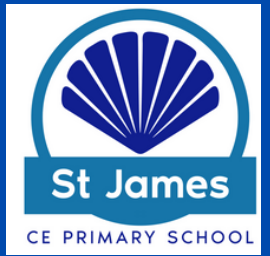


Learning together with courage and kindness 'For the good of all' 1 Corinthians 12



St James News

Headteacher: Mrs Ottaway
Contact: office@stjamesce.vale-academy.org
Telephone: 01235 868232

8th March 2024

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

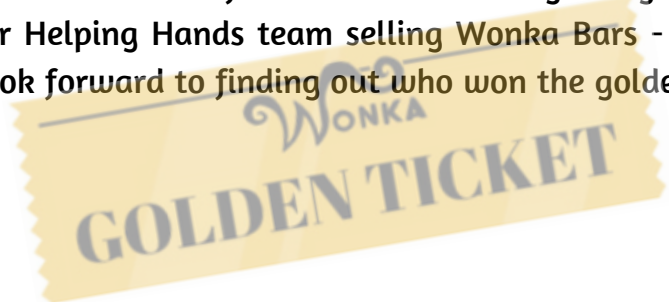
- Helping Hands
- Reminders
- Learning celebration
- Dates for the diary

Dear St James Families,

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Attendance this week: 95.9%
School & Trust target: 96%

It has been another busy week at St James ending in another wonderful World Book Day. Thank you to Mrs Rivett and the staff team for making it such a great day! There was a brilliant display of costumes of all types and it was brilliant to celebrate our love of books and reading at St James. Thank you to Year 3 as well, who helped me write our Dojo reminder at the beginning of the week. Our book celebration culminated in our Helping Hands team selling Wonka Bars - a brilliant way to end the day; thank you team! I look forward to finding out who won the golden ticket and will be shadowing me for the day!



Helping Hands:



School Library Fundraiser Focus:

This year, St James Helping Hands are raising money to help revamp the School Library, including:

- New fittings and furnishings so that we can create a wonderful environment that facilitates and encourages reading for all pupils
- A new range of physical and audio books to support all our pupils nurture a love of stories
- More bookshelves to house a wider range of books, that can be catalogued to help pupils and staff find what they are looking for.

World Book Day has been our BIG launch for this fundraising mission!

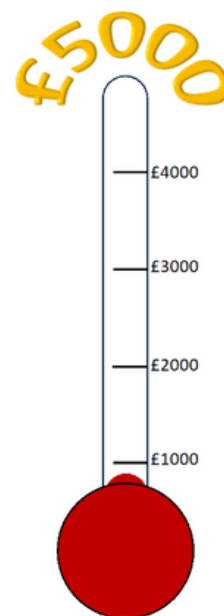
Thanks to the Wonky Bar sales this Friday, £700 was raised, giving us a wonderful kick-start! We couldn't have done it without the great number of Hands on deck wrapping chocolate bars, the wonderful prize donations from the wider community, or the match funding* doubling our takings.

But that is not all...

As part of our World Book Day celebrations this year, and to celebrate and encourage a lifelong love of books and reading at home and school, the sponsored read starts on this Monday 11th and runs until Sunday 17th March. There is now a JustGiving page to make donations easier: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/helpinghands-sponsoredread>

All the Helping Hands events this year will be contributing to getting our thermometer to the top, so keep your eyes peeled for more FUNdraising activities, and thank you for all your support so far!

*PS. Match-funding really is a game-changer for us – we're at least doubling the funds raised at each event, and more than one match funder can be present at an event to raise even more money. If your company has match-funding, we can help you get it set up – please find Fiona, Emma or Lucy at an event, or email us on helpinghandshanney@gmail.com.



Reminders:

- Please remember to order school dinners on parentmail 2 weeks before - many thanks!
- Mother's Day service Sunday 10th March at St James the Great Church - our children have been practising songs to perform and it would be great to see lots of you there!



Celebration Collective Worship:

This week has had lots of exciting events for the children, including Inkpen's first school trip to the farm. They all did brilliantly and had a wonderful time! Thank you to the team and parent helpers for making this such a success!



I was also privileged to see our Year 4 choir perform at The Beacon in this year's Vale Academy Trust's Singing Festival - They were amazing, such a wonderful event to celebrate the joy of singing! They kindly performed again for us in Collective Worship, which was brilliant!













Well done to all our pupils with other achievements this week included: gymnastics, swimming writing, maths and some great stitching!



Key Dates for the Diary

March 2024

<p>10th March</p> 	<p>Mothers' Day Service 9.30am St James Church</p> <p>There will be a special Mothers' Day service, which all families are invited to take part in.</p>
<p>W/C 11th March</p>  	<p>SEND Review parent meetings Parent teacher meetings to review ISPs and set outcomes for Term 4 & 5.</p> <p>British Science Week There will be lots of Science-linked activities throughout this week in school.</p>
<p>15th March</p> 	<p>Red Nose Day Children are invited to wear red and donate money for this great cause. Details of how to donate will follow.</p> <p>Reception and Year 6 Child Measurement progress</p>
<p>16th March</p> 	<p>Helping Hands Family Easter Event More details to follow from Helping Hands</p>
<p>W/C 18th</p>  	<p>Scholastic Book Fair We will have the Scholastic Book Fair in school all this week. Children will have the opportunity to look round in their classes. The book fair will then be available for parents to walk round with their children and purchase books after school. This is a great way to buy books and raise funds for the school.</p>
<p>20th March</p> 	<p>Easter Service 10am St James Church</p> <p>We would love parents to join us for our Easter Service. Inkpen Class will be performing, alongside some school readers and our choir.</p> <p>Nursery (Donaldson Class) afternoon closure due to staff training</p>
<p>27th March</p> 	<p>Science Fair Final at Williams F1 The winners of our Science Fair will be going to Williams F1 to join the science competition winners from other schools.</p> <p>Reception Stay and Play 8.45 - 9.30 More details to follow</p>
<p>28th March</p> 	<p>Last day of term School ends at 12.30pm after lunch</p>

Hop on over for our
St James



EASTER

trail, fun & games

Join us on

Saturday March 16th 2-4pm

held at school

for some egg-citing fun!

Tickets £3 per child - Included is a chocolate prize for completing the trail & Easter story sessions in the library

PLUS games to have fun on, prizes to be won, crafting to be made!

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

Hey! That's my line!

COME To the SUPER AMAZING BOOK FAIR!

FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU BUY AT THE BOOK FAIR!

A POP-UP BOOK-STORE WITH HUNDREDS OF BOOKS FROM JUST £2.99

LOOK!

Save £3

NEW CAT KID COMIC CLUB **DAV PITKEE** £12.99 **£9.99**

NEW ROALD DAHL CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY **JUST £3.99**

NEW Why Not? **George Monaghan** **£7.99** **From CBeebies presenter George Monaghan!**

NEW SKANDAR PHANTOM RIDER **A.E. STEADMAN** **£7.99** **ANNOYING!**

NEW VILLAINS ACADEMY **RYAN HAMMOND** **£3.99**

NEW DIARY OF A WIMPY KID SUPER OVERLODE **£7.99**

NEW PANDAS WHO PROMISED **£7.99**

Work of genius. SERIOUSLY.

NEW NINA PEANUT AMAZING **£8.99** **£7.99**

LAST YEAR YOUR SUPPORT HELPED DONATE £5.3M IN FREE BOOKS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

Ages 2+

How many can you spot?

JUST £2.99 **NEW** **THE BAMA BAMA BOY IS BAD** **£6.99**

NEW **MAGIC QUEST** **£5.99** **£4.99**

NEW **The Slinky Monkey Dances** **£6.99** **£4.99**

NEW **THIS ROOM IS FULL OF UNICORNS** **£6.99**

NEW **THE RULES** **£3.99** **£2.99** **£1.99** **4 for only £9.99**

NEW **SHARKS** **£6.99** **Look there - different sharks inside!**

Ages 6+

NEW **Love Puppies** **£11.99** **£6.99** **2 for only £6.99**

NEW **MARCUS RASHFORD BREAKFAST CLUB ADVENTURES** **£6.99**

NEW **MICHAEL MORPURI Butterfly Lion** **£7.99** **£3.99**

NEW **BIRD & SQUIRREL** **£7.99**

NEW **CLABBY JONES AND THE MAGICAL DEBATIVE AGENCY** **JUST £3.99** **£3.99**

NEW **GREEN 4-5-6-7** **£7.99**

NEW **DRAGON GIRLS** **£35.94** **£9.99** **6 for only £9.99**

NEW **ROCKS** **£8.99** **Dig and discover!**

EVERY BOOK YOU BUY EARNS FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL

Ages 8+

Cracking adventure

Solve the mystery!

NEW **David Walliams BLUNDERBUSH** **Hardback only £8.99** **£14.99** **£8.99**

NEW **PERCY JACKSON** **JUST £2.99** **£7.99** **£2.99**

NEW **LUNA WOLF COOP-DANGER** **£7.99**

NEW **LES JARDINE THE MYSTERY HISTORY** **£7.99**

NEW **BOY WHO FALLS FROM THE SKY** **£7.99**

NEW **ALEX RIDER NIGHTSHADE REVENGE** **£7.99** **Exclusive early paperback**

NEW **THE ESCAPE BOOKS THE HAUNTED CASTLE** **Save £9** **£10.99** **£9.99**

Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You can pay online at the fair via card reader machines if your school has one or by using the online payment link at www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to www.travellingbooks.co.uk/gift-vouchers to buy vouchers for your child before the fair.
- If you can't attend the fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List - please ask your school for details.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3m worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.

Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Designer at Scholastic Book Fairs for details.

**18th March
at St James!**



The **Library**

Wantage

Peter Tickler - Crime Author

Friday 19th April - 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Come and listen to local bestselling crime author Peter Tickler talk about his new book, 'The Tickler's Jam Murders!'

Please book your free ticket by calling 01235 762291

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



The **Library**

Wantage

Mog the Cat

Storytime and Craft!

Wednesday 10th April - 10.30am - 11.30am

Join in with our purr-fect storytime and cat crafts, to celebrate our favourite literary cat - Mog!

Suitable for children aged 5yrs +

Book your free ticket by calling 01235 762291!

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



The **Library**

Wantage

Sustainable Jewellery Making Workshop!

Saturday 13th April - 11am - 12pm

Come and have a go at making this lovely sustainable necklace from wood and paper straws - this workshop is kindly provided by Oxford College of Jewellery!

Suitable for children aged 4yrs +

Book your free ticket by calling 01235 762291!

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



The **Library**

Wantage

Bill Eggington - Childrens Author!

Wednesday 3rd April - 10.30am - 11.30am

Come and meet Bill Eggington, author of the R.E.S.C.U.E series for children! Bill will be reading his book, 'Don't call me Donkey!' and talking about animal conservation!

Suitable for children aged 5yrs +

Book your free ticket by calling 01235 762291!

www.rescueries.co.uk

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EASTER SPORTS & ACTIVITIES CAMP

For ages 3-14 years old

4
SERIOUS
SPORT
SPORTS COACHING

OFSTED REGISTERED HOLIDAY CAMP FOR YOUR EASTER CHILDCARE NEEDS

2nd - 5th April & 8th - 12th April

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



Our sports camp 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!

Our activities camp will help spark your child's creativity, promote wellbeing, as well as developing their social and essential skills in a range of different topics, from building to baking, from crafts to gardening.



MAIN EVENT DAYS
Wednesday
3rd & 10th April
NERF WARS
INCLUDED

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

grow



Save a baby's life workshop

run by the Royal Lifesaving Society UK

The Royal Life Saving Society UK's 'Save a Baby's Life' workshops aim to teach basic emergency skills to anyone who cares for a baby.

You will learn

- Infant Life Support (CPR)
- Infant choking (diagnosis and treatment)
- Infant drowning (diagnosis and treatment)

Wednesday 27th March

1-2pm

Old Mill Hall, Grove

book your free place online at www.growfamilies.co.uk
or email: contact@growfamilies.co.uk