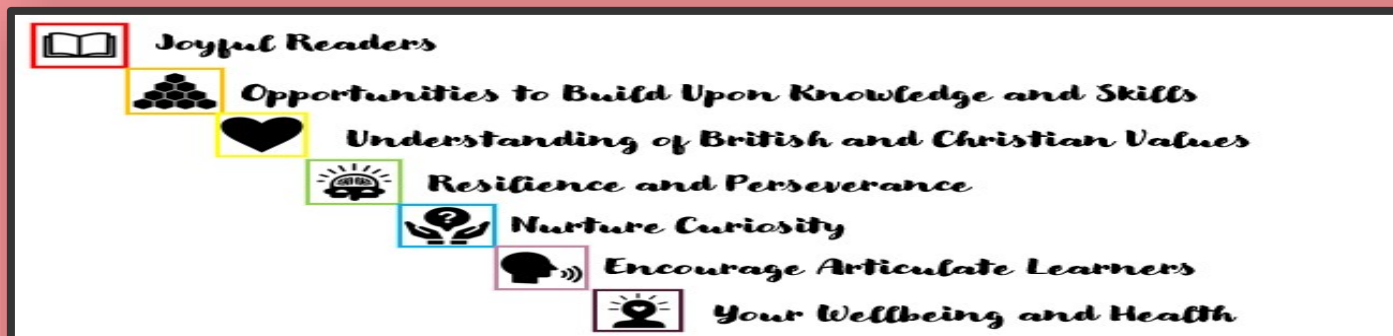


# NEWSLETTER

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

Twitter: @StJamesCEsth

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



2024-2025 Issue Number 27 Friday 2nd May 2025

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



## This week at St James

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been, made all the more special by the glorious sunshine gracing us with its presence!

A heartfelt thank you to all our Year 2 parents who attended Parents' Evening. I hope you found it valuable in getting to know your child's new teacher and gaining insight into their learning journey for the year ahead. Your involvement is truly appreciated.

Our Year 5 children had a fantastic day at Jodrell Bank, exploring the wonders of space and science—it was wonderful to hear their excitement as they shared their experiences back at school.

On Wednesday afternoon, our Journey Leader groups came together to action some of the plans they've been working on. Their leadership and dedication to making a positive impact are inspiring, and I look forward to seeing the fruits of their efforts in the coming months.

Our Year 1 class assembly was a sheer delight! Their enthusiasm, creativity, and personality shone through, and it was a pleasure to watch their performance. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

Across the school, all classes have now started sensory circuit activities, helping our children develop emotional regulation skills to support their well-being. Additionally, we are beginning to embed our new trust-wide multiplication strategy, aimed at promoting fluency in times tables. This will be an exciting and valuable step forward in our approach to maths learning.

As we head into the long weekend, I hope you all take time to enjoy the sunshine, rest, and recharge. Don't forget that on Thursday next week the children can come to school dressed in red, white and blue (if they choose to) as part of our VE day celebrations.

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 95.9%**

The class with the highest attendance this week, and the winner of the virtual £5 is Year 6

**There were 149 pupils with perfect attendance this week. Can we beat this next week?**

## Weekly Attendance

Whole School	98.4%
Reception	98.7%
Year 1	97.1%
Year 2	99.5%
Year 3	99.3%
Year 4	97.5%
Year 5	96.8%
Year 6	100%



THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT



### Whole School events Summer 1

Date	Event
22/04/25	School Re-opens
22/04/25	World Earth Day
22/04/25	Confirmation Class 3.20pm - 4.15pm
24/04/25	St James' Easter Service - Year 3 led 2.30pm (in church)
28/04/25	Year 2 Parents Evening
29/04/25	Year 5 Trip - Jodrell Bank
29/04/25	Year 2 Parents Evening
01/05/25	Year 1 assembly 9.00am
05/05/25	SCHOOL CLOSED - Bank Holiday
06/05/25	Digital Leaders - Football Fundraiser
06/05/25	Confirmation Class 3.20pm-4.15pm
13/05/25	Confirmation Class 3.20pm-4.15pm
20/05/25	Confirmation Class 3.20pm-4.15pm
22/05/25	Year 1 Trip - Safari Park
23/05/25	Coffee Morning TBC 9.00am
23/05/25	School Closes



SPRING  
into  
Summer

### Attendance Competition

At St James, coming to school every day matters!

The more you attend, the more you learn—and those with the best attendance achieve amazing things.

Each week, your class could win a special reward!

On different days each week, the class with the best attendance will earn an extra playtime that day!

It's simple—if you're in school and your class is the winner, you get extra time to play!

EVERY  
DAY  
MATTERS

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



# Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



## Safeguarding Tip of the Week

### Keeping Children Safe: Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism

At St James, the safety and well-being of our students are at the heart of everything we do. As part of our commitment to creating a nurturing and secure learning environment, we actively educate and protect children from the risks of radicalisation and extremism.

#### **How We Safeguard Against Radicalisation**

We follow the guidance set out in *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024*, ensuring that all staff are trained to identify warning signs and respond appropriately. Our approach includes:

- **Education & Awareness:** Through age-appropriate lessons, we encourage discussions about values such as respect, tolerance, and critical thinking, helping children understand the dangers of extremism and radicalisation.
- **A Safe Space for Dialogue:** We promote open discussions where children can ask questions, express their thoughts, and develop their understanding of world issues in a safe and balanced manner.
- **Online Safety:** Our digital education program teaches students how to navigate the internet responsibly, recognize harmful content, and report concerns.
- **Staff Training:** All staff receive regular training to stay informed on the latest safeguarding practices, ensuring they can recognize and act on concerns related to radicalisation.
- **Strong Partnerships:** We work closely with parents, carers, and external safeguarding agencies to provide the best support and guidance for our pupils.

By fostering a school culture that promotes inclusivity, critical thinking, and resilience, we aim to empower children with the knowledge and confidence to protect themselves from harmful influences. If you have any concerns or would like further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to our safeguarding team.

Together, we create a safe and supportive space for every child to thrive.

## Online Safety Tip of the Week

### Top Tips for Staying Safe on the Road



Staying safe on our roads isn't just a skill — it's a lifelong habit. It is crucial to learn key strategies for helping children navigate streets safely and confidently, from practising journeys together to teaching them how to choose the safest crossing points.

National Online Safety have collaborated with THINK! to offer real-world advice on issues like the dangers of parked vehicles, reversing cars and mobile phone distractions — it's an invaluable tool for parents and educators who want to help young people travel independently without compromising their safety.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

### 1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

### 2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

### 3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

### 4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

### 5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

### 6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

### 7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

### 8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

### 9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

### 10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

### Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



The National College

@wake\_up\_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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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”**



### A Prayer for Friendship

Dear God,

Thank You for the wonderful gift of friendship.  
For the smiles, laughter, and kindness shared each day,  
For the bonds that lift us up and make us strong.

We are grateful for our families,  
For their love, encouragement, and guidance,  
For the lessons they teach us about caring for one another.

Help us to build each other up,  
To be kind, patient, and understanding,  
To see the good in others and share the goodness in ourselves.

May our school be a place of joy,  
Where friendships grow,  
And where we learn not only with our minds but with our hearts.

Bless our families, teachers, and friends,  
So that together, we may always walk in love and kindness.

Amen.

*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 Nurturing Curiosity.

RECEPTION	Reina Pye
YEAR 1	Shaye Finch
YEAR 2	Myla Hart
YEAR 3	Emmanuel Ejimofor
YEAR 4	Annie Deluce
YEAR 5	Ryder Seddon
YEAR 6	Demi Rattray

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT

**PE Days**

**Start (Mon 10th March 25)**

**End (Fri 16th May 25).**

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

**Y5 Swimming (5th March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April)**



**Clubs**

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

- **Tuesday**
  - Sports Club for KS1 with the Sports Coach
  - Confirmation Classes (for those children who are being confirmed) with Father Micheal.
- **Thursday–**
  - Sports Club for KS2 with the Sports Coach

\*If your child is in Y1, Y4 Y6, you may receive a letter inviting them to attend a Booster Club.





### 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)

### 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.**

### 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.



## Early Years Maths Taster Session

Join our informative and free family learning **EY Maths** session!

In this informative course, you will:

- ✓ Explore how you can support your child with maths.
- ✓ Improve your own knowledge of maths.
- ✓ Find out about other courses on offer.



**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> June  
2025  
1 – 3pm at St.  
James CE  
Primary**

**I would like to attend the family learning sessions**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's name and class** \_\_\_\_\_



# IN OTHER NEWS

Children and young people can be nominated by anyone.  
E.g. Teachers, youth workers, parents, neighbours or by other children.

## HIDDEN TREASURES

The Believe Awards are open to nominations of young people aged 7-17 living in Merseyside. Our theme this year, 'Hidden Treasures' will celebrate remarkable young people who have made a difference in their community. Nominees are shortlisted to 10 young winners who will be invited, along with their families, to a spectacular event at the beautiful Titanic Hotel Liverpool on Friday 4th July, for an evening of food, entertainment, recognition and celebration.

All nominations must be received online by  
**25th May 2025**



Diamond Award

Ruby Award



Sapphire Award

Pearl Award

Hidden Gem Award

Emerald Award

Crown Jewel Award

Silver Lining Award

Golden Anchor Award

Treasure Chest Award



**Believe  
Awards**



Nominate online:  
[www.thebelieveawards.co.uk](http://www.thebelieveawards.co.uk)

[thebelieveawards@ykids.co.uk](mailto:thebelieveawards@ykids.co.uk) ☎ 0151 944 2111





# st helens heritage festival

**Save the Date!**  
**Saturday 31 May 2025**  
**St Helens town centre**

Free family friendly event:  
all are welcome to  
celebrate and share the  
rich and varied heritage  
of St Helens Borough



St Helens  
Archive Service



Heritage  
Fund

ST HELENS  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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**Courses starting soon - most are free!**

**Wellbeing**  
**Digital**  
**Community training**  
**English, maths & ESOL**  
**Childcare and Education**

☎ Contact us to find out more:  
 ☎ 01744 676671, 01744 677328, or 07702 959814  
 ✉ [adultlearning@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:adultlearning@sthelens.gov.uk)  
 🌐 [www.sthelens.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/adultlearning)  
 📘 StHelensACL  
 📱 @STHLearning

**BE MORE SKILLED**

**Lifelong learning for all!**

## Coming soon!

When	Course	Where
<b>Monday</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>10am-12pm OR 1-3pm</b>	<b>Doodling workshops as part of Mental Health Awareness week</b> Learn a simple, creative way to reduce stress, improve focus, and boost wellbeing.	<b>United Reformed Church, St Helens</b> <b>WA10 2JZ</b>
<b>Monday afternoon</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>12.45-3pm</b>	<b>Mental Health Awareness workshop</b> Highlighting the power of community and the importance of mental health awareness in supporting positive wellbeing for all.	<b>Park Road Centre</b> <b>WA9 1HE</b>
<b>Monday morning</b> <b>19<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>9.30am-12pm</b>	<b>Working with Children workshop</b> This workshop is perfect for anyone interested in exploring a career in childcare and will cover first steps toward various roles in the sector.	<b>Park Road Centre</b> <b>WA9 1HE</b>
<b>Monday morning</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> June</b> <b>9.30am-12pm</b>	<b>Planning and Preparing Creative Activities</b> Learn how to encourage creativity and plan engaging sessions for children.	<b>Park Road Centre</b> <b>WA9 1HE</b>
<b>Monday afternoon</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> June</b> <b>1-3pm</b>	<b>Creative Ideas for Children on a Budget</b> Discover fun, low-cost craft activities using recycled materials.	<b>Park Road Centre</b> <b>WA9 1HE</b>
<b>Monday morning</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup> June</b> <b>9.30am-12pm</b>	<b>Practical Health and Safety for Activities</b> Understand safety symbols, identify potential hazards, and learn how to minimise risks when working with children.	<b>Park Road Centre</b> <b>WA9 1HE</b>
<b>Monday mornings</b> <b>16<sup>th</sup> June &amp; 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b> <b>10am-12pm OR 1-3pm</b>	<b>Summer Crafts</b> 2-week pot painting course, create and paint a terracotta pot for the home, all resources included!	<b>United Reformed Church, St Helens</b> <b>WA10 2JZ</b>
<b>Monday afternoons</b> <b>Starting in June</b>	<b>iPads &amp; Tablets</b> Learn basic device security, how to use touch screens and on-screen keyboards, explore mobile browsers and web addresses. Find and install useful apps to help you get the most from your device.	<b>United Reformed Church, St Helens</b> <b>WA10 2JZ</b>
<b>Tuesday and Thursday mornings</b> <b>Starting 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Level 1 Introduction to Early Years Settings</b> This course is for anyone interested in working in an Early Years setting. It may also interest parents and volunteers who would like to play a part in Early Years settings, such as pre-schools or nurseries.	<b>Park Road Centre</b> <b>WA9 1HE</b>

**For all courses and workshops places must be booked in advance!**

**To join our free courses, you need to be aged 19 or over and live in one of these areas: St Helens, Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, or Wirral.**

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## Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins

**NHS**  
**Mersey Care**  
NHS Foundation Trust

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.**

\*Please note, on Tuesday 8 July the session will be held at Sutton Family Hub 1pm to 4pm only.

**13 May** at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**10 June** at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**8 July** at Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**20 May** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**17 June** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**15 July** at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**27 May** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

**24 June** at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

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

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

Parr Children's Centre, Ashton's Green Drive, Parr, St Helens, WA9 2AP

Central Link Family Hub, Westfield Street, (off Peter Street), St Helens, WA10 1QF

Newton Family Hub, Patterson Street, Newton-le-Willows, St Helens, WA12 9PZ



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