



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy  
 Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Road  
 BOURNEMOUTH BH7 6DW  
 01202 426696  
 Email office@stjames.academy  
**11th July 2025**

## Newsletter

*When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. Isaiah 43 v 2*

Dear Parents and Carers

We have just over a week to go and there are different things happening every day at school. Of course, our Year 6 leavers are dominating procedures and have their disco, Eucharist service, productions and academy awards to look forward to. Everyone else will have be getting ready for their transition to their new year groups and we will be learning until we break up for summer.

### **Worship**

Amazon class lead our last year group, child led worship of the year – meaning all of our children have led collective worship at some point this year. They reminded us about the summer and how lucky we are to live where we do. We were all reminded about looking after our seas and beaches and to make sure we keep God's world beautiful for years to come.

Mr Slattery led worship on Monday, all about the fruits of the spirit and how we are all beautifully made.

### **Key Stage 2 SATS Results**

We received our national data on Tuesday this week and I am pleased to share our data with you all:

KS2 Demographic outcomes	All (Total 61)		Boys (Total 28)		Girls (Total 31)		PPM (Total 13)		SEN (Total 12)		EAL (Total 22)		National	
	EXS	GDS	EXS	GDS	EXS	GDS	EXS	GDS	EXS	GDS	EXS	GDS	EXS	GDS
Exs = expected standard GDS = Greater Depth standard														
Reading	81	47	78	46	83	48	61	15	42	17	82	50	75	33
Writing	81	20	68	7	93	32	54	0	42	0	91	18	72	13
Maths	80	31	75	32	84	29	46	8	16	8	91	36	74	26
Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar	80	36	68	25	90	45	54	8	17	8	91	36	73	30
RWM combined	68	17	61	7	74	26	31	0	8	0	73	14	62	8



## Summer Fayre Success

A huge thank you to those who came and supported our St. James' Summer Fayre last Saturday. There was lots to do with bouncy castles, face paints, stalls, chocolate a plenty and a brilliant barbecue. The weather held off long enough. Preliminary totals suggest we raised more than £3000! We are so grateful to our wonderful PSA for all they do for the family of St. James'.

We are fundraising towards a new surface for the lower playground and a stage for our children to dance and sing at lunchtimes.



## Music Evening and Music Lessons

On Tuesday evening, we got to showcase our amazingly talented children on our stage in our annual music evening. We had singers, dancers, musicians and goodness me, what a talented bunch we are! Our Glee Club rounded off the evening in their own special way.

It is right that we celebrate the arts. Mrs Dodd is a huge advocate and is passionate that all of our children receive an immersion into music, singing and dance. We constantly have music playing at school and the curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities support this.

We will soon be sharing details about how to sign up for music lessons next year.

We can offer:

- Recorder to Year 2 and above - sign up directly with Mrs Bright with your child's name, class and your contact details - [kathrynbright@ntlworld.com](mailto:kathrynbright@ntlworld.com)
- Violin to Year 3 and above - sign up directly with Mrs Bright - [kathrynbright@ntlworld.com](mailto:kathrynbright@ntlworld.com)
- Piano to Year 3 and above - sign up directly with Mr Bacon - see poster with QR code later in newsletter
- Guitar and Ukelele to Year 3 and above - sign up via Arbor - details to follow in September

We have also offered Rock Steady School for the first time - details of this already emailed following our exciting assembly and workshops yesterday.



## Difference Programme

You might remember that we had a film crew at St. James', for the difference programme that we are part of the global pilot for primary schools. The launch is in September for all primary schools and here is the [video](#) that they have put together which will be shown at the launch in London on September 23<sup>rd</sup> - enjoy.



## Fairway to Chaos

A brand new Year 6 production! Why not come along to the Year 6 production next Monday or Tuesday, in the hall, at 6.30pm for an evening of fabulous fun at this intriguing show. Golf, Minecraft, I'm a Celebrity and Dress to Impress - it's all woven in through a dastardly plan to change St. James' which can only be foiled by our wonderful children and their plan to revolutionise education!

Tickets available via Parents Booking. Don't miss it!



## Book Fair

We earnt £230.92 in commission to spend on books for the library which our Reading Ambassadors will be selecting at our next meeting. Thank you to the parents who helped run the event.



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## Summer Sports Holiday Club

Just a reminder to sign up and pay via Arbor by Monday 14th July if you'd like to secure a place. We might be in a position to offer a half day after this date if space allows. The office will be in touch if you have shown interest.



## Extra-curricular Clubs

This was our last week of extra-curricular clubs, please pick your children up at normal school time next week. New clubs will start w/c 22 September - details on how to sign up will be sent out at the beginning of September.



## Relish

All parents must pre-order by midnight the day before. All payments must be made through Arbor meal payments as usual. **You will be able to view the new menu and order meals for the Autumn Term from the 18th August 2025.**

Well done to the winners of our 'Name the Vegetable Toy' competition. Some very imaginative answers that we enjoyed reading!



## Reminders:



## Attendance and Fines

Did you know that being registered late, also equates to absence? School starts at 8:30am, when learning begins in the classroom. The gates close at 8.40am. We also finish the school day at 3pm for Reception, Years, 1, 2, 3 and 4, and 3:10pm for years 5 and 6.

As a school, we are under increasing pressure to improve our attendance at St. James'. This year's attendance is 95% and Persistent Absentees at 12.9%. Whilst these are better figures than national average, we have a duty to improve children's attendance. The school is held to account by the local authority and directed to issue letters and fines. Whilst I will always prioritise positive relationships with families, sometimes we have little or no option than to issue a fine based on term time absences, such as holidays and lateness.



## School Uniform

Thank you to those children who are always dressed so smartly in St. James' colours. We continue to look our smartest and we are taking pride in our appearance and our belonging to St. James'. Please try to ensure your child is dressed appropriately, following our uniform policy. Our uniform details are all on the website and children should be wearing their summer uniform now. Thank you for your support.



## PE Days 2025/26

All children must wear their school PE kit all day on their PE day. Your child's PE days will be:

**Mondays** - Harbour

**Tuesdays** - Early Years

**Wednesdays** - Year 1 and Year 4

**Thursdays** - Year 2 and Year 5



## Key Dates

The calendar section on the website should give you major events throughout the academic year, but I will give concise reminders below:

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July** - Year 6 Production - Fairway to Chaos - tickets now available

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July** - Year 6 Academy Awards Evening

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July** - Break up for Summer Holidays at 1:15pm

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025** - Children return to school for the 2025/26 academic year.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** - break up for half term

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** - children return for the final autumn term

Please check our website for your child's learning and important information on the year group pages. Also, the calendar section will give you important dates in advance. You can also see pictures and news on our social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram), follow us to find out more about the amazing things happening at St. James'.

As always, thank you all for your continued support.

**Alastair Brown**  
**Headteacher**

*Learning as a family in Jesus, through Love, Hope and Forgiveness. Matthew 19:26 "with God all things are possible."*

*'The school's values are firmly rooted in the Christian ethos of the school. Pupils know why learning through 'love, hope and forgiveness' matters. They make clear links with these values and the school rules to 'be ready, be respectful and be safe'. Leaders have high expectations for behaviour, and pupils live up to them. In lessons, pupils listen carefully and are keen to learn. As a result, they achieve well.'* **Ofsted report, January 2023.**

# **SUMMER SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUB!**

at St.James' CE Primary Academy.

August 5th, 6th, 7th  
August 12th, 13th, 14th  
August 19th, 20th, 21st



**Multi-  
Sports**



**Gymnastics**



**Lots of Fun!**

**Open to boys and girls aged 5-11**

**Run by Mrs Finnigan and Mr Battams**

**£30 per day 9AM to 3:30PM**

Please sign up and pay, via Arbor (clubs), by Monday 14th July to secure your child's place. There is a maximum of 40 children per session, so first come, first served.

**Children must bring their own packed lunch.**

**A snack will be provided.**

**Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Rd, Bournemouth BH7 6DW**

**01202 426696 [office@stjames.academy](mailto:office@stjames.academy)**



# PIANO LESSONS

@ St. James with Mr Bacon

**Thirty x 20 minute  
lessons a year**

Individual: £120 a term

Group (Max 2): £60 a term

Year 3 upwards

**SIGN UP USING  
THE QR CODE  
BY TUES 22<sup>ND</sup>  
JULY**



Any questions, please email  
[geoffreybaconmusic@gmail.com](mailto:geoffreybaconmusic@gmail.com)



# St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

## Term Dates 2025-2026

### **AUTUMN TERM**

Inset Day	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025
Inset Day	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Inset Day	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
First Day	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Last Day	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December (finish at 1.20pm)

### **SPRING TERM**

Inset Day	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
First Day	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Last Day	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March (finish at 1.20pm)

### **SUMMER TERM**

First Day	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – 29 <sup>th</sup> May
Inset Day	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
Last Day	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July (finish at 1.20pm)



# St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

## Term Dates 2026-2027

### **AUTUMN TERM**

Inset Day	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026
Inset Day	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
First Day	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October
Last Day	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December (finish at 1.20pm)

### **SPRING TERM**

Inset Day	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027
First Day	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
Last Day	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March (finish at 1.20pm)
Inset Day	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March

### **SUMMER TERM**

First Day	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June
Inset Day	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June
Last Day	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July (finish at 1.20pm)