

**Lyme Street
Haydock
St Helens,
Merseyside,
WA11 0NL**



Twitter @StJamesCEsth
Phone: 01744 678545
Email: stjameshaydock@ldst.org.uk

St James CE Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. J Young (BA Hons, PGCE, NPQH)

Thursday 11th September

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know, our Journey Curriculum is centred around 7 Journey Drivers. Everything that we do here at St James is designed to help us better provide children with the opportunity to experience/develop these 7 things.



This year one of our focuses will be on improving the opportunities we provide for children to 'influence their aspirations'.

To help further, we are also having our '**Journey Leaders**' once again. We want our pupils to aspire to be the leaders of the future! So, our Journey Leader initiative will mean that every child from Year 1 to Year 6 will be a member of a pupil leadership team. One afternoon every half term, all leadership teams will meet, discuss priorities, make plans, be given tasks and celebrate successes. These afternoons will be called 'Aspiration Afternoons'.

The School Council will be a separate group to this and so will meet at a different time - not on Aspiration Afternoons. We are also going to nominate Head Pupils from our Year 6 class.

Monday 15th of September is Democracy Day and so we will use this day to launch our Journey Leaders approach and to vote for members of the School Council and Head Pupils (Y6).

What does my child need to do? (parents and carers, they will need your help with this please!)

Journey Leaders:

Look through the Journey Leaders Handbook. Read the information about each Journey team (9 teams to choose from in total). Choose 3 teams that they would like to be part of. On Democracy Day your child will be given a slip of paper and asked to indicate their top 3 preferences. We will try to accommodate this as much as we can! Reading the booklet provided prior to the date will really help.

School Council:

Although every child will be a Journey Leader, it is optional if children wish to also be a school councillor. On Democracy Day, we will choose 2 pupils per class (Y2-Y5) to be in the School Council. Talk with your child about if they would like to do this. If they wish to nominate themselves, they will need to be prepared to stand up in front of their class and deliver a small speech on why they would like to represent their class on the School Council. All children in each class will then vote via a secret ballot. Again, aspiring school councillors may benefit from some help in preparing their speeches!

If your child is in Year 6, then nominations to be in the school council are also nominations to be a Head Pupil. Instead of delivering a small speech to their class, these children will deliver a speech to the school in the hall and all children will then return to classes and vote via secret ballot.

Head Pupils will carry out a wide range of duties over the year including participating in worship, showing visitors around our school, helping to host school events and of course representing the school at special occasions. They should be exceptional role models to all!

I hope you agree that this is an exciting approach for our children and one which will help all children to feel that their voice matters! Let's inspire our children to be tomorrow's leaders today!

Kind Regards

Mrs Briers

Head of School.



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England