

Learning together with courage and kindness

'For the good of all' 1 Corinthians 12



St James News

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Nov 3rd 2023

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

- **Governors update**
- **Learning celebrations**
- **Dates for your diary**

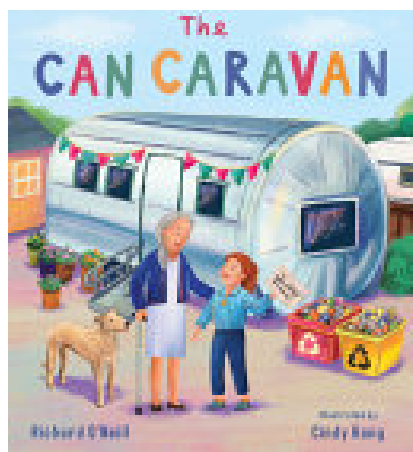
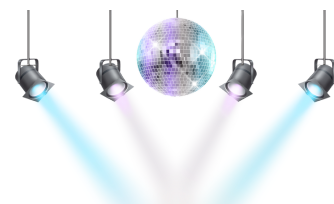
Attendance this week: 95.25%

School & Trust target: 96%

Dear St James Families,

Another great first week back at school after what I hope has been a relaxing half term break for you all. We've packed in plenty, including a brilliant disco! Thank you so much to everyone who helped make it possible and all the families who were able to support it. We don't have the final amount raised as yet but it has made for an excellent start to the year.

I know there was some brilliant dance moves involved (not just from the staff!) and everyone had a great time, which is what these events are all about! We have a new 'Friends of St James' team stepping into role and I will be in touch with further detail shortly.



This term's curriculum driver is empathy - linked to our values of kindness & community. Children across the school started by looking at the book 'The Can Caravan' by Richard O'Neill. This book celebrates the traditional Traveller virtues of resilience, adaptability, loyalty and independence and is based around others finding a way to help solve someone else's problem, using their imagination, a supportive community, and lots and lots of hard work. If this has inspired any projects at home please do share them with us!

Governor update:

The school will be welcoming the Governors on this Monday 6th November for a monitoring visit. The focus of the visit will be teaching, special educational needs, and behaviour. Some governors will be available at the school gate in the morning. The visit is one aspect of monitoring to ensure the school is being the best it can be for the good of all.

Learning Celebrations:

This week we celebrated Year 1's wonderful art work! They have been using all sorts of different pictures and putting them together to make new works of art. They spoke so brilliantly in Collective Worship and should feel very proud of themselves a very well earned Headteacher's award! They also shared this with the parents during a wonderful class exhibition. Well done



Having had a busy half term there was lot of other children keen to be sharing their learning and other achievements outside of school. These ranged from pony club badges, gymnastic & swimming certificates to some brilliant illustrated books and a puppet. Well done everybody we love sharing in your successes as a school community!

We also had a group of children from years 5 and 6 share a website that they have been creating over the last few weeks to promote the welfare of horses. We will be hoping to share the website with you when we complete the publishing process - watch out for a link on Dojo!




















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

Key Dates for the Diary



Nov/Dec 2023

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 <u>make a donation</u> and dress up in something spotty! |
| 27 th – 1 st December  | Year 6 Residential Year 6 are away at Yerworthy 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 | Donaldson Class Christmas sing song 2:30pm |
| 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. |
| 15 th December  | Festive Film Club: 3.20pm - 5.00pm Children are invited to stay at school and enjoy a festive film. If you would like your child to attend, please donate £5 (which will go towards a light tea and refreshments). |
| 18 th December  | Rock Performance 2.15pm: Parents of children who attend rock 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 – School ends at 12:30 |

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



Kingston Bagpuize Drama Group presents a pantomime by Tom Whalley

Cinderella

23-25 November 2023
Southmoor Village Hall

Adult: £14
Child: £8
Family ticket: 2 adults, 2 children £40



Scan this
QR code to
access online
booking

Book online at:
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/
kingston-bagpuize-drama-group/e-dgbkyb](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingston-bagpuize-drama-group/e-dgbkyb)
or call ticket source on: 0333 666 336
(Booking fees apply)

www.kbdramagroup.co.uk

www.tomwhalleypantomimes.com

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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

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



COULD YOU HELP RUN A GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME IN YOUR AREA?

- Good Neighbour Schemes are local voluntary groups supporting older, vulnerable, and isolated people in your community.
- They help with things like shopping, transport, household tasks, dog walking, gardening, befriending - whatever is most needed in your area.
- £500 start-up grants are available for new schemes; existing informal schemes may also be eligible for funding.

WANT TO
KNOW MORE?

tel: 07545 923327
email: oxfordshire@vlu.org.uk
www.vlu.org.uk/good-neighbour-schemes/

Oxfordshire
ageUK

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Making a difference in your community

OCVA
Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action