



Wednesday 22nd July 2026

NEWSLETTER

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29 v 11

Dear Parents and Carers

...and just like that the academic year draws to a close. On reflection – it's been quite a year! One of achievement and success, of adventure and pride and a year which showed how special St. James' CE Primary Academy can be.

Our final Key Stage 2 outcomes were not just good, they were outstanding. The vast majority of our children achieved above the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, including 75% of our children succeeding in all 3 combined! We were in the top 5% of schools on the FFT index – a remarkable feat. 53% of our children were recorded as 'greater depth' for reading – way above national and local averages. We are so proud of you all with your attitude and your willingness to learn.

Added to this was the success of our Year 1 phonics outcomes (85% achieved a score of 32/40 or better) and Year 4 MTC tests (50% achieved full marks), which both achieved higher than local and national averages.

Away from academia, our children have excelled in sport, science and the arts, attending national finals, world class arenas, providing work for exhibitions, winning awards for engineering, visiting palaces in London, performing on stage, visiting world class sporting venues and watching elite athletes. From sailing to archery and everything in between in our extra-curricular provision, with over 50 clubs catered for during the year.

We have wonderful adults at St. James', with marvellous teachers and support staff who go above and beyond, and it is thanks to these people that our children flourish.

Also, a big thank you to you – our parents. I am blessed to have such a supportive community in you. Not to say that we get everything right, but I appreciate your honesty and willingness to communicate. Our children really are a team effort, and together, we can do anything.

Worship

Our final worships for the year focus on moving on, with God at our side. In life, there are always periods of change and uncertainty as we take the next step on our journey. We were led in our special leaver's eucharist by Rev. Rachel, who came in and worked on the order of service with the children. This is a very special eucharist in St. James' church where our Year 5 children and our Year 6 leavers are joined by parents for a time of thanks and reflection. Our children start their journey in church, and it is a perfect

place to close this chapter of their book. Each child receives a candle, an ichthus badge, a bible and a card at their leaver's awards evening. Hopefully, in years to come, our children will be comforted by these tokens of our love.

SUMMER INFORMATION

St. James' Football Academy

Mr Bartram and Mr Battams will be running a football academy at King's Park, next to the BCP Leisure Centre, meeting and collection point by the green containers near the carpark. This will run from Tuesday 4th August – please sign up via Arbor (clubs), on a first come, first served basis (maximum of 20 children per day). Flyer attached to PDF version of newsletter.

Summer Safeguarding

If you are struggling over the Summer holidays and need some advice or a listening ear, please do contact the BCP Parentline on BCP Parenting Support Line 01202 126668.

If you have any safeguarding concerns, you can make a referral to our local MASH team on this number BCP MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) 01202 123334.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Support for Parents/Carers over the Summer

The Mental Health Services Team understands that the summer holidays can be both an enjoyable and challenging time for parents and carers, particularly when balancing work, childcare and family life. To support families over the summer period, they have put together a range of resources, practical advice, and signposting to local and national services, which are highlighted in the attached newsletter. Please do make use of these helpful resources.

BCP – Reading Challenges

The link below has some information about the Summer Reading Challenge for parents and some posters and flyers.

[School-zone-src | Summer Reading Challenge](#)

We also have a **What's On** guide which is full of free activities for families during the summer holidays. If you are able to share this electronically with families before you break up, we'd really appreciate it.

[Whats-on-children-and-families-summer-2026.pdf](#)

Also, attached later on in the newsletter is a Story Doors poster. There's also a link to the trail map here.

[Story Doors Trail | BCP](#)

Great British Summer Savings

Please click on link below from the Department for Education regarding savings this summer.

[Great British Summer Savings](#)

NEW SCHOOL YEAR INFORMATION

School Clubs

Our outside providers such as **Frogs Drama, Karate and Tennis** are available for sign-up (see details attached later in the PDF newsletter attached to this email). These clubs will start w/c 7th September. If your child is in receipt of **pupil premium**, please contact our Finance Officer and she can look to see if your child is eligible to have one of these clubs paid for.

Our **Sailing Club** takes place from Thursday 17th July over 5 weeks, from 3:30pm – 5pm at Christchurch Harbour, Mudeford Quay. This is a great place to learn due to sheltered, shallow waters and as a team they have a lot of experience teaching children sailing skills in a fun and safe way. Please email nick@shoresports.co.uk if you have any questions.

You would need to transport your child to and from this venue. Please sign up and pay via Arbor if you wish your child to participate by the 11th September 2026.

There are a range of music lessons available during school time. Mrs Bright's **recorder lesson** offer, as well as Mr Bacon's **piano lessons** are attached later in the PDF newsletter attached to this email.

All other extra-curricular clubs will be available to sign up from Saturday 12th September – details will be sent at the beginning of September.

Smart Watches

From September, children will not be permitted to wear smart watches. This is in line with tightening regulations around mobile phone use, recording and photographic capacity and access to the internet. Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping our children safe.

Birthday Celebrations!!

St. James' is 170 years old in 2026 and we are putting on a special event on **Friday October 16th from 4pm - 7pm** to celebrate 170 wonderful years of our school family.

We have already begun gathering old school photographs and records and will have displays in all of the classrooms as well as refreshments and a presentation in the hall. We would love to see as many alumni and old students here as possible so please pass the information on to anyone you know who may be interested. If anyone has fascinating photographs or memorabilia that you think we may be able to borrow, please get in touch.

Further details in September but please mark the date in your diary and let's celebrate our history together.

St. James' Preschool

Tiny Seeds, the new preschool on our site (located in the church) are open from September.

If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please get in touch by email at

info@tinyseedspreschool.co.uk or by phone on 07960 198988.

Further information can be found on their website: www.tinyseedspreschool.co.uk

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 91.5% - let's see if we can get even nearer to 100% in September.

PE Days 2026/27

In our new academic year, your child's PE days will be:

Mondays - Harbour

Tuesdays - Year 1 and Year 3

Wednesdays - Year 4 and Year 5

Thursdays - Early Years

Fridays - Year 2 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:

Wednesday 22nd July - Break up for summer holidays @ 1:20pm

Thursday 3rd September - Children return to school for the start of the academic year 2026/2027

Monday 12th October - Individual and sibling photographs – Frazer Portraits

Friday 16th October - 170th birthday celebrations. 4pm – 7pm

Friday 23rd October - Break up for half term

Monday 2nd November - Children return for term 2

Wednesday 4th November - Year 4 swimming starts

Saturday 7th November - St. James' Open Morning for new parents. 10am - 12pm

Friday 13th November - Mufti Day for Children in Need

Tuesday 15th December - Year 5 and 6 Carols by Candlelight - church

Friday 18th December - Break up for Christmas holidays

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'.

Have a safe and happy summer break and we will see you all in September.

As always, thank you all for your continued support throughout the year.



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.**



FROGS DRAMA NURTURING THEATRE WORKSHOPS!

TUESDAY or WEDNESDAY sessions
every week straight after school
till 4.15pm at ST JAMES!
Available to Year 1 and Year 2.

Starting wk of 7th Sept leading up to
and including wk 7th December.

Limited spaces available!

Whether we dive to the bottom of
the ocean or fly to space your
child's imagination is at the helm so
anything is possible!

We have 13 drama sessions leading
up to the Christmas holidays!

We would love to welcome you!
£78 payable for 13 sessions this
AUTUMN. Booking open now.

SUMMER HOLIDAY SESSIONS COMING
UP TOO!

To book on & guarantee your place
contact Bex Nightingale soon—
07973637545

www.frogsdrama.com

FROGS DRAMA BOURNEMOUTH  
rebeccafrogsdrama@gmail.com



LET KIDS BE KIDS!

FROGS is a wildly creative space!

Themed drama adventures, clue
hunts, our composed kids songs,
silliness, dance & art!

creativity, confidence and
communication boosting for little ones
all through drama play!

ACTORS & DRAMA TEACHERS WITH TONS
OF EXPERIENCE WITH LITTLE PEOPLE!
DBS CHECKED AND FIRST AID TRAINED



AFTER SCHOOL TENNIS CLUB

ST.JAMES' PRIMARY SCHOOL
YEARS 1-6 - FRIDAYS @ 3:15-4:15PM



ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED

OPEN TO ALL ABILITIES

HELPING CHILDREN GET ACTIVE
AND DEVELOP A RANGE OF SKILLS

ALL COACHES ARE
LTA QUALIFIED, DBS CHECKED,
AND FIRST AID TRAINED

Follow the link below to book a place for the next term:

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/ChristchurchTennis/Coaching/Book/14157a46-f585-4cb0-88e8-13e4240e7546>

Contact: HarryHLTC@outlook.com / 07855 436701





The "Sport Karate" classes will be re-starting on **Friday 11th September 2026** at St James Primary school. At this time, we will be welcoming new beginners and existing students from Years 2 – 6. If this is not convenient, please note that we also offer external classes. www.sekf.co.uk

The award-winning classes which have been featured by the BBC and Meridian TV on several occasions will be run by Collin Rudkin, 7th Dan Black Belt, ex-England international and his team of instructors.

All the SEKF instructors are enhanced DBS checked and have attended child safe-guarding / first aid courses and continue to update on a regular basis.

Sport Karate is an exciting and dynamic way of keeping fit, improving coordination whilst gaining self-confidence.

In keeping with the school's Ethos, Collin Rudkin, and his team of Instructors, encourage a positive attitude and respect for others.

Time: 7.30am – 8.30am
At: Sports Hall
Clothing: Sports-Kit / Karate suit

Cost for new members: £27.00 (September) Then monthly Standing Order £45.00 starting 1st October.

Please message the details requested to Sensei Collin Rudkin and make payment to the bank account below using your child's name and school code SJS as Reference prior to **Friday 4th September** to reserve your child's place for this popular class. Parents will receive confirmation prior to the class starting and will be offered a refund if their child does not wish to continue after the first lesson or if the class is full.

Information required.

Student Name: School attending: Class name / Year group

Cost for Existing members: £45.00 Monthly fee (Includes Saturday course)

Existing students are guaranteed their place and do not need to confirm if payment is made via Standing Order for the 1st of each month.

If you have any further enquiries, please contact Sensei Collin: 07966 303 585

Payment details: Name: Southern England Karate Federation
Account No: 03807886 Sort Code: 20-96-96

July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 1 children

Year 2 Recorder Lessons 2025/26

Your child recently enjoyed a performance of recorder music, given by the current Year 2 pupils. At St James, children in Year 2 have the opportunity to learn how to play the recorder. Tuition takes place in small groups during school time on Wednesday afternoons, where children learn not only how to play the recorder, but about all the key elements of music. Pupils will build good listening skills and gain confidence and self-esteem, taking part in group work. The aim is to give them a firm foundation on which to build any future music or instrumental learning.

Lessons are payable on a termly basis, in advance and are non-refundable. The cost is £40 per term of 10 lessons. If you wish your child to take recorder lessons from September, **please email me by Friday 10th July at kathrynbright@ntlworld.com with the following details:**

- **Full name and current year 1 class of child**
- **Full name of parent(s) and contact details (email address and mobile phone number)**

Once I have received this information, I will contact you with confirmation of your child's place, plus details of how to pay by bank transfer.

Please note, once your child has committed to recorder lessons you **must give half a term's notice in writing should they wish to stop.**

Children will be expected to practise regularly and must remember to bring in their recorder and music on the day of their lesson. Descant recorders and music book ('Recorder from the Beginning Book 1' by John Pitt) are widely available online.

Please feel free to email me if you have any queries.

Kathryn Bright
Recorder Teacher



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 22ND
JULY**



Any questions, please email
geoffreybaconmusic@gmail.com

PARENT/CARER Summer newsletter



The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) provides early intervention and prevention support for children and young people experiencing challenges such as low mood or anxiety. We work closely with schools, families, and communities to promote emotional wellbeing and ensure young people get help as early as possible.

🎧 Listen to our Meet the Team podcasts – hear directly from us about the services we offer and how we can support you and the young people in your care.



ALL EPISODES -
AVAILABLE FREE
ON SPOTIFY

bit.ly/MHSTPodcast



Support over the summer

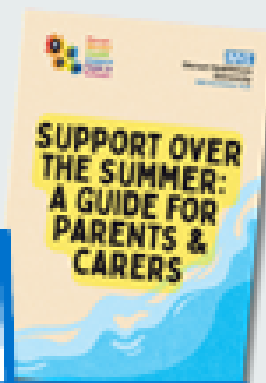
We know the summer holidays can bring both fun and challenges for families, especially when balancing work, childcare and family life. Following feedback from local families at our Supporters Forum, the MHST has created a Summer Support Leaflet packed with practical tips, activity ideas, and links to local and national support services. Whether you're looking for wellbeing advice, parenting support or useful resources, this leaflet includes recommendations from local families to help you feel more supported over the summer.

Free Parent/Carer pre-recorded webinars

The MHST has a range of free pre-recorded webinars available for parents, carers and supporters of children and young people.

Topics include sleep, emotional regulation, school attendance, autism, parenting support and transition to secondary school. Access your chosen webinar by completing the online form here:

Webinar access form: bit.ly/4wAGCxo



<https://bit.ly/4fgyZEm>

Free resources:

linktr.ee/dorsetmhst



@DORSETMHST



ST. JAMES' FOOTBALL ACADEMY

LEARN. IMPROVE. **ACHIEVE.**



AGES
7-11

GROUP FOOTBALL SESSIONS

HAVING FUN WITH PLENTY OF GAMES AND LEARNING NEW SKILLS!

SESSIONS RUN BY



**MR BARTRAM
& MR BATTAMS**



EXPERIENCED SCHOOL PE TEACHERS

Passionate about developing young players, building confidence and improving skills in a fun, supportive environment.

- ✓ **FIRST AID TRAINED**
- ✓ **ENHANCED DBS CHECKED**
- ✓ **FULLY INSURED**

Your child's safety and well-being are our top priority.



IMPROVE SKILLS

Develop key techniques and game awareness.



TARGET AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

Focused coaching to help players get better.



BUILD CONFIDENCE

Encouraging every player to grow and believe in themselves.



HAVE FUN

Plenty of games, team challenges and match play!



DATES & SCHEDULE

- ✓ **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY**
- ✓ **FOR 4 WEEKS IN AUGUST**
- ✓ **FIRST WEEK WILL BE TUESDAY 4TH AUGUST**
- 🕒 **SEE TIMES BELOW**

PRICING

£30 FULL DAY

10:00AM - 3:00PM



LOCATION

**GREEN CONTAINERS
BY THE PETERSFIELD
ROAD CAR PARK
BH7 6QE**



CHILDREN WILL NEED TO BRING:

-  **WATER**
-  **A PACKED LUNCH**
-  **HEALTHY SNACK**
-  **SUN HAT**
-  **SUNCREAM**
-  **WATERPROOF WHERE APPROPRIATE**



**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
FOR 4 WEEKS
IN AUGUST**



**TO BOOK TICKETS
PLEASE SIGN UP VIA **ARBOR (CLUBS)****

LIBRARIES STORY DOOR TRAIL

25 MAY - 28 SEPTEMBER

24 local schools have each created a story door,
and there's one hidden in every BCP library...



Scan the QR code or visit:
bcpcouncil.gov.uk/story-doors-trail
to download the trail map and get started!



HOW MANY DOORS CAN YOU FIND?



Scouts

10th Bournemouth
(St James)

New Squirrel Scout Group



Exciting news! St James Scouts are looking to establish a new Squirrels group for 4-6 year olds.

Would you like to be part of the fun? Could you support our new section as an adult volunteer?

Our meetings will be held on Thursday evenings and feature a variety of activities such as arts & crafts, den building, science experiments, games, and much more.

For more information

email: 10thbournemouthscoutgroup@gmail.com





BLUE WAVE
— BOURNEMOUTH —

SWIM • LEARN • ACHIEVE

SWIMMING LESSONS



SWIMMING LESSONS
FOR PRE-SCHOOL,
STAGES 1 & 2



MAXIMUM
2 CHILDREN
PER CLASS



TEACHERS
MRS FINNIGAN
AND MRS G



A RANGE OF
SESSION TIMES



info@bluewavebournemouth.co.uk

**BOOK YOUR
SEPTEMBER
SLOT!**



HOTEL COLLINGWOOD
11 PRIORY RD,
BOURNEMOUTH
BH2 5DF



FREE ON-SITE PARKING



CALL OR WHATSAPP
07976 053988
07818 034051



BLUE WAVE

BOURNEMOUTH

SWIM • LEARN • ACHIEVE

CONFIDENCE STARTS HERE

At Blue Wave Bournemouth,
we make learning to swim
fun, safe and rewarding.

From first splashes to confident
strokes, we're with your child
every step of the way.

MEET YOUR SWIM TEACHERS



SUZY

Suzy is a fully qualified
swim teacher and a
teaching assistant
specialising in SEN.

- ✓ Experienced in supporting children with additional needs in a calm, nurturing and inclusive environment.
- ✓ Creates a fun, safe space where every child can build confidence at their own pace.
- ✓ From first lessons to Stage 2, Suzy focuses on confidence, technique, water safety and making every lesson enjoyable.

QUALIFICATIONS



FULLY QUALIFIED
SWIM TEACHER



SEN TEACHING
EXPERIENCE



FOCUS ON WATER
CONFIDENCE & SAFETY



FRIENDLY, PATIENT
& SUPPORTIVE
APPROACH



VAL

Val is a fully qualified
swim teacher as well as
being Head of PE at a
local primary school.

- ✓ She enjoys helping children overcome fears, develop new skills and celebrate every achievement.
- ✓ Working alongside Suzy, Val delivers structured lessons that are relaxed, enjoyable and tailored to each swimmer's ability.

QUALIFICATIONS



FULLY QUALIFIED
SWIM TEACHER



WATER SAFETY
FOCUSED



SMALL CLASS
SPECIALIST



FRIENDLY &
ENCOURAGING
TEACHING STYLE

BOOK YOUR
SEPTEMBER
SLOT!

Ready to
MAKE A SPLASH?

Book your September slot today!



HOTEL COLLINGWOOD
11 Priory Rd, Bournemouth
BH2 5DF



CALL OR WHATSAPP
07976 053988 | 07818 034051



info@bluewavebournemouth.co.uk



COME AND JOIN US

**FREE OUTDOOR SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY
SESSIONS THIS SUMMER AT WATERSIDE LOCATIONS
ACROSS THE UK, FOR 7-14 YEAR OLDS.**

DURLEY CHINE BEACH, BOURNEMOUTH

Mon 10th August to Friday 14th August 2026

Daily sessions at 9.30am or 10.30am

Book your session in advance
at swimsafe.org.uk or on the day.





St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

Term Dates 2026-2027

AUTUMN TERM

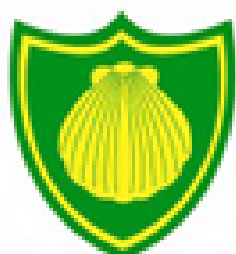
Inset Day	Tuesday 1 st September 2026
Inset Day	Wednesday 2 nd September
First Day	Thursday 3 rd September
Half Term	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October
Last Day	Friday 18 th December (finish at 1.20pm)

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)