



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy
Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Road
BOURNEMOUTH BH7 6DW
01202 426696
Email office@stjames.academy
20th October 2023

Newsletter

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8 v 12

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the clocks move forward, and shorts and t-shirts give way to jumpers and scarves, we find that another season has come and gone. Autumn has well and truly arrived. We must remember to thank God for our defined seasons and the joy that each one brings; conkers, walking through leaves, pumpkins, beautiful colours of nature and a real appreciation of light!

Worship

We have been learning about courage and what it means to face our fears and challenges, with God at our side! We shared the story of Joshua and the city of Jericho and St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians.



Volunteers Needed

From 10am on Saturday 28th October 2023 we will be tidying up our church and grounds in readiness for our Remembrance Sunday Service.

There will be various jobs from sweeping the steps, cutting hedges and weeding to cleaning the brass plaques in church. All help will be greatly received and refreshments will be served during the morning.



PE Days

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



Open Morning and School Tours

Our Open Morning is on Saturday 4th November 10am - 12pm. We also have school tours available in November for anyone interested in joining the family of St. James'. Please share this information with your family and friends.



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





Upcoming Key Dates

Friday 20th October – Break up for half term, normal end of school time

Wednesday 1st November – Disability awareness day in school (Mrs Finnigan has organised a fun packed day of sport)

Saturday 4th November – School Open Day for new intake, 10am - 12pm

Thursday 9th November – Year 6 lead our whole school worship on remembrance in the hall – parents warmly invited

Thursday 9th November – school tours (1.30pm)

Friday 10th November – 10.45am, whole school remembrance service led by Rev. Rachel in the peace garden

Friday 10th November – PSA school discos (all age groups, in the hall)

Tuesday 14th November – school tours (1.30pm)

Tuesday 14th November – EYFS phonics workshop for parents

Thursday 16th November – EYFS phonics workshop for parents

Thursday 16th November – school tours (11am)

Friday 17th November – school tours (9am)

Tuesday 28th & Wednesday 29th November – Parent Consultation Evenings (online appointments only, email to follow nearer time) 3.30pm – 6.30pm

Friday 1st December – PSA Winter Wonderland (in school) 3.20pm - 6pm

Monday 4th December – PSA Christmas wreath making workshop in the hall - 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Monday 11th December – Year 1 Christmas performance, 4.30pm

Monday 11th December – Year 3 Christmas performance, 5.30pm

Tuesday 12th December – EYFS Christmas nativity performance, 1.30pm and 5.30pm

Wednesday 13th December – Year 2 Christmas performance, 4.30pm

Wednesday 13th December – Year 4 Christmas performance, 5.30pm

Thursday 14th December – Year 5 and 6 Christmas Carols by candlelight – Church 6pm

Monday 18th December – PSA Christmas parties – classrooms

Tuesday 19th December – Break up for Christmas at 1.15pm

Thursday 4th January 2024 - Children return to school for the Spring term



Website

Please check our website for your child's learning and important information on the Year group pages. We are hoping the new website will be ready shortly after half term. It has been built and just needs a few sections populating.

You will be pleased to know that it is much more user friendly for mobile devices!



The PSA Needs You!

We have a wonderful PSA (Parent Staff Association) which all staff and parents automatically belong to. There are a number of fantastic events coming up and we need help!

Please look at the key dates, on the previous page, and note them in your diary to see which you can either attend as a supporter or helper. Team work makes the dream work, as they say, so the more people who can volunteer, the more we can do to enrich life for our pupils and families.

If you haven't already been in touch with your PSA year group rep, or you are not yet part of a year group Whatsapp, please do find them on the playground or get in contact to get involved.

Reception - Sarah Carter, Sara Louise Christopher, Nicola Cartlidge

Year 1 - Charlie Sansom, Felicity Breuning, Rebecca Hetherington

Year 2 - Kim Woodall, Emma Tilt

Year 3 - Gemma Harrison, Jardine Perkins

Year 4 - Becka Croydon, Felicity Brantingham, Lorraine Hampton

Year 5 - Gemma Harrison, Kate Walker, Alison Hubbard

Year 6 - Lisa Allen, Laura Gibbs

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

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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We are sure you are aware, schools have a legal duty to monitor attendance. The government has set a target of 95% attendance for all pupils over an academic year and pupils below 90% attendance are classed as persistent absentees.

We are giving you this information at the end of our first half term to remind you of our commitment to ensuring a high level of attendance is maintained. It's amazing how quickly days absent from school can add up to a significant amount of learning time missed. Looking at the table below, a 90% attendance figure would equate to a one month absence from school by the end of the school year.

NUMBER OF DAYS OFF:	EQUATES TO:	LESSONS MISSED:
4 School Days off	98%	20 lessons missed
7 School Days off	96%	35 lessons missed
9 School Days off	95%	45 lessons missed
11 School Days off	94%	55 lessons missed
1 Month off	90%	100 lessons missed
2 Months off	80%	200 lessons missed
100% ATTENDANCE = 100% CHANCE		

Poor attendance now not only results in missed lessons in primary education that provide a foundation for the future, but will also set habits that carry forward to secondary school. Research shows that secondary school pupils who attend for 95% of the time achieve almost half a grade better at GCSE than their peers. Conversely, students who miss school, statistically do significantly worse than their peers. Attendance in school does make a difference to the outcomes and life chances for your children.

The NHS have produced guidance to help support you in making a decision about whether to keep your child home from school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school>

If your child is absent from school, please email office@stjames.academy, send a message via the Arbor App, or leave a message on 01202 426696 to report the absence. **We ask that you let us know by 8:30am on each day of absence.** Please provide enough information to allow us to fully understand the reason for the absence.

You can view your child's attendance using your Arbor Parent Account.

If you are concerned about attendance and would like further advice and support, please contact your child's teacher via the school office.

2023-24 Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Half Term Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October 2023

Last Day Tuesday 19th December 2023 (finish at 1.20pm)

SPRING TERM 2024

Inset Day Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Inset Day Wednesday 3rd January 2024

First Day Thursday 4th January 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' C of E Primary Academy Open Morning

Saturday 4th November 10am - 12pm

Presentations at 10am and 11am with an opportunity to
explore the school and speak to staff



School tours during school time are also available on request
by phoning the school office on 01202 426696

Come and see what the family of St. James' can offer your child

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

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ST PETER'S COMMUNITY CHOIR

With Hyde Brass Band &
Choirs from St James Primary School
and Avonwood Primary Schools.

Musical Director: Jane Wright

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Sunday 26th November 2023 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/
booking/t-zzxvjyz](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-zzxvjyz)



Scan me!

Tickets on the Door: £10
(Cash only)

Email:
stpcchoir1@gmail.com



www.facebook.com/stpcchoir/

Disco tickets can be purchased via Arbor (clubs)



ST. JAMES' PSA DISCO

Friday 10th November 2023

Early Years: 2.00pm to 2:45pm
£1 cash donation please for wearing mufti on the day

Years 1 and 2: 3.15pm to 4.00pm £3.50* per child
Mufti Day for Early Years, Years 1 and 2 in order to wear their party clothes
£1 cash donation please for wearing mufti on the day if not purchasing a disco place
(Sensible shoes only please, as children will be going out to play as normal).

Years 3 and 4: 4.15pm to 5.15pm £3.50* per child
Years 5 and 6: 5.30pm to 6:30pm £3.50* per child
School uniform to be worn in school for years 3, 4, 5 and 6
The cost of the discos will include snacks and a drink.

***To secure your child's place please respond with your permission/pay via Arbor (club), please note you must top up your club balance, without payment, your child will be unable to attend.**
CLOSING DATE IS TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2023 AT MIDDAY.
PLACES WILL NOT BE ISSUED AFTER THIS DATE! There will be an attendance list.

It is also vital that authorised pick up details are correct on Arbor and the office is informed of any changes prior to the event. Year 5 & 6 children will not be permitted to walk home, they must be collected by an adult.

Volunteers to stay and help at these discos are required for these to go ahead.
Please let the office know if you can spare any time.



CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP



These are some of the ones made last year



Monday 4th December
7-9pm
£25 per person.
Limited spaces available
For more information
and booking please
message
Hannah on 07740111385

