



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy
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BOURNEMOUTH BH7 6DW
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8th December 2023

Newsletter

Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their life. Proverbs 22:6

Dear Parents/Carers

The St. James' family is very much like an orchestra, with brilliant individuals all coming together to play their part, and one that I am privileged to conduct.

One of TV's classic moments from celebrated comedian Eric Morecombe is when he explains, during a rendition of Grieg's piano concerto, 'I'm playing all the right notes, but not necessarily in the right order' as he jests with celebrated maestro André Previn in the classic Morecombe & Wise Show broadcast on Christmas day for many years! This clip is routinely shown in 'Best 50 TV moments' and other such shows even today and can be enjoyed here: [Bing Videos](#)

Likewise, orchestras with their range of brass, string, woodwind and percussion instruments can quickly become idyllic or slip to a cacophony - so many individuals either playing harmoniously or, in the words of Eric Morecombe, 'not necessarily in the right order'.

So, as we approach this season of Christmas nativities and performances, I invite you to please join in and sing confidently as a member of one of the 'choirs of angels' that we'll hear about in the coming weeks leading to the stable where angelic voices were prominent and jubilant then, but are equally present now.



Worship

This week, we have been thinking about advent, and getting ready for Christmas and the birth of our Lord Jesus. It is the most magical time for everyone and we have thinking about what Mary and Joseph must have needed to prepare for, all those years ago. I don't suppose a long journey by foot to Bethlehem was in their initial birthing plans?



Christmas Post

There is a Christmas post box at the bottom of the stairs, by the children's entrance. This is available for all children to write and send cards to their friends around the school. Our Year 6 helpers will be delivering these to classes by the end of the day.

Please make sure you put the name and the class clearly on the envelope. We also strongly encourage the cards are recycled after Christmas.



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Farewell

Mrs Coleman and Mrs Voss are saying their goodbyes to St. James' at Christmas.

Mrs Coleman has been connected with St. James' for well over 15 years now, and we wish her well in her new career in the NHS. We will miss her work in Speech and Language.

Mrs Voss started over 5 years ago and has worked with lots of children in different year groups, including as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. We wish her well in her ventures with her career in alternate provision for children.

Miss Hartley successfully interviewed for the vacant Speech and Language role at St. James', and is having valuable handover sessions with Mrs Coleman.

We also look forward to welcoming Miss Mead, an experienced HLTA to the team, starting in January.



School Uniform

A reminder that our school uniform is an identity unique to the children of St. James'. It gives us a sense of belonging and pride. Recently, we have noticed quite a few children who are wearing clothes that are not associated with the St. James' uniform. The policy is on the website, under the parent section about our uniform. Traditionally, St. James' has a 'winter' uniform and a 'summer' uniform. We would expect all children to be wearing our winter uniform now, with a guideline of October half term for the change of uniform.

Our winter uniform comprises of:

- White long or short sleeved blouse or shirt
- Green St. James' school tie available from Stevensons
- Courtelle bottle green V-neck St. James' jumper or cardigan available from Stevensons
- Bottle green pinafore dress (for Year R - Year 4)
- Bottle green skirt (suggested for Year 5 and Year 6 - short netball type skirts are not acceptable)
- Traditional styled grey trousers or shorts (for boys or girls)
- Long or short white or grey socks (trainer socks are not acceptable) or tights in grey or bottle green
- Warm practical waterproof coat or anorak, preferably in a single dark colour - no logos
- Black sturdy practical school shoes (boots, trainers or high-heeled shoes are not permitted)
- Optional warm practical hat - no logos

We do of course appreciate the cost of living, and school uniform is not cheap. The PSA provide a wonderful service with our pre-loved uniform exchange (limited amount in the office) and run sales after school on a regular basis, where you can pick up any item of school uniform for a fraction of the cost of Stevensons.



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Christmas 'Give and Take' Boxes

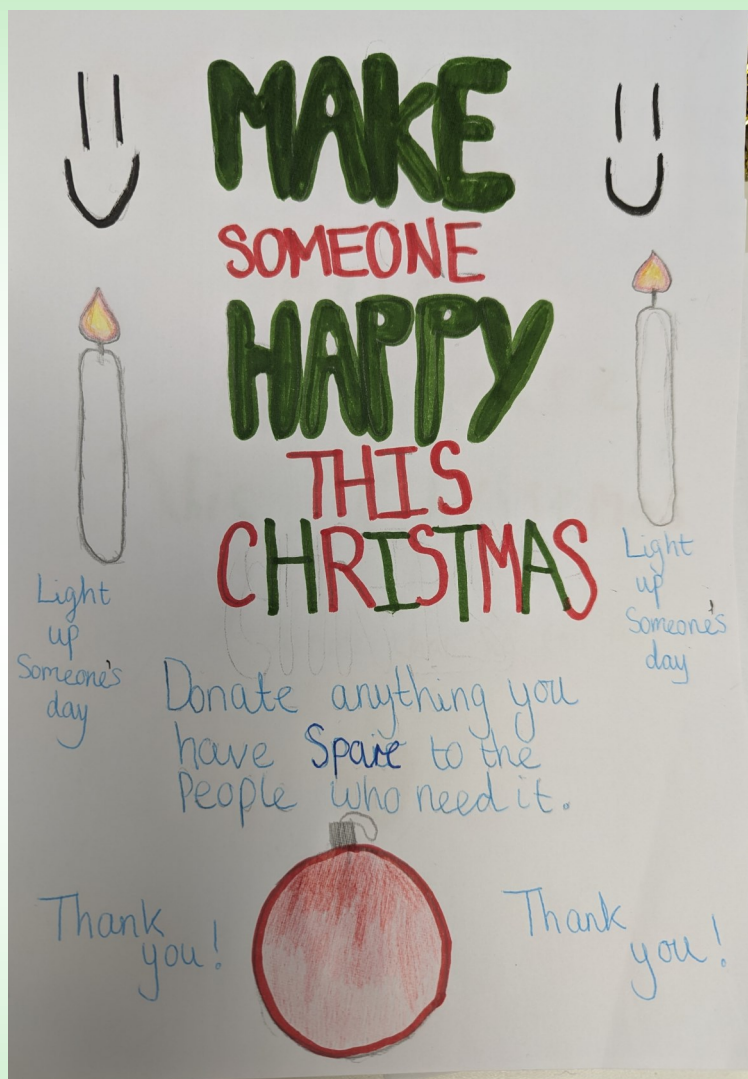
Recently, some of our Year 6 children attended a Social Justice conference and they would love to organise a 'Give and take' box to support those in need in our community.

Next week, there will be a couple of boxes outside of the school office entrance for donations of Christmas treats and non perishable food and for new (or nearly new) toys and gifts.

If you are able to, please donate but equally, if you are in need, please take something out and take it home for your Christmas.

Suggested items could include:

- Chocolate and sweet treats
- Mince pies
- Christmas pudding
- Stuffing box
- Gravy granules
- Tinned foods
- Hot chocolate
- Christmas biscuits
- Christmas Crackers
- Small toys
- Stationery gift set
- Toiletry gift set
- Sport gift set
- New cards or games



We are a school family and the children are keen to support each individual family with their needs this Christmas. It is an expensive time and we would like everyone to be able to enjoy the season if we can. Any leftovers at the end of term will be donated to the Bournemouth Foodbank or the Salvation Army for further distribution to those in need.



PE Days

A reminder that these are the days when the children should come to school in their PE kits:

EYFS – Wednesdays

Year 1 – Tuesdays

Year 2 – Thursdays

Year 3 – Fridays

Year 4 – Tuesdays

Year 5 – Thursdays

Year 6 – Fridays



Extra Curricular Clubs

This was the last week of clubs for the year. We will be setting up new clubs to run in January after the Christmas holidays.



Upcoming Key Dates

Monday 11th December – Year 1 Christmas performance, 4.30pm - lower playground (Children to arrive at 4.15pm, coming in through the children's entrance (main entrance gate) where staff will check them in. Collection at the end of the performance will be from the main gate).

Monday 11th December – Year 3 Christmas performance, 5.30pm - lower playground (Children to arrive at 5.15pm, coming in through the children's entrance (main entrance gate) where staff will check them in. Collection at the end of the performance will be from the main gate).

Tuesday 12th December – EYFS Christmas nativity performance, 1.30pm and 5.30pm - hall (Children to arrive at 5pm)

Wednesday 13th December – Year 2 Christmas performance, 4.30pm - lower playground (Children to arrive at 4.15pm, coming in through the children's entrance (main entrance gate) where staff will check them in. Collection at the end of the performance will be from the main gate).

Wednesday 13th December – Year 4 Christmas performance, 5.30pm - lower playground (Children to arrive at 5.15pm, coming in through the children's entrance (main entrance gate) where staff will check them in. Collection at the end of the performance will be from the main gate).

Thursday 14th December – Year 5 and 6 Christmas Carols by candlelight 6pm – church (Children to arrive at 5.40pm)

Monday 18th December – PSA Christmas parties – classrooms. We've asked Father Christmas to come!

Tuesday 19th December – Break up for Christmas at 1.15pm (potential snow warning!)

Thursday 4th January 2024 - Children return to school for the Spring term



Parent Champion for SEND - Confidential Support And Advice For Families

As a school we want to play a role in improving SEND services for our children and young people. We have an opportunity to provide a confidential space here in school for families of children with SEND through a new Parent Champion project delivered and funded by SENDiass4BCP and Parent Carers Together.

Our parent champion, Sarah, is next in school from 9:30am on Wednesday 10th January 2024. Time slots will be allocated to individual families on a first come first served basis and are held in confidence during the school day. If you would be interested in meeting with Sarah then please let the office know by the end of the day on Tuesday 9th January.

If you are experiencing difficulties and are unsure where to access the support and resources you need please do get in touch. The role of the Parent Champion is to listen and to share knowledge of the services and the networks in your local community that may be of help to you. This is a valuable resource we are so pleased to be part of. Together we can improve services and support for families across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.



Website

Please check our new website for your child's learning and important information on the year group pages.



Instagram

We know that lots of you enjoy our Facebook page but you can now follow us on Instagram too! Search us out on <https://www.instagram.com/stjamescofe/> and give us a follow or click on the link on the website.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support, at this special time of 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.**

'Every pupil and adult flourishes within the family at St. James'. SIAMS report June 2022.



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2023-24 Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Last Day Tuesday 19th December 2023 (finish at 1.20pm)

SPRING TERM 2024

Inset Day Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Inset Day Wednesday 3rd January 2024

First Day Thursday 4th January 2024

Half Term Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February 2024

Last Day Thursday 28th March 2024 (finish at 1.20pm)

SUMMER TERM 2024

First Day Monday 15th April 2024

Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May 2024

Inset Day Monday 3rd June 2024

Last Day Friday 19th July 2024 (finish at 1.20pm)



ASPIRE LIFE SPORTS
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUB HELD AT
ST JAMES SCHOOL

20th, 21st, 22nd, 28th 29th December
limited spaces available



9am until 3pm

£22 PER DAY

EXTRA SIBLING
GOES HALF
PRICE



HAF spaces
available!!

BOOK NOW

www.aspirelifespports.co.uk

Join us for Christmas at St. Saviour's

Today in the town of David
a Saviour has been born to you;
he is the Messiah, the Lord.
Luke 2 verse 11

St. Saviour's Church, 32 Colemore Road, BH76RZ

www.st.saviours.net : 01202 430078 : office@stsaviours.net





STEVENSONS

Opening Times

From everyone at Stevensons, we're sending you our best wishes and a little note to say that we are closing our stores over the Christmas holidays so staff can spend time with their family and friends.

We're closed from 18th December until 1st January.

We re-open on the 2nd of January

You can still order for home delivery or Click and Collect once the store re-opens.

Festive. 

