

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



Sept 1st 2024

St James News

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

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Dear St James Families,

We are all so excited to see everyone on Wednesday, after what I hope has been an enjoyable and restful Summer break! September in school is an exciting place as pupils and staff face new challenges, build new relationships and remind themselves of school routines new and old!

Over the summer, staff have been busy preparing for the new academic year. The school Hall now has a new roof and you may have noticed a new fence by our forest school area. Thanks to an amazing effort from some of our families, led by our Helping Hands team, we have a freshly painted Library, which looks fab and is ready for the new furniture that will arrive in the next few weeks. Thank you team!!

Our Inset days at the beginning of the week, enable us to share in high quality professional training. This year we are starting with developments in the teaching of maths & phonics and the teaching and learning focus of questioning using:



New for September:

Having reviewed the school timetable as an SLT it is as ever tricky to fit in all of our amazing curriculum; with just a little tweak we can grab an extra bit of time each day, which quickly adds up over the weeks. We are therefore asking that children are in school by 8:55am, when the register will be taken and lessons can then start at 9am. Gates will continue to open at 8:30 and classroom door at 8:45am.

New register time: 8:55am (Doors will close at 8:55am)

We also welcome a new member of staff Ms Hagger, who will be joining the team as a HLTA, who will provide learning support and teaching cover across the school. She has a lot of experience and we feel very lucky to have her joining us!



We will be relaunching our House teams this year with some new names. We will be asking for children to come up with suggestions - so get your thinking hats on! (More details to follow). Children will be able to earn value points, which will be collected up with attendance points & any competition points that week. There will be weekly team winners.

The focus of our values this term will be **Courage**: encouraging the children's resilience, aspirations and positive attitude towards making mistakes, but children will be able to earn points whenever they display any of our school values - there may even be some stickers!!

Uniform & Stationary:

It is essential that the children look smart in school, so that we are learning to take pride in ourselves and what we do.

- Navy blue sweatshirts/cardigans with logo - **required** (available from Wovina)
- Navy blue/white polo shirt - (polo shirt with logo is available but is not essential)
- Grey skirt, trousers or shorts - can be purchased anywhere
- Black/white socks
- Black shoes - **required**

Children are asked to come to school dressed in their PE kit on the appropriate days. (These will be shared by the teachers at the beginning of each short term)

- Plain navy or black shorts/ jogging bottoms - required
- Plain white T-shirt (an additional school polo shirt is suitable)
- Trainers for outdoor games/PE sessions - required
- Plain Navy blue hoodie - required (a version is available with logo but is not essential)
- Waterproof coat
- Wellies - essential for the field on wet days & going in the sandpit







Please make sure sweatshirts, coats & Wellies are named.

Long hair needs to be tied up. No make up or false nails to be worn.

I know how exciting getting new stationary is and sensibly sized pencil cases are encouraged in school. However other personal possessions should not be brought in including fiddle toys (unless agreed by SENCO) as these are often argued over and cause unnecessary disruption to learning. Jewelry is also discouraged in school, particularly on PE days. Parents of children who require a mobile phone for the end of the day must discuss this with their class teachers. Phones must be handed in and school can take no responsibility for loss or damage.

Getting back in a routine

Over the holidays we all get out of our routines, which can be very challenging for children when they come back to school. There are so many things for the children to take in at the beginning of a new school year and children need to feel well rested and secure in the rhythms of the day if they are to cope well with this. We ask that over the next few days, you try as far as possible to create structure and bedtimes again. It can also be helpful to involve your children in planning what routine for the new school year will look like - what time will they get up? Who will organise school clothes and breakfast? Where will book bags be stored? You could even work on a poster together and get children to decorate it so that everyone is working together, for a calm and confident start back to school!

Bedtime Routine	
	Bath <input type="checkbox"/>
	Put on PJS <input type="checkbox"/>
	Snack <input type="checkbox"/>
	Brush Teeth <input type="checkbox"/>
	Read Story <input type="checkbox"/>
	Bedtime <input type="checkbox"/>

Why sleep is important?
Sleep allows our bodies to carry out functions that are vital for our physical and mental wellbeing, leading to a whole range of benefits:



Morning Routine



Good morning!
Time to rise & shine



Make your bed



Open your curtains.



Eat your breakfast



Get dressed



Wash your face



Brush your teeth



Brush & do your hair



Pack your bags



All ready for school or play!

Key Dates for the Diary

Fridge dates for the term to be shared next week

Sept/Oct 2024

Monday & Tuesday 2nd & 3rd: Staff INSET

Wednesday 4th Sept: Start of Autumn Term

1st Oct: Helping Hands (PTA) AGM - new members welcome

15th & 16th Oct: Parent's Evenings

Friday 25th Oct: End of Term 1

Tuesday 5th Nov: Start of Term 2

