

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**

Dear St James Families,

Nov 24th 2023

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

- Friends of St James update
- Learning celebrations
- Dates for your diary

Attendance this week: 95.7%

School & Trust target: 96%

This week has been full of singing in preparation for our upcoming events. Lots of children have volunteered to read or sing at our Christingle service at 4pm on Wednesday 13th December. I hope lots of you will be able to attend this very special event.

We have also been learning songs for the upcoming Advent service which will take place on Sunday 3rd December in church at 9:30am.



Thanks again to everyone who was able to get involved with the Samaritan purse.



Friends of St James:

The St James Helping Hands will be running a stall with some Christmas crafts activities including a Christmas Wreath making for children as well as festive games.

Come along, get festive and raise money to support the school too. There will be Mulled Wine and Mince Pies and various other stalls to pick up gifts and treats.

Learning Celebrations:

This week in celebration Collective Worship we had lots of pupils sharing their individual achievements - see photos below!



Key Dates for the Diary

Nou/Dec 2023

















Upcoming Fundraising Events

Christmas Jumper (and sweets!) Sale: 28th November

Mince Pies and Mulled Wine at the Nativity: 6th & 7th December

Holly Fair: 9th December

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 13 th December: Reception, Years 1, Yr2 & Yr 6 14 th 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

Reminder:

Please make sure your child/children have a waterproof coat and wellies in school. (If you would like support with this please let us know) We love being outside and to allow us all to be on the field wellies are essential!



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

As Christmas is approaching and many toys and gadgets these days contain small button batteries, stay alert to the dangers of small children swallowing these batteries which can do great harm. Keep batteries out of reach and supervise young children playing with toys/gadgets containing button batteries. **If your child swallows a button battery you will need to attend A&E immediately.**



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'snooze' on cameras. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

Meet Our Expert

Emily Page is an experienced technology journalist with almost two decades' experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech website The Verge, Emily has been a freelance technology journalist, editor and columnist.

National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

THE UK'S FAVOURITE
BARRACUDAS
Activity Day Camps

SCAVENGER HUNT TICK LIST!

- ☐ Pine Cone
- ☐ Feather
- ☐ Conker
- ☐ Spot a Squirrel
- ☐ Seed
- ☐ Orange Leaf

FUN FACT
Hedgehogs hibernate around October/November time until March/April time.

HELY!
I'm BILLY BARRACUDA! Help me find all the beanie hats!

SPELLING CHALLENGE!

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Help the Red Squirrel Find the Acorn!

MATHS CHALLENGE

- 30 Acorns ÷ 5 squirrels =
- 1 fox eats 3 chickens. How many chickens do 7 foxes need? =
- How many socks do 8 people need? =
- I have 21 worms in a bucket. I remove 7, how many are left? =
- It's 16° outside, what will the temperature be if it goes down by 7°? =
- 50 Leaves on a tree, 10 fall down, what % is left on the tree? =

Colour in your own Autumn tree!

ANSWERS

BEANIE HATS: 1. 1, 2. 2, 3. 3, 4. 4, 5. 5

Maths Answers:
1. 6
2. 21
3. 14
4. 14
5. 9
6. 80%

Visit barracudas.co.uk
or call 01480 467 567

BOOK NOW!

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CHILDCARE
EXCLUSIVE SCHOOL DISCOUNT!

USE CODE: SCHOOL10
For an **EXTRA £10 off** a week!
*Not to be used in conjunction with other codes

EARLY BOOKING OFFER
➤ Save up to £79 (& additional £10 with code!)

LOW DEPOSITS!
➤ Just £10 per day or £25 per week per child

Visit barracudas.co.uk
or call 01480 467 567

Trustpilot ★★★★★
Ofsted Good Provider
Ofsted Outstanding Provider

CONFIDENCE BOOSTING SCHOOL HOLIDAY ADVENTURES!

SCAN ME & LEARN MORE!

Low deposit offer ends 31st Dec 2023
Early booking offer ends 31st Jan 2024