



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy  
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**9th February 2024**

## Newsletter

*We love, because He loved us first. John 4 v 19*

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy half term. We are officially half way through the academic year! As someone who has a passion for sport, I can equate this to the all-important half time team talk. As a coach or manager, the half time team talk is vital for making adjustments, sometimes to change patterns and behaviours to affect the outcome of the game. I find myself in a position of fortune; our team is winning, and winning comfortably. St. James' is thriving, and our children are flourishing. However, we must not sit back and think the job is done; we are in this position at half time because we have worked so hard, now it's time for refreshment and to get back to the game.

So rest, relax, enjoy your wonderful families and friends and we will see you for the second half! The nights are getting lighter and the mornings are getting brighter. The children have some exciting curriculum projects and educational visits ahead of them and they will be able to add their 'sticky' knowledge to make sense of their own learning, so that they are ready to fly!



### Worship

We were led in worship about love, by our Early Years children this week, what a treat, they were brilliant. Children always have a wonderful opinion about love, below are quotes from Key stage 1 children about what love means to them:

*"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth."*

*"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."*

*"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day."*

*"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you."*



### St. James' Is Going Greener!

We have had an army of electricians in school this week, working at night, to fit our new energy efficient lighting throughout the whole school. Not only does it look brighter, but also we are helping to cut costs and save the planet. These are being installed without cost, and we pay for them out of our energy bill savings. Our next projects include solar panels and charging points at school to encourage greener travel.



### Playground Safety

We have had a couple of minor accidents on the playground before school this week and would like to remind parents that we are unable to supervise and take responsibility for children prior to 8.30am. Please remind older children who may walk, cycle or scoot that they should not ride or play on the playground before school but should arrive safely in time for an 8.30am start. Thank you.



### Young Voices

Our wonderful Glee Club performed at the O2 last week. This was a memorable experience for them and their families, although the return coach didn't arrive back at school until 2:00am! Everyone had fun making lifelong memories.



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We are inviting Glee parents who were unable to get to the 02 into school on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 3.45pm** so that we can give you a little flavour of some of our songs and the performance. We will finish Glee a little later than usual on that day at 4.25pm.



### **Sporting Success**

During this last week, our fantastic netball team won their league and will go on to the town finals. Our indoor athletics team reached the town finals, narrowly coming second in the final! Our under 11 footballers lost 5 - 3 in County Cup Quarter Finals away at Longfleet, Poole. We are extremely proud of you all!



### **Teddy Bear Fundraising**

We raised over £630 for the Dorset Children's Foundation, last Friday, with a variety of activities including cake sales. A big thank you to Mrs Finnigan for organising the day. We had a visit from Dorsey Bear and it was a great thing to support a worthwhile local charity, who were extremely grateful.



### **Science Fun!**

Our Year 5 children visited the Winchester Science Centre, as part of their space project this week. In addition, the Science Dome came into school on Wednesday for our Year 6 children; they also revisited their space learning from Year 5, to consolidate their 'sticky' knowledge.



### **Pizza Van Treat!**

As a reward for filling up the Golden Token Tube, our children were served from a pizza van, as a treat on the playground. They each had a slice of pizza, including gluten and dairy free options. This is a whole school reward, as all of our children contribute to filling the token tube for going above and beyond in kindness or hard work.

I wonder what the next treat will be?



### **Safer Internet Day**

This week we took part in Safer Internet Day. Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year we cover an online issue or theme that speaks to the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. Created in consultation with young people across the UK, this year Safer Internet Day will be focusing on change online, this includes covering:

- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
- Using the internet to make change for the better
- The changes young people want to see online
- The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

There are some top tips for parents on this link

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

We are also giving parents the opportunity to undertake some online safety training through ECP (Education Child Protection). Follow this link for a useful webinar which will help you to keep abreast of all of the dangers of online use and tips on how to keep your children safe.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/281474310284513376>

Both links will also be on the online safety page on the website.



## World Book Day

- <https://www.littlestepspublishing.co.uk/books/a-squirrels-tale>

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March (the day before World Book Day 2024), we have the talented local author Debs Pharoah Pink coming into St. James' for the day. She will be delivering an assembly and workshops throughout the day for our children. There will also be opportunities for you to purchase signed copies of her book.

- **World Book Day Thursday 7th March**

Following on from our visit from author, Debs Pharoah Pink, there will be an animal themed day to celebrate world book day, where your child can come dressed as any animal from literature. During the day, we will be sharing our favourite books or poems with our reading buddies, so please encourage your child to bring in a favourite book if they would like to.

- **Books At Bedtime**

This year, we are excited to be holding our annual books at bedtime event in school. Children will leave school at normal time and then return **at 6:00pm** (in PJ's if they wish) to listen to a bedtime story read by a member of staff. The event should finish by 6.45pm. KS2 will enter and leave the event through the Year 3 entrance at the front of the school and EYFS and KS1 will use the school office entrance.

Please sign up via Trips on Arbor **by noon on Monday 4th March** if your child/children are able to attend. We will not be able to accept any children on the night who haven't signed up. We are asking for a donation of £1 to attend the event, which will go towards purchasing new reading books.

- **Book Fair**

Every child will receive a £1 book token. We are having a Book Fair on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, which you are warmly invited to. This will take place between 2:30pm and 4:00pm in the library. The children will be able to use their World Book Day token to get £1 off any book.

For more information on World Book Day and ideas to share books, please visit [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)



## Have You Ever Considered A Career In Teaching?

At St. James' we are always keen to help training with new teachers, and embed good pedagogical habits early on. The Poole SCITT which is a Primary Teacher Training programme, are looking for recruits to train to teach. They have some upcoming events:

### Monday 4th March 1pm - 3pm at Poole SCITT, BH17 8AP - Information Sessions

An informal drop in session at Poole SCITT for anyone interested in applying for Primary Teacher Training. They can answer any queries or questions that you might have and you will have a chance to see the Poole SCITT course premises.

### Tuesday 19th March 4:30pm - 6pm and Tuesday 14th May 4:30pm - 6pm at Poole High School, BH15 2BW - Information evening for those interested in Primary or Secondary teaching at Poole High School, BH15 2BW

An informal drop in session for anyone interested in applying for Primary Teacher Training. There will also be a local secondary teacher training provider attending. They can answer any queries or questions that you might have. (We have attached their flyer to this newsletter).



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## PE Days In 2024

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



## Upcoming Key Dates

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** – Return for Term 4

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** – Ash worship in church with Rev Rachel – parents welcome. 8:55am start

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Year 4 residential to Hooke Court

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day (animal themed mufti day) with Books at Bedtime in school (6pm - 6:45pm)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – Nile Class Worship

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March** – Year 3 Roman Day

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March** – Malawi Class Worship

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** – Red Nose Day. Children may wear something red for a donation to comic relief

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – Treehouse Theatre day for Early Years

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent consultations in the hall (3:20pm – 6:30pm). Books in classrooms

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent consultations in the hall (3:20pm – 6:00pm). Books in classrooms

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** – Break up for Easter Holidays at 1:15pm

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April** – Return to school for Term 5

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June** - Sports Day



## SENDiass4BCP Steering Group

**SENDiass** are looking to recruit a new Steering Group comprising of key stakeholders from education, health and social care along with service users including Young People and Parent/Carers (approximately 12 people in total). I am emailing schools today to ask if this can be circulated amongst staff and families.

The role of a steering group is to work closely with the SENDiass Service Manager to identify specific actions and improvement targets within the information, advice and support service and to ensure that SENDiass4BCP is meeting its Minimum Standards, outlined by the Department for Education.

If you would you like to know more, we are offering two online Teams sessions to outline the role and remit of SENDiass4BCP and the role of the Steering Group as well as details on how to express your interest in being on our Steering Group. You can by following the links below, or alternatively, if you are unable to attend but are interested, please email [rebecca.bartlett@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.bartlett@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

**Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup> 1pm-1:45pm** [Steering Group Information Session – SENDiass4BCP](#)

**Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup> 5pm-5:45pm** [Steering Group Information Session – SENDiass4BCP](#)

See poster attached at the end of this newsletter.



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Please check our website for your child's learning and important information on the year group pages. This will be your first point of access with any news and events. 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 great half term break and we'll see you later in February.

Yours in Christ,



**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.

# 2023-24 Term Dates

## SPRING TERM 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)



# St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

## Term Dates 2024-2025

### **AUTUMN TERM**

Inset Day	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September
First Day	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November
Last Day	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December (finish at 1.20pm)

### **SPRING TERM**

Inset Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
First Day	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February
Last Day	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April (finish at 1.20pm)
Inset Day	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April

### **SUMMER TERM**

First Day	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – 30 <sup>th</sup> May
Inset Day	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Last Day	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July (finish at 1.20pm)

# *Come and train to teach Primary children with Poole SCITT*

- Exceptional school-based training based in Poole, Bournemouth and Dorset schools
- Excellent local reputation
- Consistently high outcomes & excellent employment rates
- Majority of graduates employed in local schools
- High quality personalised training
- Highly influential and involved partner schools



**Poole SCITT**  
Excellence in Education

*For more  
information visit:*  
[www.poolescitt.co.uk](http://www.poolescitt.co.uk)



# We Need You!

## SENDiass4BCP Steering Group

- Are you a parent, carer, child or young person, or health, social care or educational professional that supports children and young people with special educational needs?
- Are you able to commit to a meeting once every 3 months?
- Are you able to bring challenge to ensure we meet the National Minimum Standards?
- Are you keen to share ideas and opinions to benefit others?

**Then we would like to hear from you!**



[sendiass4bcp.org](http://sendiass4bcp.org)

