



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

Friday 5th June 2026

NEWSLETTER

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13*

Dear Parents and Carers

It's June already and we prepare for the final stages of the academic year, this will include sports, arts, music, productions, award ceremonies and more. As usual, please read the newsletter and keep updated with key information, dates and times.

Worship

This week I led worship about hopes and dreams and told the story of Javier Hernandez (the little pea) who came through disappointment as a child and the dream of being a professional footballer nearly given up on. His family encouraged him to pray to God. After scoring just 1 goal in 2 years at his boyhood football club in Mexico – Javier (now known as Chicharito) was scoring goals for fun. [Manchester United](#) signed him for £8 million, before he moved to Real Madrid. He never forgot where his strength and talent came from and regularly praised Jesus on the pitch.

PSA Quiz Night

Tonight, we have our PSA quiz starting at 7pm in the school hall. There will be food and drink also available. Please come along and support this (and try and beat the teacher teams – if you think you can!)

Sports Week

We have a wonderful week in store beginning on Monday 15th June and culminating with my favourite day of the school year – sports day at King's Park Athletics' Stadium. An email and programme of events has been sent separately to you, so you will be aware of timings.

New Classes

On **Friday 26th June** we have our **Transition Day**, where your child will go to their new classroom and meet their new teacher for the next academic year. They will bring home a letter with relevant information on it. There are sometimes some strategic class changes, and we will communicate this with you.

Relish Vacancy

Our kitchen/food providers relish are looking for new recruits to help with lunchtimes. If you are interested, please see the attached flyer.

Music Evening 2026

Our annual celebration of all things music and performance is coming up on **Monday 29th June**. All pupils who learn an instrument in school or are part of Glee or Dance Club, are invited to perform but we would also love to have other talented acts from our school community.

There is a last opportunity to audition on Tuesday 9th June at lunchtime. Details to follow on tickets, but please pop the date in your diary.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Unfortunately, sometimes due to weather, staffing, sporting events, we have to change the location of our extra-curricular clubs. We will obviously try and give as much notice as possible, **via email**, and try to stick to the original

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plan. However, if the weather forecast is changeable, please understand the need for clubs to be at school, rather than going to King's Park. Luckily, this doesn't happen very often. Thank you for your understanding.

St. James' Pre-school Update

You may notice a banner at the front of school for 'Tiny Seeds pre school. This will be the new pre school on our site (located in the church) from September. If you or you know someone who is interested then their email is info@tinyseedspreschool.co.uk or phone 07960198988.

Although it will not formally be a St. James' pre-school – there will be strong links, with lunches, early years practice, playground and worship attendance all being shared. As soon as more information regarding opening times will be shared with you all. However, we understand that they will be term time only, 8.30am - 3.30pm (to fit in with school) and available from 2 years until school age. There will be a couple of open mornings in the summer term for you to get a feel for 'Tiny Seeds' pre-school. Their website is www.tinyseedspreschool.co.uk

Book Tokens

Win £1,000 for your school's library! | National Book Tokens <https://share.google/aYcjalWdIczWVgAxz>

Free School Meals

We would like to make families aware of an important update regarding Free School Meals (FSM), which will take effect from the start of the 2026/27 academic year.

To help ensure all eligible children receive this support, we kindly ask parents and carers to:

- **Check if your child may be eligible** under the new criteria
- **Complete a registration form** to confirm eligibility [Free School Meal Eligibility and Pupil premium application form – Fill in form](#)

Even if your child currently brings a packed lunch, registering for FSM can provide additional support for the school and your child.

Further information about eligibility and how to apply will be shared shortly - please keep an eye on your emails and Arbor for updates.

Thank you for your support in helping us ensure no child misses out.

Ready, Respectful and Safe

Please can we remind all of our community to be Ready, Respectful and Safe when on church and school premises. Please do not let children climb on the cross or on any plants or trees or go into the garden where things can be easily trampled on. We want all of our children to carry our school values wherever they go and to be kind and respectful at all times.

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:

Friday 5th June - PSA Quiz Night - hall @ 7pm

Sunday 7th - Wednesday 10th June - Year 6 PGL Residential

Tuesday 9th June - New EYFS Parent's Information Evening - hall @ 6pm

Wednesday 10th June - School Nurse Drop In - Church Annexe (book with office)

Thursday 11th June - School's 170th Birthday (community celebration in the autumn)

Thursday 18th June - Amazon and Nile Class Worship

Thursday 18th June – Town Sports at King's Park Stadium

Friday 19th June - Sports Day at King's Park Stadium

Thursday 25th June - Bourne Class Worship

Friday 26th June - New Class Transition Day

Monday 29th June - Music Evening

Friday 10th July - Written Reports out to Parents

Saturday 11th July - St. James' Summer Fayre

Wednesday 22nd 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.



Relish School Food



|| JOIN THE RELISH TEAM! ||

10 Hour Catering Assistant wanted in St James CofE Primary Academy

✓ **CATERING EXPERIENCE PREFERRED BUT NOT ESSENTIAL – FULL TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED**

✓ **SUPPORTIVE TEAM ENVIRONMENT**

✓ **Monday to Friday Term Time Only
10 hours per week**

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS INTERESTED, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH FOR MORE INFORMATION. CONTACT ALEX VIA EMAIL:

ALEXANDRANEWBIGGING@RELISHSCHOOLFOOD.CO.UK

- RelishSchoolFood
- Relish-school-food
- Relishschoolfood



SCAN THE QR CODE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE



School Nursing Team
0-19 CYP Public Health Service

Parent drop-in

NHS
Dorset HealthCare University
NHS Foundation Trust

Your next drop-in will be on:
Wednesday 10th June 2026

8:45am – 10:15am

Please contact the school office to book a slot
(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

Follow us on social media:

- DorsetHealthCare School Nursing
- 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

14TH JUNE



OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE

SHARING GOOD NEWS EVEN WHEN IT'S HARD

21ST JUNE

NO COMPROMISE

FACING CHALLENGES TOGETHER



28TH JUNE

RECOGNISED

HONOURING JESUS IN HOW WE LOVE OTHERS



5TH JULY



ALL AGE FAMILY SERVICE - WITH SCALLOPINI CHILDREN & FAMILY CHOIR



12TH JULY

CHOOSING WELL

HOW DO WE MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES IN LIFE?

19TH JULY

CELEBRATING ST JAMES TIDE - CAFE CHURCH WITH FREE LUNCH AND GAMES

SPARKLERS THEN BREAK FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS
ALL WELCOME TO JOIN REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICE!

BIBLE STORIES

GAMES

CRAFTS

MUSIC



St James Church - Pokesdown Hill - BH7 6DW
www.stjamespokesdown.co.uk



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

Term Dates 2025-2026

AUTUMN TERM

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

SPRING TERM

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

SUMMER TERM

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



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

Term Dates 2026-2027

AUTUMN TERM

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

SPRING TERM

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

SUMMER TERM

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



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

Term Dates 2027-2028

AUTUMN TERM

Inset Day	Wednesday 1 st September 2027
Inset Day	Thursday 2 nd September
Inset Day	Friday 3 rd September
First Day	Monday 6 th September
Half Term	Monday 25 th October – Friday 29 th October
Last Day	Friday 17 th December (finish at 1.20pm)

SPRING TERM

Inset Day	Tuesday 4 th January 2028
First Day	Wednesday 5 th January
Half Term	Monday 14 th February – Friday 18 th February
Last Day	Friday 31 st March (finish at 1.20pm)

SUMMER TERM

First Day	Tuesday 18 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 1 st May
Half Term	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June
Inset Day	Monday 5 th June
Last Day	Friday 21 st July (finish at 1.20pm)