



# NEWSLETTER

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

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*Journeying Together to Live, Learn and Laugh 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**

**2024-2025 Issue Number 33 Friday 20th June 2025**

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



## This week at St James

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic week it has been at our school! I want to take a moment to say how incredibly proud we are of all our children. This week, they have shown such determination, focus, and resilience as they completed their end-of-year assessments. Their hard work and positive attitudes have truly shone through, and we couldn't be prouder of each and every one of them.

Alongside their academic efforts, this week has also been filled with joy and adventure through our Golden Shell experiences. Our Year 4 children had a brilliant time exploring Liverpool—they visited the museum and even though they didn't get to enjoy a ferry ride across the River Mersey, they were still able to take in the sights and sounds of this vibrant city and enjoy an ice cream too! Meanwhile, Reception had an exciting trip to the airport, sparking their curiosity and imagination as they learned about travel and the wider world.

These experiences are a wonderful reminder of our school's mission: journeying together to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God. Whether in the classroom or out on a trip, our children are growing not just in knowledge, but in confidence, friendship, and faith.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to more memorable moments as we head towards the end of the school year.

We'd also like to say a huge congratulations to the children who are due to be confirmed this Sunday in church. This is a very special milestone in their faith journey, and we are incredibly proud of their commitment and preparation. As a school community, we will be holding them in our thoughts and prayers as they take this important step, continuing to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God.

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 95.7%**

The class with the highest attendance this week, and the winner of the virtual £5 is Year 3

**There were 139 pupils with perfect attendance this week. Can we beat this next week?**

## Weekly Attendance

Whole School	96.1%
Reception	98%
Year 1	96.1%
Year 2	96.8%
Year 3	98.3%
Year 4	92.5%
Year 5	95.5%
Year 6	96%





# 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.



## Summer Days: Every Day Matters 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!

More fun, more fresh air, and more time to enjoy the sunshine with your friends.

So, let's show up, do our best, and see which class will take the prize.

Will it be yours? Keep coming in and find out!

## Miss School Miss Out

If you're not coming to school, you will miss out on....



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THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT



Whole School events Summer 2

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
17/06/2025	Year 4 Trip Liverpool Museum and Ferry Ride
17/06/2025	Judo Club 8.00am
17/06/2025	Confirmation Class 3.20pm
18/06/2025	Year 4 Swimming
19/06/2025	Reception Trip Manchester Airport
22/06/2025	Confirmation Service St James' The Great 10.30am
23/06/2025	Year 4 and Year 5 Softball
23/06/2025	New Intake Meeting 4pm
24/06/2025	Year 2 Trip World of Glass
24/06/2025	Judo Club 8.00am
25/06/2025	Year 4 Swimming
26/06/2025	Year 2 Class Assembly 9.00am
27/06/2025	Year 6 Trip Shakespeare North Playhouse
30/06/2025	Transition Week
30/06/2025	Reception Vision Screening Test
01/07/2025	Judo club 8.00am
01/07/2025	Year 3 and Year 4 Crazy Rounders
02/07/2025	Year 4 Swimming
04/07/2025	Sports Day - KS1 9.30am, KS2 1.00pm
07/07/2025	Reserve Sports Day
08/07/2025	Judo club 8.00am
09/07/2025	Year 4 Swimming
10/07/2025	Year 5 and Year 6 Ultimate Frisbie
14/07/2025	Awards Evening
15/07/2025	Zumbathon Sponsored Event
16/07/2025	Reception Assembly 9.00am
16/07/2025	Year 4 Swimming
18/07/2025	End of Year Report to go Home
22/07/2025	Year 6 to Lead Year 6 Leavers Assembly
22/07/2025	School Closes for Summer 2pm

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THANK YOU  
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## Term Dates

2025-2026

Autumn Term		Days
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	38
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	35
Spring Term		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	30
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	25
Summer Term		
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	29
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	33
		190

## ATTENDANCE

## WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

**I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.**

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

**£160**



2

**FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.**



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

**4 children & 1 parent = £640**

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

**IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE**

**10 IN 10**

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

**1**

**Day =**

**2**

**Sessions**

5

3

**FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS**



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160



**4 children & 2 parents = £1280**

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

4

**If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...**

**2ND TIME**

2 parents and

1 child = £320

2 children = 640

3 children = 960

4 children = 1280

**No discount for early payment**



**3RD TIME**

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court.

A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child

**1 parent & 4 children = £10,000**

**2 parents & 4 children = £20,000**

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# Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



## Safeguarding Tip of the Week

### Working with Other Schools: Safeguarding Through Transitions

At our school, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do—including when children join or leave us. We work closely with other schools and early years settings to ensure that every child's transition is as smooth and safe as possible.

**When children join us from nursery**, we liaise with their previous setting to gather key information about their development, wellbeing, and any safeguarding concerns. This helps us to provide the right support from day one and ensure continuity in care.

**For in-year transfers**, we promptly request safeguarding and pastoral records from the child's previous school. This ensures we are aware of any ongoing support needs or concerns and can continue to safeguard the child effectively.

**When our pupils move on to secondary school**, we share relevant safeguarding information with their new school as part of the transition process. This includes any child protection files, pastoral support plans, or other information that will help the receiving school to keep the child safe and supported.

These practices are in line with the statutory guidance in *Keeping Children Safe in Education*, which emphasises the importance of information sharing between schools to protect children and support their wellbeing.

By working together with other schools and settings, we help ensure that no child falls through the gaps during times of change.

## Online Safety Tip of the Week

### You Tube Kids



YouTube Kids is designed to be the safer cousin of the regular YouTube app; however, built-in risks continue to pose concerns 🙄. From targeted advertising to addictive design, there's more going on behind the scenes than many realise. This week's #WakeUpWednesday guide breaks it all down.

Whether it's inappropriate content slipping past filters or tech-savvy kids bypassing parental settings, YouTube Kids still needs careful oversight. Our guide provides clear, easy-to-follow tips to help adults keep young users protected while still enjoying their favourite videos 🎬🛡️

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS

YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.



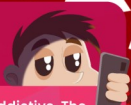
### BE WARY OF ADVERTISING

Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.



### DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE

YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.



### SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED

YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.



### AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION

There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.



### DATA COLLECTION RISK

While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.



## Advice for Parents & Educators

### PARENTAL CONTROLS

YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.



### SET TIME LIMITS

The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.



### CHECK WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.



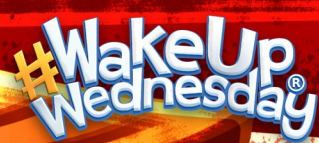
### WATCH TOGETHER

It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.



### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youtube-kids-2025>



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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”**



*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 'Encourage Articulate Learners'

RECEPTION	Gethin
YEAR 1	Betty Rotherham
YEAR 2	Sophia Illes
YEAR 3	Olivia Nelson
YEAR 4	Mason
YEAR 5	Emmanuel Meza
YEAR 6	Tommy Davies



### 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>](https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/6987/Food)



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.



### PE Days

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

Y4 Swimming (4<sup>nd</sup> Jun – 16<sup>th</sup> July).



### Clubs

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

- **Tuesday**
  - Judo at 8am (5 weeks 10th June-8th July)-Please see flyer
  - Sports Club for YR, Y1 and Y2 with the Sports Coach
  - FAB Club for Y2 and Y3-Miss Barratt
  - Confirmation Classes (for those children who are being confirmed) with Father Micheal.
- **Wednesday**
  - Football Club for Y5 and Y6 with Mr Moon
- **Thursday–**
  - Sports Club for KS2 with the Sports Coach

# 1:1 & 2:1 FOOTBALL SESSIONS

- 7 days a week
- Coaching all positions
- Improvement after first session
- Girls & Boys Ages 6 - 15 years
- Discounts Available



**WALMSLEY ROAD WA105JR**

For more information contact Steve Pagendam on  
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**Over 16 years coaching experience, full dbs  
held and fully qualified FA coach**