

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



St James News

4th Oct 2024

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

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Dear St James Families,

This week I have been filled with pride, seeing all the wonderful learning that is taking place in our school! Our Open Morning was well attended and the children all loved having visitors to show off their brilliant learning to. A special mention to our Year 6 pupils, who provided such excellent tours to our guests.

If you know of any potential new families please encourage them to come and visit!



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Attendance this week: **95.1%**

School & Trust target: **96%**

Phonics validation:

This week we had a visit from the DFE funded English Hub, who confirmed what an excellent start we have made to our new phonics scheme. Research shows the impact that having a solid grounding in phonics makes to children's progress and here at St James we want children to get off to a flying start with their reading journey! Books are at the heart of what we do here, which has been seen this week in every child's face as our new Library starts to emerge. We can't wait to share it with you at our opening event!



Black History Month:



In Collective Worship this week, we celebrated the beginning of Black History Month. This is a brilliant time to celebrate our differences and learn from the past. This is of course something we do all year round, within our rich curriculum, but it feels important to recognise this National celebration.

I chose a poem, on National Poetry Day that fits with our value of courage and talks to the importance of not letting go of our dreams and aspirations, so that we can fly!



We will continue to explore these themes in the coming weeks and if any pupils would like to contribute I'd love to hear from them! If you would like to share in this more at home with your children the National Literacy Trust website have some lovely resources - <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/parent-support/celebrating-black-history-month-with-your-little-ones/>

DREAMS
BY LANGSTON HUGHES

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly

Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow



Helping Hands:



Thank you so much to the Helping Hands team for putting on some games and glitter tattoos at last weekends Michaelmas Fayre. It was a lovely event and great to see so many of our families there!



This week on Tuesday evening we had our Helping Hands AGM. It was a lovely opportunity to thank the team for their amazing work over last year and celebrate the brilliant successes - not least the incredible Library! The new Trustees were appointed and an enormous amount of gratitude goes to our Chairs from last year Jess, followed by Fiona, our Treasurer Emma & Secretary Lucy. Without people stepping up to these roles the Charity status is not possible. I am delighted therefore to announce the new trustees are as follows:

Becky Green: Chair

Emma Harris: Treasurer

Lucy Morrison: Secretary

If you would like the minutes from the meeting please contact the helping hands team by email - helpinghandshanney@gmail.com



Children very much enjoying the new sand provided by Helping Hands

Thank you all so much!!

If you haven't signed up for easyfundraising please do & don't forget we now have a clothes bin at the Village Hall which earns us money - it's the one with our logo!



easyfundraising

Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



Extract of Chairs report:

Due to the great efforts of the previous committee, we had quite a bit in the kitty, which enabled us to both provide immediate support for the school and work towards a bigger substantial project, which this year has been the refurbishment of the school library.

a. We have:

i. Provided extra resources across all school years, including new dictionaries and thesauruses, art equipment, science and engineering focused toys and games, headphones, magnifiers, and binoculars.
ii. Provided a Virtual Reality experience for years 3, 4, 5 and 6, a Maya Archaeologist Artefact Activity for year 6, Oxfordshire Museum Toy Workshop for year 1, Oxfordshire Museum Hanney Broach visit for year 5.

iii. contributed towards school trips for years 1,2 and 3, the year 6 leavers party and welcome packs for new reception families.

b. The money raised this year has far exceeded our expectations, meeting our new library fundraiser target before the year was out. I am pleased to say that the new library has been delivered, and will be assembled over the next couple of weeks, ready for our bring a book launch party on Saturday 19th October, 2pm-4pm.

6. Of course, all of this would not be possible without the collective effort across the community. I would like to end by thanking everyone across the St James and Hanney village communities for their time, effort, enthusiasm and the kind donations they have made. Without wanting to steal Emma's thunder regarding the finances, I would like to thank

a. Hanney News, the Community Shop, the Royal British Legion and the Michelmas Fayre committee for their donations. We know that these organisations raise money from the local community, and we really appreciate them passing this on to St James to benefit the children here.

b. The parents and their employers who have match funded our events - the amount this contribution has made to what we can do has been transformative.

c. Helen Cavendish for all of her help with making the community shop window a lovely space to highlight and celebrate St James events and activities

d. Mrs Ottaway, Miss Green and Mrs Bevan, for being our port of call for everything - none of this would have been possible without their support.

e. Kirstie for being so flexible in sharing the space when events were around breakfast and after school clubs, and as emergency bacon chef

f. The St James teachers and teaching assistants for volunteering at events and attending them with their families in their spare time - it was wonderful to be able to share it with you.

g. The families of St James for coming along to our events, bringing their children to enjoy them, and making generous donations by doing so.

h. Both the Committee and the Ad-hoc Helping Hands who make the events possible, especially Amber, Andrew, Andy, Ankie, Becky G, Becky W, Ceri, Gary, Jess, Jim, Kirstine, Peta, Steph and Sue.

i. Finally, I would like to thank our treasurer Emma and our secretary Lucy - it has been such a pleasure working with you this year, the school community is very lucky to have you, and all the hours you have put in behind the scenes keeping the charity going, and the new library installed.

j. I am sure I have missed someone, and I'm very sorry if that's the case! As you can hear, this year's efforts have only been possible through all the many volunteers and supporters that we've had. It is a wonderful community to be part of, and I look forward to seeing what is achieved in the coming year.

Celebration of learning:

House Points:

Blue
135

Green
165

Red
137

Yellow
122



Congratulation green team!

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Kindness Challenge this week; we raised a brilliant £417 for the NSPCC!

Inspired by raising money for charity some of our wonderful Year 4s have started collecting money for Children in Need!



St James fundraiser for NSPCC
Fundraising for NSPCC

83% £417 raised of £500 target by 51 supporters

The Kindness Challenge 2024
Campaign by NSPCC (RCN 216401 and SC037717)

Congratulations to our School Councillors for this year! I look forward to finding out about all your ideas!











Well done to Rosen Class (Year 1) for being brilliant on their local walk this week!



Finally congratulations to everyone who shared their out of class achievements and learning, it was particularly exciting to have a motor cross bike in!



Dates for the Diary

8th October 	Trust Tag Rugby – Stockham School 3.30-5.15 A group of Y5 and Y6 children will be selected to represent St James at this Trust Tag Rugby competition. If your child is selected, you will receive more information from Mr Cockerham.
15th & 16th October 	Parents' Evening – 2.00-6.00 Parents' Evening will be on 15 th and 16 th October from 2pm-6pm. More details on how to book your slot/s will be out soon.
19th October 	Save the date – Library Grand Opening 2-4pm Helping Hands are delighted to invite you our new Library! This will be a bring a book party – we will release a list nearer the time as it is very much non-fiction books that we are in need of!
23rd October 	Harvest Festival – St James Church 10am All parents are invited to join us at St James Church from 10-11am. Each class will be performing something for the Harvest Festival. Details of donations to follow.
24th October 	Individual School Photos These will be held within the school day. Details on how to order your child/ren's photo will follow after the day.
24th October 	Yr 2 Story Museum Trip Year 2 will be spending the day at the Story Museum. More information to follow.
25th October 	Open Classroom - Celebration of Learning – 3.15pm Parents are invited into their child's class for them to share the great learning they have done this term!
25th October 	Last day of term. Schools ends at 3.20.

Parents Evening bookings available now on Parentmail!

Parents Evenings

Donaldson - Wednesday 16th October (In the Library)

3:30-5:50pm

Reception - Wednesday 16th October (In the Library)

2pm - 2:50pm then 3:30pm - 5:50pm

Years 1 (in the Library) Year 2 - 6 - Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th October (In the Hall)

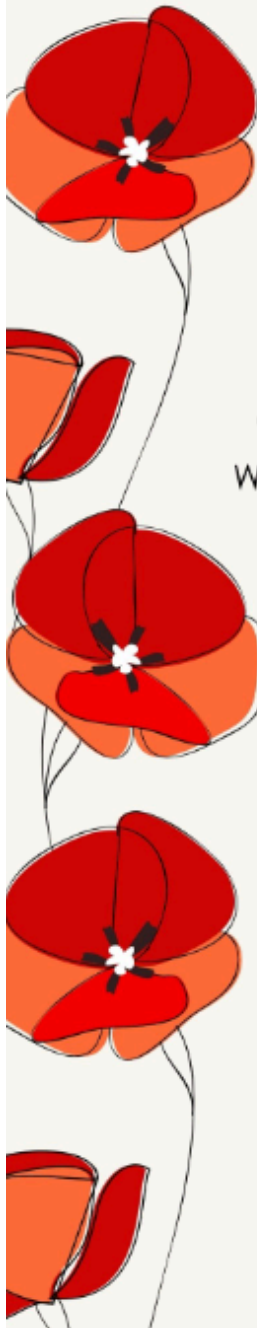
2pm - 2:50pm then 3:30pm - 5:50pm

Family Quiz Night hosted by
the Hanney Scout Group
followed by AGM

Friday 15th November 2024
7:00pm start
Hanney Royal British Legion

Everyone welcome – please come and
join us for an evening of family fun!

Raffle prizes to be won!



Wantage Festival of Remembrance

*We remember those who gave their
today for our tomorrow*

Wantage Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul
Sunday 10th November, 2.30pm

Wantage Band

Wantage In Harmony

Caritas Children's Choir



50% Profits to Royal British Legion

Available from

www.ticketsource.co.uk/wantage-band



Charlton Primary School (Wantage) October Sports & Activities Holiday Camp!

For ages 4-14 years (specialised sessions for seperated age groups)

MONDAY 28th October	TUESDAY 29th October	WEDNESDAY 30th October	THURSDAY 31st October	FRIDAY 1st November
4-7 years Cone Flio Relay Islands Level up! Limit Ball Pirates River Crossing Spiders and Beetles	4-7 years Construction Guardian Guard the Graveyard Hideout Games Slinky Bin! The Halloween House Witches Hat Tag	4-7 years Barrier Ball Dodgeball Fun Fire Ball Long Ball Musical Hoops Striker Ball Spot Luck	TASS TOURNAMENT • Certificates • Game variety • Halloween names • Leaderboard • Coaches Challenge	GUNGE THE COACH • Coaches Leaderboard • Win points for your coach • Help GUNGE the TASS staff
8+ years 4-Way Dodgeball Boccia Matches Chicken Run! Danger Ball End Ball Pinball Tornado!	8+ years Doctor Dodgeball Eliminator Free the Pumpkins Ghostbusters! Guardian Pinball Star child	8+ years 4-Square Capture the Flag Gaga Ball Protect the Huts Roller Karting Swamp Ball The Great Escape		



BOOK NOW!

Interested in signing up?
 visit - www.tasportstars.co.uk



Please note, some activities may be subject to change in the result or bad weather.

www.grovechallengers.com

Score Goals, Make Friends

Grove Challengers Football Club

CALLING ALL GIRLS AGED 6, WE NEED YOU TO JOIN OUR TEAM!

Is your child passionate about team sports? Grove Challengers Football Club invites all girls in Year 2 (ages 6-7) to join our girls-only football team. No experience needed - just a love for fun and sports!

What we offer

- A fun-filled environment
- FA Qualified coaches

Training on Fridays 5:30-6:30pm
 at Grove Rugby Club

If your daughter is interested, please contact Jon
jonpaterson5@hotmail.com