



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy
Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Road
BOURNEMOUTH BH7 6DW
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Email office@stjames.academy
4th October 2024

Newsletter

Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. Matthew 17:20

Dear Parents and Carers

I have never been more proud to lead our wonderful school. We are such a special place where our children flourish. Their joy I witness on a daily basis is a gift. Our adults who lead our learning are incredible and each one deserves praise and credit for going above and beyond every day for our children.

Thank you.



Worship

This week has obviously been dominated with our Harvest Carnival, and giving to others. We also learned the power of faith with 2 stories of the carrot seed and the mustard seed. [The carrot seed by Ruth Krauss](#), is a story of a little boy who had faith that his little seed, once cared for, would grow. Despite all those around him telling him 'it wouldn't grow'. Jesus told a story about a mustard seed which is so tiny, but yet when planted and cared for grows into the biggest plant. The word of God is exactly like this, it starts out small but can grow and grow and grow.



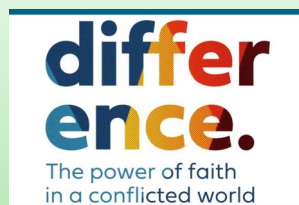
Harvest Carnival Celebration

It was so lovely to see our community come together for our Harvest Carnival with Bishop Geoff (AKA Supertato). It was a really special day and our 2 services were jam packed with parents and children. A big thank you to our families for going above and beyond with the costumes - they were great and we all had so much fun. Bishop Geoff came for a walk around school and commented what a fantastic place it was. Praise indeed.



Difference Programme

We are lucky enough to have been chosen as a pilot school for the Church of England's difference project. We are amongst a handful of schools from around the world. Next week sees the launch of our difference programme, where our children will teach us what they feel about difference and how we celebrate it at St. James'. Each class has a wonderful text to explore and our children are going to be curious, be present and reimagine.



"Reconciliation is not the ending of all difference, but the transformation of how we deal with difference."
- Archbishop Justin Welby



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Science Award Champion

Remember, you can still vote for Emily Jackson's prototype on the link below. Emily's is the last one, under Southampton University. Her 'seed drone' has been built by the engineers at Southampton University and has been nominated for the prestigious MacRobert award in Glasgow.

We are so proud of her and her wonderful achievements. You can vote for Emily on the link below:

<https://www.primaryengineer.com/primary-engineer-macrobert-medal-public-vote/>



PE Days

All children must wear their PE kit all day on their PE day. Your child's PE days will be:

- Tuesdays – Early Years
- Wednesday – Year 1 and Year 4
- Thursdays – Year 2 and 5
- Fridays – Year 3 and Year 6



Medicines In School

Any prescribed medicines required within school hours **must** be brought to the school office and an 'administration form' must be completed by a parent/carer. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD INTO SCHOOL WITH ANY MEDICATION IN THEIR SCHOOL BAG.**

You are very welcome to come to the school office to give your child pain relief, if required, during the school day.



Key Dates

The calendar section on the website should give you major events throughout the academic year, but I will give concise reminders below:

Tuesday 8th October - The 'SEND' Coffee Club - 2pm - entry at school hall doors

Monday 14th October - Frazer Portraits Individual Photos

Saturday 9th November - Open Morning - 10am - noon

Tuesday 19th November - Pavilion Carol Concert - Glee Club

Sunday 24th November - Glee Christmas Concert at St. Peter's School (afternoon)

Monday 25th November - School Open Evening/Book Look - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Tuesday 26th November - Online Parent Consultation Evening - 4pm - 7pm

Wednesday 27th November - Online Parent Consultation Evening - 3.30pm - 6pm

Monday 16th - Thursday 20th December - Christmas performances (hall, outside and church)

Friday 20th June, 2025 - Sports Day, King's Park Stadium

As always, 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'.



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.



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

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)



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Term Dates 2025-2026

AUTUMN TERM

Inset Day	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
Inset Day	Thursday 4 th September
Inset Day	Friday 5 th September
First Day	Monday 8 th September
Half Term	Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October
Last Day	Friday 19 th December (finish at 1.20pm)

SPRING TERM

Inset Day	Monday 5 th January 2026
First Day	Tuesday 6 th January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February
Last Day	Friday 27 th March (finish at 1.20pm)

SUMMER TERM

First Day	Monday 13 th April 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – 29 th May
Inset Day	Monday 1 st June 2026
Last Day	Wednesday 22 nd July (finish at 1.20pm)