



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy
Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Road
BOURNEMOUTH BH7 6DW
01202 426696
Email office@stjames.academy
16th May 2025

Newsletter

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.” Deuteronomy 31 v 6

Dear Parents and Carers

The sunny weather continues! Please remember to send in water bottles, apply sun protection to your children and send them in with hats if possible. I am trying to hydrate them on a regular basis with super soakers, but every little helps...

Our summer uniform officially comes into effect after May half term, but obviously in warmer weather, children are more than welcome to come to school in summer uniform now.

Worship

We have been led by Nile class children who taught us all about hope, they gave us such wonderful, selfless messages about what they wanted to happen. I led worship on difference, showing a clip from Zootropolis and the idea that we can live in a perfect world. Next week we are looking forward to Victoria class leading our worship.

Sports Day Adaptation

We are having to be creative with sports day this year. The reason being, the track on the home straight at King's Park athletics stadium, has been cordoned off, due to the degradation of the track and the safety of runners. There have been a number of events at the stadium affected so far, and we were optimistic that the track may have been fixed in time for our sports day on the 20th June, but unfortunately it looks highly unlikely.

The St. James' sports day, is a celebration of all things 'St. James', and an integral part of our school calendar. The stadium gives the day a value and the children and parents have loved it for years. We will still be holding sports day at the stadium this year, but with a difference.

We will make the back straight become the home straight. So the running events will be predominantly on the far side of the track, meaning that the grandstand will be on the other side of the action. The problem will be lack of spectator capacity and also lack of a sound system on the far side. We are working towards a solution and we will contact you with further information.

Class Photos on Tuesday

Please remember to send your child in smart **summer school uniform, not PE kit**, for the class photograph next week. The weather is due to continue to be nice, so it should be nice for summer uniform. The [uniform policy](#) is on the school website.



St. James' Eco News

Our eco team has a brand new name, we are proud to introduce the 'St. James' Planet Protectors'! We've already been hard at work finding ways to make our school as green and eco-friendly as possible.

One of our first big ideas is to have a light monitor in every class. Their special job is to make sure the lights are turned off when they're not needed – a simple but important way to save energy! The children have also created some fantastic, eye-catching posters to remind everyone why saving energy matters.

🔑 Whole School Eco Challenge! 🔑

We'd love everyone at St. James' to help us welcome more wildlife into our school grounds. Over the half-term break, we're inviting all children to take part in our 'Bird Feeder Challenge'!

Your mission is to create a bird feeder using recycled materials – have fun and get creative! Once we're back at school, we'll hang them up around the grounds to attract lots of feathered friends.

Here are a few ideas:



Thank you for your support!

Mrs Stoodley & the St. James' Planet Protectors 🌍👏



The Difference Course

On Thursday 8th May, we had the pleasure of welcoming a film crew alongside Hannah and Alysia-Lara from the Church of England. We are piloting the difference project and they were so impressed with talking online to some of our children, they came into school to see St. James'. They came into worship, classrooms and interviewed a number of our children in the school library. They were so impressed by our school and children, that we have been invited to the launch of the programme in London on the 23rd September. As soon as film footage is released I will share it with the school community.



Lost Property

Our lost property box is overflowing! As the weather gets warmer, children have a habit of misplacing coats, jumpers and cardigans that they have discarded. Please have a look if you get a chance at the beginning or the end of the school day. We always try and return named clothing, but there are so many without names, that it becomes an impossible task. Thank you for your cooperation.

Reminders:



Attendance and Fines

Did you know that being registered late, also equates to absence? School starts at 8:30am, when learning begins in the classroom. The gates close at 8.40am. We also finish the school day at 3pm for Reception, Years, 1, 2, 3 and 4, and 3:10pm for years 5 and 6.

As a school, we are under increasing pressure to improve our attendance at St. James'. This year's attendance is 95% and Persistent Absentees at 12.9%. Whilst these are better figures than national average, we have a duty to improve children's attendance. The school is held to account by the local authority and directed to issue letters and fines. Whilst I will always prioritise positive relationships with families, sometimes we have little or no option than to issue a fine based on term time absences, such as holidays and lateness.



School Meals Information

- All parents must pre-order by midnight the day before - you can now pre-order for the whole of the summer term
- All payments must be made through Arbor meal payments as usual



PE Days

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

Mondays - Harbour

Tuesdays - Early Years

Wednesdays - Year 1 and Year 4

Thursdays - Year 2 and Year 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:

Friday 16th May - Glee Club Salvation Army Concert, Boscombe

Monday 19th May - Year 2 educational visit to the Oceanarium

Tuesday 20th May - Class Photographs - No PE kit on this day please (EYFS and clubs)

Thursday 22nd May - Victoria Class Worship - 9am

Friday 23rd May - Break up for May Half Term

Monday 2nd June - INSET Day. No school on this day

Tuesday 3rd June - Children Return for Term 6

Tuesday 3rd June - New Parent's Information Evening (EYFS 25/26 cohort)

Wednesday 4th June - School Nurse Drop-in (Church Annexe - book slot with office)

Sunday 8th - Wednesday 11th June - Year 6 Residential - PGL

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

Thursday 26th June - Malawi Class Worship - 9am

Friday 27th June - EYFS to Year 5 Discos - 1:30pm - 5pm
Tuesday 1st July - Year 6 Leaver's Day - Christchurch Priory
Thursday 3rd July - Amazon Class Worship - 9am
Thursday 3rd July - EYFS Educational Visit to Longdown Dairy Farm
Saturday 5th July - St. James' Summer Fayre - 11am - 2pm
Monday 7th July - St. James' Music Evening - 6pm - 7:30pm
Tuesday 8th July - Whole School Photograph - playground (school uniform - no PE kit on this day please)
Thursday 10th July - DCAT Enriched - Hurstpierpoint College
Monday 21st July - Year 6 Academy Awards Evening
Tuesday 22nd July - Break up for Summer Holidays at 1:15pm

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'.

As always, thank you all for your continued 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.

Parent drop-in

Your next drop-in will be on:
Wednesday 4th June from
8.45am in the church annexe.
Book slot with the school
office

Your school nursing team can provide non-judgemental
and confidential support and advice about:

Healthy lifestyle advice

Emotional health and
well-being support

Bedwetting and toileting

Nutrition and growth

Sleep advice

Signposting to various
services

Parenting advice

Behaviour support



You can contact us via

- School nursing admin hub on 01929 557 558
- Parentline advice 5-19 texting service on 07312263131
- Website at www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing

Follow us on social media:



DorsetHealthCare School Nursing



[dorsethealthcare_schoolnursing](https://www.instagram.com/dorsethealthcare_schoolnursing)

We provide a confidential service. This means that you can discuss personal information in confidence. We will not discuss your personal information with anyone else without your permission. This includes parents and teachers. We would only pass on your information in order to protect you or someone else from serious harm. Whenever possible we would discuss this with you first.



Understanding your child's sensory needs



This free 2 hour workshop aims to empower parents to understand their child's sensory needs, and have supportive strategies they can try at home.

The workshops will be held on the following:

Wednesday 19th March 1pm-3pm
Wednesday 26th 4.15pm-5.45pm
Manorside Academy Evering Ave, Poole BH12 4JG



SCAN ME

Friday 25th April 1pm-3pm
Wednesday 30th April 5pm-7pm
Muscliffe Primary school, Broadway Ln,
Bournemouth BH8 0AB



SCAN ME

Tuesday 3rd June 1pm-3pm,
Wednesday 4th June 6pm-8pm
St Katharine's C Of E School, Rolls Dr,
Southbourne, Bournemouth BH6 4NA



SCAN ME



To request more information please e-mail:
schools.otsensoryoutreachteam@bcpcouncil.gov.uk



allthingsautismltd@gmail.com
01895 649211

<https://allthingsinclusionandautism.com>

Workshops for parents / carers (and practitioners) - Summer term 2025

<p>Supporting children's transitions Supporting transitions for autistic children This course covers transitions in to school and nursery and between classes. Friday 9th May 2025 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>	<p>All things behaviour - supporting positive behaviours for autistic children Thursday 15th May 2025 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 per person</p> 
<p>Gestalt Language Processing How to support early language skills for young children including Gestalt learners Tuesday 20th May 2025 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>	<p>All Things Mealtimes Looking at the challenges around food and eating for autistic children and practical strategies to support Friday 6th June 2025 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>
<p>All things visual strategies Supporting autistic children / those with communication difficulties with visual strategies - why use visuals, which visuals to use and how to use them? Monday 9th June 2025 10 - 11.30am Online - via Zoom £36 per person</p>	<p>All things sensory - a workshop exploring the sensory needs of autistic children and practical strategies to support their needs Thursday 19th June 2025 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 per person</p> 



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)



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Term Dates 2026-2027

AUTUMN TERM

Inset Day	Tuesday 1 st September 2026
Inset Day	Wednesday 2 nd September
First Day	Thursday 3 rd September
Half Term	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October
Last Day	Friday 18 th December (finish at 1.20pm)

SPRING TERM

Inset Day	Monday 4 th January 2027
First Day	Tuesday 5 th January
Half Term	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February
Last Day	Wednesday 24 th March (finish at 1.20pm)
Inset Day	Thursday 25 th March

SUMMER TERM

First Day	Monday 12 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May
Half Term	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June
Inset Day	Monday 7 th June
Last Day	Wednesday 21 st July (finish at 1.20pm)



YEAR 5 INFORMATION EVENING: 6PM TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2025

Scan QR Code
to book your place



FOR YEAR 5 STUDENTS INTERESTED IN JOINING ST PETER'S IN YEAR 7 FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 ENTRY

The evening will outline the admissions process, inform you of the legal deadline for applications and explain the ranking system. There will also be a short site tour where you will be able to view some of our outstanding facilities. Doors open at 5.30pm for a 6pm start.

Save the date for our full Open Evening on Thursday 18 September 2025



ST PETER'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

www.st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk

St Peter's School, St Catherine's Road, Bournemouth BH6 4AH

