	Oakley Passey
YEAR 1	Vincent Piorkowski
YEAR 2	Freddie O'Brien
YEAR 3	Axel Richardson
YEAR 4	Olive-Christina Adabie
YEAR 5	Lottie Stanley
YEAR 6	Evie-Cottam-Bell



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT



Whole School events Summer 1

Date	Event
10/04/24	School opens 8.40am
15/04/24	World Art Day
16/04/24	School photographs. Class groups and Year 6 leavers
16/04/24	Confirmation class 3.20pm
17/04/24	Year 5 school trip - Jodrell Bank
23/04/24	Confirmation class 3.20pm
30/04/24	Confirmation class 3.20pm
06/05/24	Bank Holiday Monday - SCHOOL CLOSED
07/05/24	Confirmation class 3.20pm
08/05/24	Year 5 Cricket
13/05/24	SATS start
13/05/24	Christian Aid Week
14/05/24	Confirmation class 3.20pm
19/05/24	Confirmation ceremony - St James' the Great 10.30am
20/05/24	Y5 & Y6 Ultimate Frisbee
21/05/24	World Cultural Diversity Day
22/05/24	Pentecost Eucharist (Information to Follow)
23/05/24	Year 1 school trip - Knowsley Safari Park
24/05/24	Coffee morning - Internet safety & Police Information
24/05/24	School closes for half term 3.20pm

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



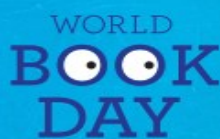
12th November 2023
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
Honouring those who have served. (Actual day 11th November)



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



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

PE Days Summer 1

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

Monday	Year 1 and Year 6
Tuesday	Year 3 and Year 6
Wednesday	Reception, Year 1 and Year 5
Thursday	Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5
Friday	Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4

Seashells



Seashells breakfast club is now open from 7.45am.

The cost is £5.00 per session.

This is on a trial basis until the end of May to help support those parents who require a slightly earlier start time.

If it proves popular then we will make this a permanent arrangement.

As with our current provision it will be on a first come first serve basis and booked via the School App.



Clubs

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

Booking is now available on the app

- **Monday**-Fun Fusion Club for Y1 and Y2 with the Sports Coach
- **Tuesday**-FAB Club YR, Y1 and Y2 with Miss Barratt
- **Thursday**-Nature Club for YR with Mrs Bibby
- **Thursday**- Football Club for Y4, Y5 and Y6 with Mr Moon

In addition to these clubs, Y1 children are also invited to attend Mrs Lister's Phonics Club on Thursday and Y4 children are invited to join Mrs Bond's TT Rockstars's Club which will be in a Wednesday. There are Confirmation lessons for some children with Father Michael on Tuesdays.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Uniform

Please make every effort to ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform and that it is clearly labelled. Children should wear completely black shoes – not trainers. It is important that the P.E kit is seen as an extension of our school uniform, therefore our high standards should be kept. **A reminder that our school PE kit consists of a black tracksuit/red shorts and white t shirt.** Please note that children should not wear any form of jewellery (only stud earrings are allowed and should not be worn on PE days)

School Collections

If your child is being collected by someone different than usual or who members of staff have not met before, it is vital that the School Office or the Class Teacher is informed. If this is not done, we will have to call you to confirm the arrangements. This is to ensure that your child is released into your care safely. You can support us with this by making us aware of any changes to your child's collection arrangements in advance. Please be patient with staff who are just trying to keep children safe.

Snack



Children in Years 1-6 can bring in their own **healthy snack** to eat at breaktime.

This must not be chocolate, crisps or a sugary cereal bar.

Please be reminded that we are a nut free school.

Water bottles are permitted but these **must only be filled with water.**

Parent Survey

Thank you to all who completed our recent Parent Survey!

Based on your feedback we would like to let you know:

Next academic year we will be holding 2 Parents Evenings per year - one in the Autumn Term and one in the Spring Term.

If you would like to know more about what your child is learning and how subjects operate across school, all of the information you need is on our school website under the 'Curriculum' tab.

We know use School Spider as our main source of communication - please come to the main office at anytime and our office team will be able to help you to get fully set up on your mobile device.

Many Thanks for your support!

Mrs Young

Safeguarding Tip of the Week

How to talk to a child about their safety

Talking to your child can go a long way to helping them feel supported and safe. Having positive conversations with your children to discuss worries or concerns or even just checking in with them about their life and their feelings is very important to helping them to feel supported and keeping them safe. Here are some tips from experts who work with children and young people to help you get talking.

1. Be interested in their lives.
2. Try making talking about feeling safe feel normal
3. Be open about your concerns
4. Take a breath before reacting
5. Reach out to others.

Visit <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/support-for-parents-and-carers/5-tips-for-talking-to-child-about-safety-and-wellbeing> for more information.



National Online Safety Tip of the Week

Online Shopping

Quality merchandise. Fair prices . What's not to love? The possibility of bagging a bargain and the ability to sell your own unwanted items have made online marketplaces like Vinted and Depop into an attractive option for anyone looking to save money or make a little extra cash for themselves in these challenging economic times.

Unfortunately, however, these services (and numerous others like them) can still be misused by scammers, so it pays to remain vigilant for the risks associated with shopping apps. Fortunately, this week's #WakeUpWednesday guide is on hand with some helpful pointers to protect young people (and yourself) from potential exploitation while doing business with others online.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SHOPPING PLATFORMS

For people looking to make purchases on their phones, several shopping apps – such as Temu – allow users to buy goods at reduced prices. Others, like Vinted and Depop, let you sell items you no longer want. As internet shopping continues to grow, however, so does the risk of scammers, hackers and breaches of privacy.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MISSING ITEMS

Users of Vinted, Depop and Temu have reported not receiving their products despite payment being taken. Users can initially contact the seller to query a missing item, and they have between two and five days (depending on the app) to tell the company what has happened. However, once the money has reached the supposed 'seller', it can be quite difficult to get back.

SCAMMERS AND PHISHING

Scammers are always on the lookout for unsuspecting buyers or sellers. Common tactics include cancelling shipment of an item once the payment has been processed or asking to conclude the chat and payment outside of the app, where the victim is no longer protected by the buyer protection plan. This should, naturally, be avoided at all costs.

DATA MISUSE

Apps of all kinds frequently collect our data, often asking for more information than is necessary to set up an account. Data gathered in this way is then usually sold on to third parties for marketing purposes. Lately, certain apps have been under scrutiny for using spyware to track their members' activities – but all too often, the user's consent to this practice has been hidden away in the terms and conditions.

FAKES OR REPLICAS

It's certainly not unheard of for poor-quality products to be falsely marketed as luxury items, using misleading pictures or clever wording. These disingenuous sales are sometimes outed by suspiciously low price tags, but this isn't always the case. For children and young people especially, there's a risk that the promise of bagging a high-end item for a fraction of its usual price will outweigh any suspicions they may have.

SLOW REFUNDS

While all apps offer a refund if the product is damaged or doesn't match the description, it can take up to a month to be compensated for this. For many people (especially during a cost-of-living crisis) that can be a long time to be without both the product you bought and the hard-earned cash you spent on it.

MISLEADING DESCRIPTION

Some people will be able to notice when, say, a product's photo and its description don't seem to match. This isn't a reliable means of picking up on misleading marketing, however – especially not for children and young people, many of whom may not yet realise that such practices even exist. While it's illegal to advertise one thing and sell another, plenty of shady traders use clever wording and omissions to get around this.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ALWAYS STAY ON THE APP

It's vital that users pay for any goods through the same app on which they found them, to ensure they are covered by buyer protection. This means users can access support if the item arrives damaged, isn't as described, or doesn't arrive at all – allowing them to seek compensation for the loss. Such regulations can't protect you, however, if you didn't do the deal through the app in question.

BE WARY OF PHISHING ATTEMPTS

Scammers frequently send messages within these apps to steal personal and financial information from other users. Don't respond to these messages – and under no circumstances should you follow any links they contain. Check for spelling errors, as well as inspecting the name of the sender. Report any suspected phishing emails to the app's help centre – and notify your bank if you think your financial information has been compromised.

CHECK REVIEWS

Take time to read the reviews and comments left by other users – not just of products, but of sellers and buyers, to ensure they're legitimate and reliable. Before buying an item online, check the reviews for comments about the product's quality, the seller's communication and the delivery time. If you're selling, check the reviews of your buyer for red flags such as frequent requests for refunds or claims of 'missing' items.

KEEP SAFE AS A SELLER

Sellers can be exploited just as much as buyers. Some users may purchase an item, for example, then pretend it didn't arrive to secure a refund. Always take photos of the shipping label, along with a picture of you posting the item. Send the package's tracking number to the buyer and keep a copy for yourself, letting you investigate any future claims that it never arrived. When taking photos of items you're selling, ensure nothing personal is in the background.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware, who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/shopping-apps



Food banks provide emergency food and compassionate, dignified support to people locked in crisis. There are 10 food banks available to residents in St Helens Borough, five of which are managed by The HOPE Centre charity in St Helens and require a voucher from a relevant local agency.

St James are registered with St Helens Foodbank and are able to issue Food Bank Vouchers (subject to conditions). If you feel like you are struggling to put food on the table, please contact Mrs Maloney, in the School Office, for more information. We can also provide long term support through Early Help which Mrs Briers and Mrs Conant organise.

Community food pantries

Pantries operate as a member-led neighbourhood hub and are just like a shop, in that you choose the food you want from the shelves. Members pay a small subscription each week they visit, and in return can choose groceries worth many times more, often saving up to £1,000 a year on shopping bills.. How it works.:

Step one: Find your nearest pantry (you must live in the area in which it is based).

Step two: Go along and join on the day it is open, remembering it is open to everyone in that community.

Step three: Pay your £5 membership each time you visit. Sit and have a cuppa while you wait for your turn.

Step four: Choose your shopping, which will always be worth more than your weekly membership fee.

Step five: Tell your neighbours and get them to join too.

For more information please see <https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/6987/Food>



Lectio 365

Lectio 365 is a free daily devotional app that helps you pray the Bible every day.

Lectio 365 is a free daily devotional resource for adults that helps you pray the Bible every day.

Tune into God's presence and peace by slowing down, meditating on scripture, listening to God and praying for 10 minutes at the beginning and end of each day.

Lectio 365 is a free daily devotional app that helps you pray the Bible every day.

Each morning we follow a simple rhythm:
P. R. A. Y.

Morning Prayer
Pause to be still
Rejoice with a Psalm and Reflect on Scripture
Ask for God's help
Yield to His will in your life

[For iPhone](#)

[For Android](#)



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 31st 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 so we can send you a TEAMS link to the sessions

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

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

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

IN OTHER
NEWS



FOOTBALL CLASSES

For more information
on prices and availability contact:

Steven Pagendam on 07492091999
Or message me on
Facebook **STEVEN PAGENDAM**
👍👍👍👍👍👍👍👍

PLEASE BRING WATER AND SPORTS GEAR

Walmsley Road Football Fields, Eccleston,
St Helens, WA10 5PJ

I am DBS approved and an FA qualified
coach. I have over 11 years experience in
coaching both in the UK and overseas.

FOR CHILDREN AGED 3-12 years

All sessions are based
around fun, with
matches being played.
Even if you are in a
team why not come
along for extra
training. My sessions
are designed to build
confidence, learn new
skills and make new
friends.

- CLASSES AVAILABLE:**
- Girls only classes
 - Mixed group classes
 - 1-2-1s
 - Specialised positional classes
 - Toddler classes (age 3-4)