



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy  
Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Road  
BOURNEMOUTH BH7 6DW  
01202 426696  
Email office@stjames.academy  
**26th April 2024**

## Newsletter

*We love, because He loved us first. 1 John 4 v 19*

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the summer term. We have many exciting things lined up for our children and hopefully the weather will improve as we near the summer months. I heard on the latest Farmer's report that this has been the wettest 18 months on record. This of course has an enormous impact on farming and consequently the rest of society. One fascinating fact was that cows were unhappy. Their wellbeing has become affected by the constant poor weather and they are producing less milk.

We have to get things right for our community and particularly our children. We have to look after each other and treat each other with kindness. It is no secret that if we are happy and feel loved – we are more productive.

### **Worship**

We have been thinking about love, particularly God's unconditional love for us. This is given without question and we must try to 'pass it on'. Looking after each other and sharing God's love, as the family of St. James', is at the very centre of all we do and the children shared some beautiful thoughts about what love meant to them. If we can love ourselves, we can love others; we can love the world and love the Lord Jesus.

### **PSA Quiz Night**

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June, our wonderful PSA are hosting a quiz night. More information will be sent nearer the time, but save the date! The teachers will be entering a team. Come and have a go if you think you're smart enough!



### **Site Assistant Vacancy**

We still have a vacancy. St. James' is busier than ever with our site (fencing, painting, new windows, new playgrounds, flooring, new toilets, outside classroom, new kitchen... to name but a few), we are looking to appoint a part time Site Assistant to work with Mr Lillis. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in this position, please look at the school website or come in to the school office and speak to Mr Walden for more details. Hours and days are negotiable.



### **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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## Gala Concert

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, our wonderful Glee Club will be singing at a Gala Concert at The Salvation Army in Boscombe in aid of The Dorset Children's Foundation. Tickets are £5 on the door and there will also be a brass band and singing group so please come along and support us as we enjoy performing and raise some money for this very worthy charity.



## Parenting Course

There are still a few places left on the parenting course run by Mrs Sparrow, our Trauma Informed TA, who works on behalf of Care for the Family, running on Thursday afternoons from 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Please see details attached to this newsletter,

Please email Mrs Sparrow to book by **Monday 29th April** ([nsparrow@stjames.academy](mailto:nsparrow@stjames.academy)), or contact the school office.

- Thursdays 1:00pm - 3:00pm
- 2nd May - 13th Jun (not in half-term) at St. James' CE Primary Academy, BH7 6DW
- Course Cost: £10 (includes handbook)



## Upcoming Key Dates

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – Biscay Class Worship

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** - Bank Holiday (school closed)

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May** – SATS week for Year 6 children

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May** – Class photos with Frazer portraits

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** – Victoria Class Worship

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May** – Break up for half term (normal time, 3:00pm and 3:10pm)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – INSET day - school closed for pupils

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June** – Children return for Term 6

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June** - New Parents Evening

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June** – Amazon Class Worship

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June** – PSA Quiz Night – school hall - 7pm

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June** – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Residential, PGL

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June** – Galilee Class Worship

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June** - Sports Day at King's Park Athletics Stadium

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June** – St. James' Music Celebration Evening – 6:00pm - 7:30pm - hall

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July** – Year 6 Leaver's Day – Christchurch Priory

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – Stour Class Worship

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – Year 3 Lulworth Cove visit

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – EYFS Longdown Dairy Farm visit

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – DCAT Enrich at Hurst Pierpoint College

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July** – St. James' School and Church Summer Fayre

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July** – Year 6 Production

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July** – Children's Attainment and Progress Reports out to Parents

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July** – Leaver's Eucharist – Church 1:30pm (parents welcome)

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July** – St. James' Academy awards – 6:00pm - 7:30pm

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> 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. 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'.



**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

## 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)

## What is the Umbrella group?

The Umbrella group has been running since 2013 and is a parent led group. I run the group which is unfunded on a voluntary basis and I am not a professional but a parent of a young man with autism and severe learning difficulties. At present, the Umbrella parents have children and young adults ranging from 3yrs -27 and are in a number of different settings ranging from mainstream to special schools and colleges, as well as adult services and independent living. We also have parents who have children who are Home-schooled or at home because there wasn't a place that could meet their needs or they were unable to cope with a school environment. The children range from needing substantial support to those who need some support to function in their daily lives. Level of intelligence and academic capability, is not necessarily an indication of how much support is needed. The one element that seems to be common with all of them is anxiety.

The group usually meets on the fourth Saturday of the month but this can vary due to school holidays. The meetings are from 10am-1230 in the Pool room at Portfield School, Hurn. I often try to arrange a speaker to come and talk to parents and am always looking for suitable people. If you know of anyone who would be interested in talking to parents on a subject relevant to ASD please let me know. I send out information to parents of the group as well as those who are involved in assessment and working with children and young people with ASD.

It can be quite isolating when you have a child with ASD, especially if they attend a mainstream school, so The Umbrella group gives parents an opportunity to meet other parents of children on the spectrum.

I now have another parent from the group, Clare Lockyer, who is helping me to run The Umbrella group so that it can continue to support parents of children and young people with ASD. She is the mobile contact.



Debbie Muldoon-Hall  
The Umbrella Group  
Support for parents of children with ASD  
[debbiewestbourne@gmail.com](mailto:debbiewestbourne@gmail.com)

The Umbrella group Clare Lockyer 07450 210911  
<https://m.facebook.com/groups/312179982770667?ref=share>



## Welcome to The Umbrella Group

We are a parent led support group, for parents of children and young adults with ASD which has been running for 10 years. We are known as The Umbrella Group, with its connotations of protection and covering a wide spectrum of behaviours which all come under the same umbrella of autism. We normally meet once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday but meetings can be rescheduled to alternative Saturdays to accommodate speakers and avoid school holidays.

If you wish to attend or would like more information, please contact –

Email -> Debbie Muldoon-Hall [debbiewestbourne@gmail.com](mailto:debbiewestbourne@gmail.com)  
Mobile -> Clare Lockyer on 07450 210911  
Facebook -> <https://m.facebook.com/groups/312179982770667?ref=share>

Autism Unlimited -> Shares resources and provides information to help parents to connect to other services that have the authority to advise them. <https://www.autism-unlimited.org/support/book-a-call/>

**Please note the Umbrella meetings are for parents and carers only unless otherwise specified**

**Venue** The Pool room at Portfield School, Parley Lane, Hurn, Christchurch BH23 6BP  
**Day** Usually 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month but occasionally changes due to school holidays and Guest speakers' availability.  
**Time** 10-1230 am approximately. Please note our meetings often over-run to give parents chance to chat with each other but parents can leave at any time for their own convenience  
**Cost** £1 donation for refreshments and administration.



### Umbrella group meeting dates 2024



ASD support for parents and carers  
10am -1230 Portfield School

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

10-1230

**Sensory Integration**

**Anna Willis**

**Director of Active Play Therapies**  
Occupational therapist and Advanced SI practitioner  
[www.activeplaytherapies.com](http://www.activeplaytherapies.com)

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

10 -1230

**Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) and ADHD**  
**Links and overlaps with Autism**

**Stacey Freeman**

Teacher, Author, consultant/advocate (Nformed Consulting), former PDA Society trainer,  
Late diagnosed Neurodivergent individual and parent of Neurodivergent children

**Rebecca Huseyin**

PDA Society trainer, SENDiass Parent Champion,  
Parent of 12 year old with PDA,  
Writer and blogger [www.abovethenormality.com](http://www.abovethenormality.com)

**Nikki Jacques**



Bournemouth Area Fellowship Band  
of The Salvation Army



# GALA CONCERT

**Friday 10th May**  
**at 7.00pm**

**Boscombe Salvation Army Hall**  
**76 Palmerston Road BH1 4HT**

*Guests:*

*St George Singers and*  
*St James' CE Academy Primary School Choir*

***Charity supporting this year***  
***The Dorset Children's Foundation***

Comperé - Major Jane Alton

**Tickets £5.00**

from Band members or on the door

**Collection for Dorset Children's Foundation**





# Time Out For Parents The Primary Years

Sessions for anyone parenting children aged 5 - 11

Thursdays, 1.00 - 3.00pm  
2nd May - 13th Jun (not in half-term)  
St. James' CE Primary Academy, BH7 6DW  
Course Cost: £10 (includes handbook)  
Contact: Nikki Sparrow  
nsparrow@stjames.academy  
School Office: 01202 426696



# Time Out For Parents The Primary Years

*Positive Parenting Time Out for Parents* courses from Care for the Family provide common sense, jargon-free information and ideas to help you to engage with your children and boost your relationship.

If you have children aged 5 – 11, then *Time Out for Parents – The Primary Years* is for you. Over six sessions, you'll increase your skills and confidence as a parent and discover practical tools to make your relationship with your child even better.

## The sessions

- Session 1 What being a parent's really like
- Session 2 Children's needs
- Session 3 Feelings and listening
- Session 4 Boundaries and parenting styles
- Session 5 Keeping children safe
- Session 6 Building strong families



Care for the Family Garth House, Leon Avenue, Cardiff CF15 7RG  
Tel: (029) 2081 0800, [www.careforthefamily.org.uk](http://www.careforthefamily.org.uk)

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