

Learning together with courage and kindness

'For the good of all' 1 Corinthians 12



St James News

Headteacher: Mrs Ottaway

Contact: office@stjamesce.vale-academy.org

Telephone: 01235 868232

Oct 19th 2023

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

- Staffing update
- Learning celebrations
- Dates for your diary

Attendance this week: 95.1%

School & Trust target: 96%

Dear St James Families,

As we arrive at the end of the term there is so much to celebrate! Thank you to everyone who has supported the school this term and a special mention to Sam Matthias, who has been such a brilliant Chair of the 'Friends of St James' and an amazing support to school. After many years service Sam has taken the decision to step down as Chair and I know I speak for everyone in the school community in saying a massive thank you for going above and beyond for the school.

Thank you also to everyone who donated so generously to the Harvest festival, all the food has been very gratefully received by Wantage & Grove Foodbank. It was so lovely to have a packed church for the service and the children performed brilliantly! Look at the following dates for next term for future performances around Christmas.



Staffing update:

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of our new Early Years Lead, Mrs Hatcher, who will be officially joining the team in January to step in for Mrs Oreffo, while she has her baby. She is hoping to spend time with us in December and in the interim we will have cover in place for Inkpen Class.

We are also thrilled to announce the fulltime return of Mrs Baker after the holiday.

Learning Celebrations:

This week we celebrated Year 2's wonderful puppets! They have been using them to write and tell alternative fairytales with a range of different characters. Well done Year 2!



We also got to celebrate Ralph's tennis medal and some brilliant maths home learning that Johanna was inspired to do!
























Please remember to keep your contact information up to date and let us know immediately if anything changes.

Key Dates for the Diary



Oct/Nov/Dec 2023

Date	Information
30 th October 	INSET Day Teacher INSET. School closed for children.
31 st October 	Flu vaccine Full details are on the NHS consent letter. These will take place in school.
3 rd November 	School Disco Please purchase your ticket through Parent Mail (no wristbands this year) 4.30pm - 5.15pm: Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 5.30pm - 6.30pm: Years 3 - 6
4 th November 	Community Day 10am - 3pm Please join us for our indoor community day in school. We will be starting our refurb of the hall!
8 th November 	English parent workshop: 2.45pm & 6.00pm Our English team will be presenting our St James English curriculum and answering any questions.
9 th November 	Y6 parent residential information meeting 5.00pm - 5.30pm in the Hall.
13 th – 20 th November 	Christmas Shoebox Appeal Drop-off week A wonderful opportunity to support the Samaritans charity and help give children across the globe a better Christmas. If you would like to take part, you donate £5 and collect a leaflet from the Office.
17 th November 	Children In Need Children are invited to make a donation and dress up in something spotty!
27 th – 1 st December 	Year 6 Residential Year 6 are away at Yenworthy Lodge for a week of making memories!
4 th – 8 th December 	SEND Review parent meetings Parent teacher meetings to review ISPs and set outcomes for Term 2 & 3.
1 st December 	Jack and the Beanstalk Panto Years 1 - 4 will be travelling to the Oxford Playhouse for some pantomime fun.
3 rd December 	Family Advent Service 9.30am at St James Church.
8 th December 	Christmas Carol Performance Years 5 & 6 will be travelling to Creation Theatre at Longwall in Oxford for this Christmas classic.
8 th December 	Fun Run for Helen and Douglas House 11am on the school field. More details to follow.
6 th & 7 th December 	Reception & Year 1 Nativity 2.30pm in the Hall. More details to follow.
11 th – 15 th December 	Year 5 Swimming Intensive Week Please ensure children have their swimwear with them in school every day this week.
13 th & 14 th 	Christmas Lunch 13th December: Reception, Years 1, Yr2 & Yr 6 14th December: Years 3, 4 & 5 Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper on their Christmas dinner day.
13 th December 	Christingle Service 4pm at St James Church – Please come and join us at St James Church. Children from Years 4-6 will be invited to sing or read. Details to follow.
18 th December 	Irock Performance 2.15pm: Parents of children who attend irock are invited to their performance in the hall.
19 th December 	Years 2 & 3 Carol Concert 2.30pm in the Hall. More details to follow.
20 th December 	Last day of term. Schools ends at 12.30pm



AUTUMN INDOOR COMMUNITY DAY



Improving
the
School
Hall



- ★ Painting
- ★ Building Storage
- ★ Window Blinds

Refreshments
for all
Helping
Hands



SKILLS & KIT NEEDED FOR

- Working at height
- Designing neat storage



DULUX MATT
PURE
BRILLIANT
WHITE
EMULSION

If you can donate paint on the day,
need it collected or have another
skill we've asked for, please email:

HelpingHandsHanney
@gmail.com



St James Primary
The Causeway
East Hanney, OX12 0JN

Saturday 4th
November 2023
10am-3pm

WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO JOIN THEIR OWN ROCK BAND?



Book now online

Visit www.irockschool.com/enrol

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Bookings are now open for your child to join their own rock and pop band at school! Enrolling is straightforward, and iRock offers a **first lesson money-back guarantee**

Discover the benefits of band lessons: Not only are they fun, but they also play a significant role in enhancing children's life skills. Lessons focus on boosting confidence, supporting well-being, developing social skills, and even improving academic performance.

How it works:

- There is no experience necessary to join, and all of the instruments are provided by iRock.
- Your child can choose from drums, keyboard, electric guitar, or vocals (subject to availability). They'll play the same instrument every week and join their bandmates in 30-minute weekly lessons.
- Lessons are held during the school day and are led by one of our experienced band coaches, who will guide your child through every session. *Some sessions may take place straight after school*
- Lessons are available from Reception to Year 6, with children grouped by age. Children can choose their band name and learn their favourite songs.
- Band sessions build towards a concert at the end of each term, providing a great way to showcase just how far they have come.
- Children in Years 2, 4, and 6 will be enrolled in a Group Performance qualification by RSL.
- Access the iRock parent portal to view your child's band memories, song choices, manage your subscription and much more!

You can subscribe to iRock through our monthly subscription plan, which spans 11 months with no payment required in August. We offer full flexibility, allowing parents to cancel their subscription at any time. By subscribing, you're guaranteed a minimum of 33 lessons throughout a full academic year.

For availability and cost please visit: www.irockschool.com/enrol and search for your school. For any helps please call 0330 174 2655

Kind regards,

Joshua Franklin
Founder
iRock School of Music

Proudly supporting





Wantage Band presents

THE SNOWMAN

Wantage Band return for a Christmas spectacular for all the family! With a film screening of The Snowman along to the full live brass band soundtrack and lots of festive singalongs, this is THE must see event in the area for Christmas 2023!

"Highly recommend - I came to see this last year and it was phenomenal!"

Adults £15
Students £12
Children £10
Family tickets available
Under 2s (on laps) FREE

ticketsouce.co.uk/wantage-band
or scan below

Saturday 2nd December
The Beacon, Wantage
3:30pm and 6:00pm

Sunday 3rd December
The Amey Theatre, Abingdon
1:30pm and 4:00pm



LEARN TO PLAY WITH WSB



Cornet
Tenor Horn
Baritone
Euphonium

Trombone
Eb Bass
Bb Bass
Percussion

Visit
www.wantageband.org/lessons
to get started



SCAN ME

OCTOBER HALF TERM SPORTS CAMP

For ages 4-14 years old

4
SERIOUS
SPORT
SPORTS COACHING

OFSTED REGISTERED HOLIDAY CAMP FOR YOUR CHILDCARE NEEDS

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October
St John's Primary School, Stanley Hall Road, Grove OX12 0GR



Our coaching helps children improve their skills in a variety of fun and exciting sports/games throughout the week such as Dodgeball, Football, Basketball, Tennis, Badminton and much more!



Full Day: 9am-3.30pm - £25
Half Day: 9am-1pm or 11.30am-3.30pm - £20
Special Event Full Day: 9am-3.30pm - £35
Special Event Half Day: 9am-1pm or 11.30am-3.30pm - £30
8am 'Early Bird' (E10) 4.30pm 'Added Time' (E10)
Children aged 4 can only book for one half day slot per day. **Childcare Vouchers Accepted**

CALL US TODAY: James Hicks 07799 004711
OR BOOK ONLINE: www.serious4sport.co.uk

OUR BANDS

Beginner Band
Saturday 9am

Training Band
Saturday 10am

Youth Brass
Monday 6pm

Academy Brass
Monday 7pm,
Saturday 10am

Percussion Academy
Monday 5pm

Concert Brass
Tuesday 7:30pm,
Thursday 7:30pm

Community Brass
Tuesday 4pm,
Thursday 7pm

Wantage Band
Sunday 7:30pm,
Wednesday 8pm

Big Band
Monday 8pm

All in our two halls on Tugwell Field, OX12 8FR

Visit
www.wantageband.org
to find out more



SCAN ME

OCTOBER HALF TERM ACTIVITIES CAMP

in conjunction with Vale Academy Trust

For ages 3-14 years old

**SERIOUS
SPORT**
SPORTS COACHING

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October

St John's Primary School, Stanley Hall Road, Grove OX12 0GR



Full Day: 9am-3.30pm - £25

Half Day: 9am-1pm or 11.30am-3.30pm - £20

8am 'Early Bird' (£10) 4.30pm 'Added Time' (£10)

Childcare Vouchers Accepted



CALL US TODAY: James Hicks 07799 004711

OR BOOK ONLINE: www.serious4sport.co.uk

TENNIS AT HANNEY TENNIS CLUB

EXCEL
Tennis
Academy

COACHING SESSIONS:

Children aged 4 - 16 years old

Adult Beginners and 'Rusty Rackets'

Adults

Beginners / Rusty Rackets - Thursdays 18:30 - 19:30

Improvers / Club Players - Thursdays 19:30 - 20:30

Cardio Tennis - Wednesdays 09:00 - 10:00

Juniors

Born 2019 - 2017 - Tuesdays 16:15 - 17:00

Born 2018 - 2016 - Tuesdays 17:00 - 18:00

Born 2018 - 2016 - Wednesdays 16:45 - 17:45

Born 2015 - 2013 - Tuesdays 18:00 - 19:00

Born 2012 - 2008 - Wednesdays 17:45 - 18:45



**FIRST
SESSION
FREE!**

**Childcare Vouchers
Accepted!**



info@exceltennis.co.uk

www.exceltennisacademy.co.uk

We currently have a discount code for Swimming Lessons specifically for schools to share. We understand a lot of children are currently needing more support than ever before to learn to swim and if you were able to share this information it would be much appreciated.

For anyone wanting to sign a child up to Swimming Lessons

If they visit <https://www.better.org.uk/what-we-offer/lessons-and-courses>

The discount code: TREAT25 will give 25% off the cost of signing up for swimming lessons at any of these centres:

Faringdon
Wantage
Henley Leisure Centre
Thame Leisure Centre
Abbey Sports Centre Berinsfield