



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

Newsletter

For God so loved the world, that He gave his only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.
John 3 v 16

Dear Parents and Carers

We are well into term 2, and Christmas is getting closer. So much so, that I have heard carols and Christmas songs in school this week... it's happening!

We have lots going on, and will try and keep you posted, because there are lots of opportunities for parental engagement over the next 4 weeks.

Worship

Year 6 led our worship beautifully on Remembrance Day, they retold the story of the Second World War and how the families must have felt. They wowed us with their dancing and artwork, and showed a deep understanding of the curriculum they have been learning. We have a duty of care as peacemakers, so that the next generation can live in harmony, something that sadly we don't see enough of in our world. We need to follow Jesus' example and celebrate difference.

We had a lovely service at 11 o'clock on Monday, in our peace garden, where we paid respects to the 66 men from Pokesdown that didn't return from war. Our oldest child, Evelyn, and our youngest child, Ruby, laid a wreath from us all at St. James' CE Primary.

I led a worship about the 3 lions who all showed bravery – the cowardly lion from The Wizard of Oz, Mufasa from The Lion King and Aslan from The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. Each showed a love for their friends, their family and other people by the sacrifices they made. Congratulations to Harvey in Year 5, who knew why we have 3 lions on our England shirts, and what they represent. Do you?

Staff Updates

Mr Lillis, our brilliant Site Manager will be absent from school for the remainder of this term, please keep him in your prayers. Mr Planet has been employed as a Site Assistant, working 7am until 11am each day, which will certainly help while Mr Lillis is not here.

Mr Walden, our amazing School Business Manager, will be reducing his hours, to support his wife's growing business. We have been joined by Ms Robb, who will work as an Administration Assistant from Monday - Friday.



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Registered office: Diocesan Church House, 211 New Church Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 4ED



We would like to welcome Mr Planet and Ms Robb to the St. James' family.

We do have a vacancy in our Finance Department, so if you are interested or you know someone with a good head for figures, please look at the vacancies section of the school website for further details.



Winter Wonderland

Our annual PSA Winter Wonderland is on Friday 29th November, 3:30pm - 6pm in school. There will be lots of fun and games, food and drink, Elves and Father Christmas, and lots more. Donations are being asked for each Friday, please see the attached flyer.

We would love to see as many of you there as possible, it's always great fun.



PSA Information

Please see leaflet attached regarding the **Christmas Wreath Workshop** on Monday 9th December, 7pm - 9pm.

Your child bought home a **Christmas order form** with their design on this week - deadline to order any items is Monday 25th November. All details are on the card.

Raffle tickets have been handed out to the children today to bring home - these will be drawn at our Winter Wonderland event on Friday 29th November.



Parent Information Evenings

On the week beginning 25th November, you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher on Tuesday 26th or Wednesday 27th. These are virtual appointments this term, with in person parent consultations in the New Year. You can sign up for these 9 minute appointments online. Unfortunately, these do cut off after 9 minutes, so don't think the teacher has deliberately ended the call. As well as all of our teachers being available, you can also book appointments with Mrs Price, our Inclusion Leader, should you have any SEND questions about your child.

You are also invited to come into school on **Monday 25th November** to look around your child's classroom and look at their work in their books, in advance of your online meeting. These meetings should inform you about your child's progress and attainment where appropriate, and also an insight to their learning behaviours and relationships in school.

Relish, our new food providers, will be doing a **taster session** in the hall for you to try. We think you will be very impressed.



Phonics Workshops

Thank you to those Early Years Parents who have signed up. We will show you how we teach phonics and help you to support your children with strategies at home. Phonics is the key to reading and we can help you to help your child with blending and segmenting sounds and words.



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The sessions all run from 9am - 9:45am in our Early Years classroom and are on Monday 25th, Thursday 28th and Friday 29th November. We will have more workshops for all year groups throughout the year.



Science Award Champion

Please 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. Miss Martin and myself, will accompany Emily to Barony Hall in Glasgow next Tuesday.

The **Primary Engineer MacRobert Medal Award Ceremony** we will be handing out bronze, silver and gold medals, but there is one more thing being awarded on the night, **the commendation medal!**

This is awarded to the prototype the public has selected as their favourite, with a public vote being held in the 6 weeks leading up to the event. The winner will be announced after the bronze, silver and gold medals have been awarded.

We are so proud of Emily and her wonderful achievements. The public vote will close at **midnight tonight** so make sure you vote for her!

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



Toy Plea!

The Sunshine and Rainbow rooms are in need of clean, good quality dinosaurs, figures, lego and construction toys. If you have any at home you are happy to donate, please drop them into the office.

Meet the Family Support Worker - Tuesday 26th November

We know that life isn't always easy as a parent and we want to do all that we can to support you in your parenting journey. Everyone needs a little helping hand or advice sometimes and it is a sign of strength, not weakness, to ask for help when you need it.

At St. James', we are lucky enough to have a fantastic Family Support Worker in Kelly Leslie and, on Tuesday 26th November, we are offering a 'Meet the Family Support Worker Day' so that you can get to know Kelly and some of the support she can offer. Kelly will be in the church annex from 9am - 9:30am for you to drop in and have a coffee or tea and a chat with her and other parents, or you can make a 1:1 appointment between 9:45am - 12pm for an individual session.

Appointments can be booked via the school office, either by phone or email.

We are also currently developing our parents page on the website so will soon be launching a new support page with some online parenting resources and links to helpful resources.



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School Tours

We have a few more tour dates coming up if you know of anybody who might like to have a look around our school. 1:30pm on Monday 18th November, 9:30am on Friday 22nd November, 9:30am on Tuesday 26th November and 1:30pm on Wednesday 27th November. Just email or call the office to book.



PE Days

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

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



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 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

Friday 29th November - Winter Wonderland - 3:30pm - 6pm

Monday 2nd December - Ducklings Christmas Crafts with Parents/Carers - 1:30pm - 2:45pm

Monday 9th December - Tadpoles Christmas Crafts with Parents/Carers - 1:30pm - 2:45pm

Monday 9th December - PSA Christmas Wreath Workshop. School hall - 7pm - 9pm

Monday 16th - Thursday 19th December - Christmas Performances (hall, outside and church)

Friday 20th December - break up for Christmas holidays. 1:15pm (localised snow flurries expected)

Tuesday 7th January 2025 - children return to school for the Spring Term

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.



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St James' Primary Academy

Christmas
Winter Wonderland

November 29th @ 3.30pm - 6pm



£2 Entry includes free games

Santas Grotto Tickets = £4

- Raffle
- Games
- Chocolate Tombola
- Music
- Food & Drink
- Sales Stalls
- Crafts
- & much more

St James' Primary Academy, Pokesdown, BH7 6DW

*Parent Donation
Dates
for
Christmas Fayre:*

Fri 15th Nov: Chocolate

*Fri 22nd: Prosecco, Wine,
Mulled wine, Beer*

*Fri 29th Nov: Nearly new
Toys, books, Gifts*



*Please leave under the
tree each Friday at drop
off 8:30am.*



ST PETER'S COMMUNITY CHOIR
 With Choirs from the Primary Schools of
 Avonwood, St James & St Josephs.
 With Hyde Brass Band.

Musical Director: Jane Wright

CHRISTMAS HARMONIES

Sunday 24th November 2024 at 3.00pm
 Doors open at 2.15pm

De La Salle Theatre, St Peter's School
 St Catherine's Road, Southbourne.



Tickets - £8.00 (plus booking fee)
 Under 12's - £5.00 (plus booking fee)
 available from Ticketsource:
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-community-choir/t-dvqyyza>



Scan me!

Limited tickets on the Door: £10
 (Cash only)

Don't miss out on
 our AMAZING raffle,
 so please bring cash!

Email:
stpccchoir1@gmail.com



www.facebook.com/stpccchoir/



ST JAMES
ACADEMY PSA
CHRISTMAS
WREATH
WORKSHOP

Join us for this festive workshop
7-9pm, Monday 9 December, St James Main Hall
£25 pp includes wreath accessories and drink!
Contact Holly Shawyer 07879883088 to book.

SHOP NOW OPEN!

Turn your little ones design into a range of magical gift options this Christmas!!



HURRY, LIMITED TIME ONLY!!
UNLOCK YOUR CHILD'S ARTWORK ONLINE



SHOP NOW OPEN!

Every order helps raise money for new School supplies, activities & more!

Unlock your child's artwork today

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Fundraising™

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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) |



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

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) |