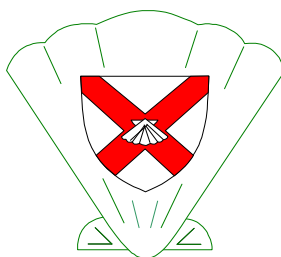


ST. JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Head of School: **Debbie Johnson** Deputy Headteacher: **Lucy Hayward**

3rd May 2019

Newsletter 15 2019

A message from the Head of School

So, the Summer Term is upon us already. I hope that you all had a restful Easter break and managed to get out and enjoy the lovely weather that we were blessed with in the second week. The children have certainly come back to school full of beans and keen to get started on their new topics. The infant school is being transformed into a rainforest and I know the children will be enthralled to learn about the plants and animals that live there. The children at the juniors started their new topic with a whole school trip to Wellington Rocks and other parts of Tunbridge Wells. They (and the adults) enjoyed learning about the amazing features of our local environment and each year group is taking their learning in a different direction. We would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the parents who gave up their time to help out the trip. It could not have happened without you and the children all had a great day!



A lot of the children's learning this year has been focused on the environment and our world as this is something the children have told us that they are concerned about. With that in mind we would like to encourage you to think carefully about whether you need to be driving to school if you currently do. The roads outside our school are already very busy and if we could reduce the number of parents who are dropping their children off in cars it would keep the area safer and cleaner, be healthier for you and your children and help our planet. The members of the junior school eco-council have been talking about ways they can help and have created some posters to help persuade you some of which are on the bottom of this newsletter. The last week before half term is Walk to School Week – it would be great if we could make a concerted effort leading up to then.

I hope you all have an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend. I heard on the radio this morning that the weather is going to be 'useable' whatever that might mean.

Debbie Johnson
Head of School



School Uniform

Now that we are in the summer terms, children are wearing summer uniform. Whilst this can be perceived as a more informal option, it is still important that we maintain the high standards that we expect at St James'. The only jumpers and cardigans that should be worn are the school branded ones and shoes should be school shoes, not trainers. It is equally important that the correct PE kit is worn (including correct socks and footwear in the juniors). Children with long hair should have it tied back for safety and practical reasons. Please check the school website for clarification on expectations for uniform. Thank you for your cooperation, especially in ensuring that all items are named!

Forest School Residents

We may still be waiting to hear about the birth of the royal baby but St James has their own new arrivals. A family of badgers has been spotted on the night vision camera in the forest school area. We have seen the adults before but not their young. The children are always excited to see which animals have been caught on camera.



Sporting News from Mr Hodges

It has been a busy start to the term with lots of new clubs starting. It's great to see so many of our children joining in with all the extra-curricular activities we offer here at St James.

A huge congratulations to our amazing Netball team who beat Staplehurst 13-4 in their play-off match. They will now travel to Canterbury to play in the Kent School Games finals in June. They also defeated St Mark's 23-0 in the league this week.

There has also been further netballing success, this time for our incredible staff! Despite being a player short on the day, they managed to defeat several other schools across the Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge area to win the first ever Staff Netball Competition. A big thank you and congratulations to everyone who took part.

Tonight our A and B football teams face Pembury in the last match of the season. All our teams are competing in the end of season tournament on the 18th May at St Gregory's.

There are lots of other exciting competitions to look forward to this term, including three Kwik Cricket tournaments and Year 3/4 Tri-Golf.

Thank you for your continued support, filling in various forms on ParentMail and ferrying your children to and from our events.

- And can we add our thanks to you Mr Hodges for all your hard work, enthusiasm and cheerleading! Ed.

Netball News from Miss Gibson

The Year 6 netball A team have had an incredibly successful year. They have won all their matches including one against a Year 7 team. They also won the Tunbridge Wells Schools League with an incredible goal difference of over 150! The team then won the Tunbridge Wells District High Fives tournament which saw them into a play-off against a very strong Staplehurst team. The match was very tight but the team came out victorious. The B team and the Year 5 netball teams have also played very well; both winning most of their matches. The B team only had two defeats while playing in the A league one being against our own A team.

I would like to thank the children for their enthusiasm and team spirit because it is this that makes me so happy to coach and improve their skills.

The Year 6 A team will now take part in the Kent Games in June where they will match their skills against the rest of Kent's primary schools.

- Thank YOU, Miss Gibson for all your hard work, enthusiasm and expert coaching. Ed.

Dates for your diary – Please note new dates or changes in bold

06/05/2019	May Bank Holiday
09/05/2019	Pre-loved Uniform Sale after school
w/c 13/05/2019	Yr 6 SATS Week – Monday to Thursday
w/c 13/05/2019	Yr 5 CATS Week – Monday to Wednesday
15/05/2019	Year 5 transition to Secondary School talk at 7.00pm
24/05/2019	Last day of term 5
03/06/2019	Staff development day - Children not in school
03/06/2019	11+ Registration opens
04/06/2019	First day of term 6
05/06/2019	Isle of Wight talk to parents at 7.00pm
07/06/2019	PTA meeting in Infant Community Room at 2pm – Parents encouraged to come along!
11/06/2019	Year 5 consultations 3.30pm – 6.30pm
12/06/2019	Class (Not Yr 6) & Team Photographs
12/06/2019	Year 5 consultations 3.30pm – 6.30pm
14/06/2019	Book Fair for Parents
w/c 17/06/2019	Isle of Wight week for Year 6
03/07/2019	Sports Day - Morning Team events – Children only. Afternoon races - Parents invited
03/07/2019	Yr 2 to Yr 3 transition talk at 7.00pm
03/07/2019	11+ registration closes
04/07/2019	Secondary Transition Day - All local secondary schools invite Year 6s to their new schools
04/07/2019	Class changeover – AM only – Pupils have lessons in their new class with their new teacher
06/07/2019	PTA's Summer Fair
09/07/2019	Open Day - 3.30pm to 5pm Come to view your children's work
10/07/2019	Class changeover – PM only – Pupils have lessons in their new class with their new teacher
16/07/2019	Panto to school at 9.00am
17/07/2019	Panto to parents at 2.00pm
17/07/2019	Panto to parents at 7.00pm
18/07/2019	Panto to parents at 7.00pm
22/07/2019	Church Leavers' Service at 2.00pm at St James' Church
23/07/2019	Last day of term 6
02/09/2019	Staff development day
03/09/2019	Staff Development day
04/09/2019	First day of school for children