



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

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## NEWSLETTER

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 2 Corinthians 9 v 6*

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the summer term! There will be lots going on, so please keep an eye on the dates. Big events include sport's day on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June, and the St. James' summer fayre on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July, as well as lots of educational visits.

### Worship

This week I retold the parable of the talents and reminded each of our children that they have God-given talents that they need to share, and not hide them away. The importance of our school curriculum and extra-curricular offering needs to allow for all children to flourish and develop their talents! We had incredible performances from Brooke and Masato, and a wonderful song from our talented Mrs Uzzell!

### Wandering to Wolverhampton

Our fantastic girl's football team will be representing AFC Bournemouth in the Premier Primary Stars Football Tournament on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May. This year the tournament is hosted by a Premier League Team, and will be played on the pitch at Molyneux, home of Wolverhampton Wanderers (before they get relegated from the Premier League). We wish our girls the best of luck - what a wonderful experience for them all.

### PSA Quiz Night

On **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June**, we have our PSA quiz starting at 7pm in the school hall. Please come along and support this (and try and beat the teacher team – if you think you can!) Please contact Felicity via email [felicitybrantingham@gmail.com](mailto:felicitybrantingham@gmail.com) or call on 07770 592213 to book your team - £5 per person (maximum of 6 in a team) – cheese boards included!

### PSA Lollies

Now that the weather is going to start to improve, our wonderful PSA are selling lollies after school each Friday, near the church entrance. We are raising money for a performance stage on the lower playground, where children can act and dance, creating an outdoor theatre.

### Scholastic Book Fair

We would like to say a huge thank you for your wonderful support of our recent Scholastic Book Fair. Thanks to your generosity, we raised an amazing £1,105.90. With the commission earned, our Reading Ambassadors have carefully selected a range of new books to enrich our school library, which we know the children will thoroughly enjoy. A special thank you also goes to our parent helpers who generously gave their time to help run the event - we truly couldn't have done it without you.



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## Extreme Reading Competition Winner

Congratulations to all of our Extreme Reading Competition winners! We were so impressed with the creativity and enthusiasm show - from reading inside a fridge to reading in a washing machine! Winners received a £5 book token to spend, and many of the fantastic photos are now proudly displayed in our school library. Here are a few examples to share with you.



## Books At Bedtime

We are also delighted to share that our 'Books at Bedtime' event raised £150.00. These funds will be used to top up reading books for our KS2 classes, helping to ensure all children have access to high-quality reading materials. **A polite reminder: we are currently missing a number of reading books, particularly lime and brown level books. Please could you check at home and return any school books you may find.** Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Thank you once again for your continued support in promoting a love of reading in our school community.  
*Mrs Jacobs, Reading Lead*

## Attendance and Fines

Did you know that both parents are liable for a penalty fine when a child is absent for an unauthorised holiday, whether you live together or not? And that it is a fine of at least £80 per parent, per child. Please think very carefully before booking a term time holiday as it is very rare for us to be able to authorise a term time absence and avoid a fine from BCP. Attendance matters.

Please remember that school starts at 8:30am and the gates close at 8.40am. Any children who arrive after this will be **classified** as an authorised absence. We also finish the school day at 3pm for Reception, Years, 1, 2, 3 and 4, and 3:10pm for years 5 and 6.

At the moment our attendance is 95.2% - let's see if we can get even nearer to 100%.

## School Uniform

Thank you to those children who are always dressed so smartly in St. James' colours. Our uniform details are all on the website and children may wear their summer uniform now (weather permitting).

We understand that the traditional striped summer dresses for girls can sometimes be harder to find and are often more expensive. With this in mind, we are very happy for girls to wear the **checked-style summer dresses** as an alternative. Thank you for your support.

## PE Days 2025/26

This year, your child's PE days will be:

**Mondays** - Harbour

**Tuesdays** - Year 5

**Wednesdays** - Year 3 and Year 4

**Thursdays** - Year 1 and Year 2

**Fridays** - Early Years and Year 6

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> May** - Bank holiday  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May** - Biscay Class Worship  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May** - KS2 SATS week  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May** - Victoria Class Worship  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** - Break up for half term @ 3pm  
**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June** - Staff INSET day  
**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** - Children return for term 6  
**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June** - PSA Quiz Night – hall @ 7pm  
**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** - Year 6 PGL Residential  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June** - New EYFS Parent's Information Evening - hall @ 6pm  
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** – School Nurse Drop In – Church Annexe (book with office)  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June** - School's 170<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June** - Amazon and Nile Class Worship  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June** - Sports Day at King's Park Stadium  
**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June** - Bourne Class Worship  
**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June** - New Class Transition Day  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July** - Written Reports out to Parents  
**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July** - St. James' Summer Fayre (new date)  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July** - Break up for summer holidays @ 1:20pm

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.**

# Parent drop-in

**Your next drop-in will be on:**  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026

8:45am – 10:15am

Please contact the school office to  
book a slot  
([office@stjames.academy](mailto:office@stjames.academy))

Your school nursing team can provide non-judgemental  
and confidential support and advice about:

Healthy lifestyle advice

Emotional health and  
well-being support

Bedwetting and toileting

Nutrition and growth

Sleep advice

Signposting to various  
services

Parenting advice

Behaviour support



## You can contact us via

- School nursing admin hub on 01929 557 558
- Parentline advice 5-19 texting service on 07312263131
- Website at [www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing](http://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing)

## Follow us on social media:



DorsetHealthCare School Nursing



[dorsethealthcare\\_schoolnursing](https://www.instagram.com/dorsethealthcare_schoolnursing)

We provide a confidential service. This means that you can discuss personal information in confidence. We will not discuss your personal information with anyone else without your permission. This includes parents and teachers. We would only pass on your information in order to protect you or someone else from serious harm. Whenever possible we would discuss this with you first.

# ST JAMES SPARKLERS

SUNDAYS

10AM

19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

BREAKING BREAD

WHEN DO YOU SEE  
& RECOGNISE  
JESUS?



26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

GATEWAY TO  
LIFE

JESUS IS OUR  
SHEPHERD &  
KEEPS US SAFE

3<sup>RD</sup> MAY

ALL AGE FAMILY  
SERVICE - WITH  
SCALLOPINI  
CHILDREN &  
FAMILY CHOIR

10<sup>TH</sup> MAY

SHARING YOUR  
HOPE

DO NOT BE  
AFRAID & OPEN  
YOUR HEART

17<sup>TH</sup> MAY

SUPPORT THROUGH  
SUFFERING

GOD IS WITH US  
DURING HARD  
TIMES

24<sup>TH</sup>/31<sup>ST</sup> MAY

BREAK FOR MAY  
HALF TERM - ALL  
WELCOME TO  
JOIN USUAL 10AM  
SERVICE

BIBLE STORIES

GAMES

CRAFTS

MUSIC



St James Church - Pokesdown Hill - BH7 6DW  
[www.stjamespokesdown.co.uk](http://www.stjamespokesdown.co.uk)



# 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)