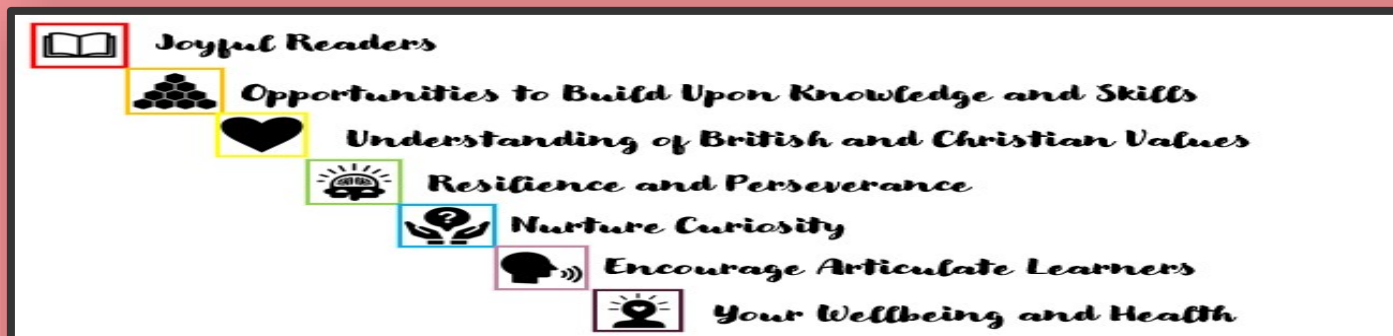


NEWSLETTER

Email: www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk

Twitter: @StJamesCEsth

Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God



2024-2025 Issue Number 22 Friday 21st March 2025

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



This week at St James

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we welcome the signs of spring, it's heartwarming to see our school community living, learning, and laughing with the love of God.

This week has been filled with exciting activities and wonderful experiences for our children. On Tuesday, Year 3 had their Golden Shell day, where they were treated to a live orchestra performance at the Royal Philharmonic in Liverpool. They also explored the World Museum. What a super day out and wonderful memories made!

Year 6 continued their 'Build Up' sessions with Active Hope, preparing for their upcoming residential. These sessions are helping them build confidence, teamwork, and resilience.

Year 2 had another fantastic day of art with Mr. C. They have created some fabulous masterpieces, showcasing their creativity and talent.

In Reception, we are thrilled to announce that the chicks have hatched and are doing well. The children are enjoying watching them grow and learning about their development.

On Wednesday, we enjoyed a wonderful worship session with Joe Heyes. We love to hear his stories and join in with him as he plays the guitar.

Thank you for your continued support and a huge thank you for supporting us with our chocolate collection for our Easter Bingo which is coming up soon. Tickets are now on sale. Let's continue to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God as we journey through this beautiful season together.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Briers

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance Updates

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 Whole School attendance to date is 96%

The class with the highest attendance this week, and the winner of the virtual £5 is Year 5 and Year 2

There were 134 pupils with perfect attendance this week. Can we beat this next week?

Weekly Attendance

Whole School	94.9%
Reception	91.3%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	94.3%
Year 4	95.4%
Year 5	97.3%
Year 6	91.5%

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....



Be In SCHOOL
Be On TIME

Equates to:



Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Easter Hamper

Attend school every day (and on time) for 4 weeks to be in with a chance of winning our mega Easter hamper!
10th March to 4th April.

Piggy Bank

An extra £5 in your class Piggy Bank if your class has 100% attendance in the final week
7th-9th April

We're aiming for...

97%



100%

Eggsellent Attendance!

Spot Prizes

Each week there will be an attendance 'Spot Prize' to be won.

Don't forget to attend in the last week of term to take part in our church Easter services and Easter activities.



Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Signs of Poor Mental Health

As part of our commitment to keeping children safe and promoting their well-being, we want to share some important information on recognising signs of poor mental health in children. According to the latest guidance from Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024, being aware of these signs can help us provide the necessary support early on.

Here are some common signs that your child may need support:

1. **Changes in Mood:** Look out for prolonged sadness, irritability, or extreme mood swings that affect their daily life.
2. **Social Withdrawal:** If your child is avoiding friends, family, or social activities they once enjoyed, it may be a sign of distress.
3. **Changes in School Performance:** A sudden drop in grades, difficulty concentrating, or a lack of interest in schoolwork can indicate underlying issues.
4. **Physical Symptoms:** Frequent headaches, stomach aches, or other unexplained physical complaints can be linked to mental health struggles.
5. **Changes in Sleep or Appetite:** Noticeable changes in sleeping patterns or eating habits, such as insomnia or loss of appetite, can be warning signs.
6. **Behavioural Changes:** Increased aggression, disobedience, or frequent temper tantrums may signal that your child is struggling emotionally.
7. **Excessive Worry or Anxiety:** Persistent worry, fear, or anxiety that interferes with daily activities is a key indicator.

If you notice any of these signs, it's important to talk to your child and seek professional help if needed. Early intervention can make a significant difference in their well-being. Miss Moore is also available should you feel that you need any additional support or signposting to services.



Online Safety Tip of the Week

Roblox

Online multiplayer games like Roblox are enjoyed by millions across the world and can be a great way for friends to socialise; however, they can also expose young people to variety of potential harms. Roblox is a multi-platform game that enables people to play anonymously, which can often be something that attracts people to misuse the game and put younger players at risk of harm.

In addition to interacting with random strangers across the world, it's important to be aware of other risk factors, such as in-game purchases and potential scams that can put young people at risk financially. This week's guide offers parents and educators expert advice about what can be done to ensure that young people have a safe and enjoyable experience with Roblox.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



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Spirituality Spotlight

As a school community we want to be:

**“Journeying together to Live,
Learn and Laugh with the Love of
God”**



Lent Week 2
Matthew 6:1-15

Giving to the Needy

“Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honoured by others. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Prayer

“But when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

“This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.’

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.



Journey Driver Focus:

Each half term, one child from each class is nominated by their class teacher for 'living out' our value of the half term. The value for this half term is Resilience and Perseverance .

RECEPTION	Reah Dixon
YEAR 1	Deana Hussein
YEAR 2	Elijah
YEAR 3	Noah Siry
YEAR 4	Matilda Smith-Pilling
YEAR 5	Joshua Nelson
YEAR 6	Amelia Pickering



PE Days

Start (Mon 10th March 25)

End (Fri 16th May 25).

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

Y5 Swimming (5th March to 2nd April)



Clubs

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

- **Monday**
 - KS2 Darts Club with Mr Ratcliffe
 - **Tuesday**
 - FAB Club for Y3 and Y4 with Miss Barratt
 - Football for KS2 with the Sports Coach
 - Confirmation Classes (for those children who are being confirmed) with Father Micheal.
 - **Wednesday**
 - Nature Club for YR and Y1 with Mrs Bibby and Mrs Boardman.
 - **Thursday–**
 - 8am Archery Club with external provider.
 - Multi-skills for KS1 with the Sports Coach
- If your child is in Y4, Y5 or Y6, you may receive a letter inviting them to attend a Booster Club.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Parental Survey

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve and provide the best possible education for your children, we kindly ask you to take a few moments to complete our parent survey.

Your feedback is incredibly valuable to us. We always strive to listen to your views and take action where possible. Your opinions play a crucial role in shaping the future of our school and ensuring its success.

Thank you for your time and support.

Please use the QR code or the link below.

[St James CE Primary School \(Parent/Carer Survey 2024-2025\)](#)

St James CE Primary School -
Parent/Carer Survey (2024/2025)



Due to the overwhelming success of our previous event, the Book Fair is returning to St James' School!

The Book Fair will be held from **Monday, 24th March to Wednesday, 26th March.**

Event Details:

- **Time:** 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
- **Location:** Inside the school (Please enter via the school office)

Payment Options:

- We accept both cash and card payments. However, card payments are preferred and can be made via a QR code.

Special Note for Seashells Attendees:

- If your child attends Seashells, they can visit the Book Fair with staff. Please place the money in an envelope clearly labelled with your child's name and the amount provided.

Thank you for your support!

Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Eid Celebration Day at St James CE Primary School

On **Tuesday 1st April**, we will be holding an Eid Celebration Day to allow us to celebrate alongside some members of our school community and to provide all children with the opportunity to learn more about this religious festival. This special occasion will definitely give our children the opportunity to enjoy the spirit of Eid, while promoting cultural awareness, respect, and inclusion.

Event Details:

Date: Monday 1st April.

Dress Code: Children are welcome to wear traditional or party/celebration clothes if they wish.

Activities: There will be a range of fun activities, including crafts, storytelling, and learning about the significance of Eid.

Treats: Children may bring in **nut-free** treats to share with their class if they would like. We will be providing all children with an Eid specially baked treat too thank you to the wonderful ladies in the St James kitchen.

We encourage all children to take part in this joyful celebration, whether they celebrate Eid at home or would just like to learn more about it.

If you are celebrating Eid and would like to help school in planning the day (maybe by coming in to talk with the children, share some Eid music or celebrations or even helping us with activity ideas), please do speak in person or via phone/email with the school office who will put you in touch with a senior member of staff.



Tree Planting

School has been given some trees and we planning to use them to being to establish a woodland area at the far end of the school field. In order for this to happen, we need some help planting them. So, on Sunday 23rd March, a number of us will meet on the school field at 3pm and would appreciate it if lots of people could join us. All are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Please come to the field through the gate to the bottom car park and bring a spade or a trowel. We will be finished by 4:30 at the latest. During this time there will not be access to the school building or play-grounds.



New Hope for Africa - Fundraising Day:
Wednesday 26th March 2025



Please help support New Hope School and Orphanage in Uganda – our Trust Charity (where we sponsor a child in the school).



For a £1 donation, you are invited to come to school wearing the colours of the Uganda Flag (red, yellow or black). This can be paid via School Money.

We are also having a **bake sale on the day!** Please could you donate any cakes (either home-made or shop bought) that are nut free for the sale.

Cakes will then be priced to buy at 50p each.



Thank you for your support!



St James' PTFA
Easter Bingo

Thursday, 3rd April 5-7pm

Doors open 4.30pm

School Hall



- Entry tickets are £1, available from the office, (limited numbers).
- Bingo tickets are available to buy on the evening (cash).
- Bingo £1 game £6 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!

Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.



Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins beginning February 2025



Come along to one of our drop in sessions in St Helens.

Our team will answer questions you have about the neurodevelopment pathway process.

You don't need to be using our service, you can drop in if you have any questions to ask about this.

We look forward to meeting you.

Second Tuesday of the month at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub 1pm to 4pm.

Third Tuesday of the month at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

Fourth Tuesday of the month at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

11 February at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

11 March at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

8 April at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

18 February at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

18 March at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

15 April at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

25 February at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

25 March at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

22 April at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

Sutton Family Hub, Ellamsbridge Road, Sutton, St Helens, WA9 3PY



Mental Health Support Team Wellbeing webinars



Your MHST is running a series of mental health and wellbeing webinars.

TOPICS AND DATES

Understanding Low Mood - **25 February**
Neurodiversity - **18 March**
Parenting Skills for Behaviour - **29 April**
LGBTQ+ - **10 June**
Emotional Regulation - **13 May**
Body Image - **8 July**

WHEN

Tuesdays 3.30pm to 4.15pm on Zoom
(link will be emailed once you register)

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

We have two webinars available on our website. These sessions focus on Understanding Anxiety will give you a flavour of what to expect from a session.

To register please email which webinar you want to attend to events@merseycare.nhs.uk



Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh with the Love of God.



17/03/2025	Young Carers action day
19/03/2025	Year 1 Phonics Information 3.30pm
21/03/2025	Non-uniform Day - Bottle for Tombola
24/03/2025	Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
24/03/2025	Book Fair 3.30pm
25/03/2025	Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
25/03/2025	Book Fair 3.30pm
26/03/2025	Book Fair 3.30pm
26/03/2025	New Hope Fundraising Day - wear red, yellow or black
28/03/2025	Reception Mother's Day Event 2.00pm-3.00pm
01/04/2025	Eid Celebration Day - wear party/celebration clothes
01/04/2025	Year 5 and Year 6 Hockey
02/04/2025	Academy Photography Year 6 Leavers and class photographs
08/04/2025	Easter Service, St James' the Great Church, 9.30am
09/04/2025	School Closes for Easter 2.00pm



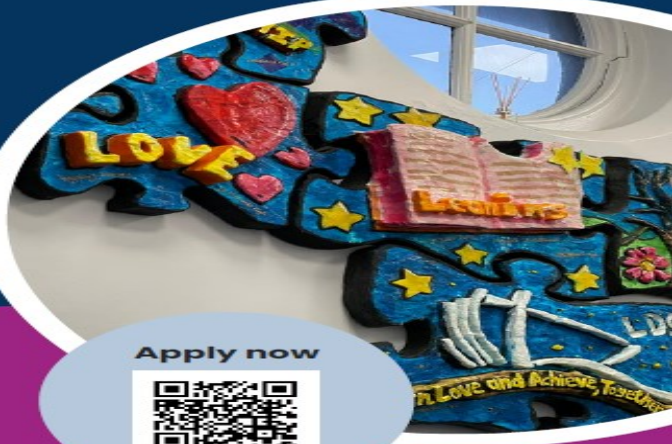
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- Get hands-on experience in the classroom
 - You'll work as a teaching member of staff in a local school right from the start.
- Receive high-quality training
 - You'll benefit from Teach First's teacher training – rated outstanding by Ofsted – delivered by local teacher development experts.
- Access support from experienced teachers
 - You'll shadow other teachers before leading your own lessons with guidance from experienced colleagues.
- Qualify in one year and start earning
 - You'll graduate with qualified teacher status (QTS) and a postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE).

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