



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy
Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Road
BOURNEMOUTH BH7 6DW
01202 426696
Email office@stjames.academy
15th March 2024

Newsletter

*Beware the Ides of March. Men at some time are masters of their fates. But in ourselves, that we are underlings.
But, for mine own part, it was Greek to me. Julius Caesar, William Shakespeare. 1599.*

Dear Parents/Carers

Today is also known as 'the Ides of March'. In Roman times, the Ides of March was mostly notable as a deadline for settling debts. That calendar featured ides on the 15th in March, May, July, and October or on the 13th in the other months. The word's Latin roots mean, "divide," and the date sought to split the month, originally at the rise of the full moon. According to Shakespeare, Julius Caesar was warned about the Ides of March and the betrayal of his friends. I shall be watching Mrs. Dodd, Mr Slattery, Mr Parsons, Mrs Price and Mrs Lambon very closely today...

Maybe today is a good day to be thankful for what we have. Say sorry for poor choices we may have made? To forgive those that have done us wrong. Isn't it great to have Jesus' on our side to help us!

Worship

We were led by Malawi class for our whole school worship this week, about being grateful to our Mothers (or special people who look after us). The original church celebration of Mothering Sunday was to give people time to spend with their families and loved ones, whilst visiting their 'Mother' church. This has developed into a day where we celebrate our own Mothers and how wonderful they truly are.

Parking Around St. James'

We are increasingly aware of inconsiderate parking around the school, particularly on and around King's Park drive and the slope. All schools are affected by drop off and pick up times and parking, so we are no different. We do however have a long stretch of King's Park drive to use. Please try to think of our children and park considerately, even if it means an extra walk. Time is always used as an excuse in life - we are sometimes bound by it. I've mentioned it before, but children grow up in the blink of an eye. Enjoy your time with them, try and walk or even leave 5 minutes earlier, kick some leaves, embrace the raindrops, soak in the sun, talk about the clouds...you won't regret it.*

*School gates open at 8:30am and close at 8:40am...we don't want any leaves or cloud excuses!

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



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PSA Easter Egg Colour/Craft Competition

The PSA are organising an Easter Egg design competition which your child will be bringing home today. We would love to see some really creative and exciting designs so have some fun!

Designs need to be submitted (with a donation for the PSA) by Monday 25th March ready for judging by our lovely office team. There will be an Easter themed prize for the winner in each class. Have fun creating!



Hand Washing And Health

As part of our measures to prevent the spread of germs and illness please could you remind your child of the importance of washing their hands properly. Also, for them to be mindful of coughs and sneezes and catching them in elbows and tissues. Here are a couple of useful links you could watch with them.

- [Germ detectives and why we wash hands](#)
- [NHS handwashing song](#)



Upcoming Key Dates

Monday 18th March – Treehouse Theatre day for Early Years

Thursday 21st March – Bengal Class Worship

Monday 25th March – Parent Consultations in the hall (3:20pm – 6:30pm). Books in classrooms

Tuesday 26th March – Parent Consultations in the hall (3:20pm – 6:00pm). Books in classrooms

Thursday 28th March – Break up for Easter Holidays at 1:15pm

Monday 15th April – Return to school for Term 5

Tuesday 16th April – Phonics Workshop for Parents – Year 1 3:15pm.

Thursday 2nd May – Biscay Class Worship

Monday 13th May – SATS week for Year 6 children

Monday 20th May – Class photos with Frazer portraits

Thursday 23rd May – Victoria Class Worship

Friday 24th May – Break up for half term (normal time, 3pm and 3:10pm)

Monday 3rd June – INSET day. School closed for pupils

Tuesday 4th June – Children return for Term 6

Tuesday 4th June - New Parents Evening

Thursday 13th June – Amazon Class Worship

Sunday 16th June – Wednesday 19th June – Year 6 Residential, PGL

Thursday 20th June – Galilee Class Worship

Friday 21st June - Sports Day at King's Park Athletics Stadium

Monday 24th June – St. James' Music Celebration Evening – 6 - 7.30pm - hall

Tuesday 2nd July – Year 6 Leaver's Day – Christchurch Priory

Thursday 4th July – Stour Class Worship

Thursday 4th July – Year 3 Lulworth Cove visit

Thursday 4th July – EYFS Longdown Dairy Farm visit

Thursday 4th July – DCAT Enrich at Hurst Pierpoint College

Saturday 6th July – St. James' School and Church Summer Fayre

Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th July – Year 6 Production

Friday 12th July – Children's Attainment and Progress Reports out to Parents

Thursday 18th July – Leaver's Eucharist – church 1:30pm (parents welcome)

Thursday 18th July – St. James' Academy awards – 6pm - 7:30pm

Friday 19th July – Break up for summer holidays (1:20pm)



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Our local BCP Navigator is coming to St. James' to do a workshop on 'Managing Behaviour' which all parents are invited to. Navigators are part of BCP's support for schools and parents programme.

This will be on **Friday 22nd March from 9am - 10am** and will be a useful workshop for any parent who would like to explore strategies of successful behaviour management and building relationships with your child through their primary years.

Please sign up on Arbor if you would like to attend and we will confirm arrangements once we have numbers attending.

Feedback

Since doing the programme I have tried different ways to diffuse tantrums which ended in both me and my child laughing.

I'm not getting into trouble as much at school and I'm doing pretty good at home too.

I have learnt more in the last hour than I have in the past five years of parenting.

Learning techniques, changing the conversation and working through feelings was good for both of us.

Local services for you

BCP Council Family Information Directory (FID)
T. 01202 093131 E. familyinformation@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

BCP Council Children's First Response Team (MASH)
T. 01202 123334 E. childrensfirstresponse@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

SENDiass4BCP: Special Educational Needs support
T. 01202 128181 E. sendiass@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

BCP Council Youth Access Point (YAP) 12-19 years
T. 07880 480602 E. UPinBCP@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

The school navigator

Supporting children, young people and families by providing the right support at the right time.

E: earlyhelpnavigator@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

f BCP Family Information @BCPFamilyInfo @bcpfamilyinformation fid.bcpCouncil.gov.uk

BCP Council

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'.

Thank you all for your continued support.

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.



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2023-24 Term Dates

SPRING TERM 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)



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Term Dates 2024-2025

AUTUMN TERM

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

SPRING TERM

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

SUMMER TERM

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