

St James' Catholic Primary

"Great News"

Friday 10th January 2025

Happy New Year! Wishing you all the very best for 2025. The children have had an excellent start to the new term. Their behaviour has been wonderful, especially during play times, making sure they keep themselves and each other safe.

A huge thank you to Mr Rathbone and Mrs Kidd for making sure we have remained open this week. They have been on site earlier than usual to make sure the paths have been gritted, the heating is on and that we have hot water!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

We had a lovely few weeks in the lead up to Christmas. Our EYFS Nativity, Everybody Loves a Baby, was wonderful, with some very enthusiastic singing! Our Key Stage One Nativity, The Bossy King, was fantastic too. All the children performed with confidence. Thank you to all the staff for preparing our children so well.

We had two enjoyable Christmas Parties, with music, dancing and party games. Thank you to Father Christmas, for making time (during your busiest time of the year) to visit our children and bring so much joy to their faces. Please can we book you in for next year?

Our Key Stage Two Carol Concert was an amazing occasion. As well as beautiful singing, we had fantastic live music from our brass band. Thank you to Mr Conway for preparing our children so well. Also thank you to Mrs Kinder for helping to set up the Church the evening before. The Church was packed to the rafters with parents.

Thank you to parents for your attendance at these events.



YOUNG VOICES

All the juniors will be attending the Young Voices concert on Thursday 6th February at the Co-op Live Arena. There is no charge to you for this event, the coach travel and concert costs have been fully funded by school. More details to follow.

VALENTINES DISCO

The School Council have been meeting to organise a special Valentines Disco. This will be in the evening after wraparound finishes at 6pm. The actual date and time, as well as further information to follow.

NOROVIRUS

During the Winter months, we sometimes see an increase in the number of pupils with norovirus. Norovirus causes vomiting and diarrhoea and is one of the most common stomach bugs in the UK. It is also commonly known as the 'Winter vomiting bug' because it is more common in the Winter months; however, you can catch it at any time of the year.

You may have seen recent news coverage regarding the increase in cases of norovirus across the country. We had some cases of this in school just before Christmas, so we immediately carried out a deep clean of all the classrooms and toilets.

We would like to reassure you that the school has robust hygiene and cleaning measures in place to prevent the spread of illnesses, including norovirus. We are also raising awareness with staff and pupils regarding the importance of good hand hygiene. Please be aware that alcohol hand gels do not kill norovirus. School now has new foam sanitisers around the building for all staff, children and visitors to use (these are effective against norovirus and coronavirus, whilst also being kind to hands). However, the best way to stop it spreading is washing your hands frequently with soap and water.

The main symptoms of norovirus are:

- Feeling sick
- Being sick
- Diarrhoea

Someone with norovirus may also experience the following symptoms:

- High temperature
- Headache
- Aching arms and legs

The symptoms of norovirus start suddenly within one to two days of being infected. Norovirus is very infectious, meaning it can spread very easily. You can catch norovirus from:

- Having close contact with someone with norovirus
- Touching surfaces or objects that have norovirus on them, then touching your mouth
- Eating food that has been prepared or handled by someone with norovirus.

Norovirus can usually be treated at home. The most important thing is to ensure you and/or your child rests and has lots of fluids to avoid dehydration. In most cases, you will start to feel better in two to three days.

What should you do if your child has symptoms of norovirus?

If your child has symptoms of norovirus, you should keep them at home.

Your child should not return to school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least two days. For further information, please access <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/norovirus/>.

ATTENDANCE

We are delighted with our improved attendance figures. Our school target is 96%, which we achieved prior to the final week of term (there was a drop in attendance during that last week). On the last Thursday before Christmas, we had a special award assembly to acknowledge good attendance. All pupils whose attendance was 96% or above were entered into a prize draw. Three winners were selected and received some fantastic prizes.

1st place was Sara who won a £100 gift vouchers for Hollywood Bowl.

2nd place was Harry who won a £30 gift card for Tameside Active

3rd place was Jaxon who won a £20 gift card for Cineworld

Our next attendance assembly will be on Thursday 10th April. We have some very exciting prizes lined up for our next raffle! We will continue to inform you of your child's school attendance each half term.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

All the staff nominated pupils who deserve extra recognition for their behaviour, attitude towards learning, work in class and kindness towards others. This term, the overall winner was Ollie in Year 5. He received a special balloon and a £50 gift card. Congratulations Ollie! Staff are now on the lookout for our next outstanding pupils.

FOOD BANK VOUCHERS

If you would like a food bank voucher, please enquire at school.

THURSDAY is Community Assembly. All are welcome to attend in the School Hall at 9am. We celebrate all the good work that has gone on during the week. We appreciate your patience after dropping your children off as it takes us a few minutes to convert the hall from Breakfast Club to Assembly Hall!

YEAR 3 CLASS MASS

On Friday 17th January, our Year 3 children will be leading our Key Stage 2 Mass in church. Parents are very welcome to attend. Starts at 9:15am.

YEAR 4 CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Thursday 23rd January, our Year 4 children will be leading our community assembly at 9am.

YEAR 1 CLASS MASS

On Friday 24th January, our Year 1 children will be leading our infants Mass in church. Parents are very welcome to attend. Starts at 9:15am.

RECEPTION CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Thursday 6th February, our Reception children will be leading our community assembly at 9am.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club is available every morning in the School Hall (using the side door). This needs to be booked in advance using the app. There are two sessions to book onto. The first session from 7:30am until 8:45am costing £2.50 per child. The second session begins at 8:15am and costs £1. Children must arrive no later than 8.30am.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

We continue to have excellent attendance at our after- school clubs. Children are really enjoying playing with their friends, learning new skill and making crafts to take home. All children from Nursery - Year 6 can attend our after-school clubs. We have at least four after school activities each day including: Lego club, crafts, crochet, fun with food, volleyball, cheerleading, games and even Yoga! These sessions need to be booked in advance using the app. All activities cost £1 per day. On the app you will have four options (for each of the activities on offer). The fifth option is for extended wraparound after 4:30pm.

WRAPAROUND CARE

Wraparound care is from 4:30pm-6pm. This costs £6 per session (which includes the £1 for after school club). Children will receive a choice of snacks and drinks each day e.g. wraps, sandwiches, bagels, crumpets, pizza, fruit and salad.

TOP-UP PAYMENTS

In an emergency, you can book onto breakfast, after-school or wraparound clubs on the actual day. Simply pay the correct top-up on the app and inform the office.

PE KIT

This half term it is gymnastics. PE is on a Tuesday for Nursery children and all those in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6). PE is on Friday for Nursery (they have two shorter sessions), Reception and those children in Key Stage 1 (Years 1-2). This term, Year 4 have an extra PE session on a Friday.

On PE day children come to school in their PE Kits. Please can you ensure that it is our school kit of plain white t-shirt and plain dark blue or black shorts/jogging bottoms, along with their school jumper.

NEW UNIFORM

If you are considering new uniform, you will need to order it online from School Trends using the link below. <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/StJamesCatholicPrimarySchoolSK143DQ>
The example shown doesn't have our school badge on but the uniform that you are sent will have! Alternatively, you can buy any suitable uniform (without a badge) from supermarkets. Please make sure all clothes are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

FOREST SCHOOL

Due to the colder weather, we do not have forest school this half term.

NURSERY

We still have some places in our Nursery if you know of anyone with a child who is already 3 or will turn 3 this academic year. If they give us a ring, we may be able to offer them places. Remember, we now offer 30hour places in our Nursery.

NEW PARENTS

There are many different ways in which we communicate information at St James'. Our **website** is www.st-james-hyde.tameside.sch.uk Class teachers have been recently updating their class pages on the website. We also have a parent **texting** service so please ensure that we always have your most recent mobile phone number. You can also talk to us on the gate or nip into the office with a message! Our **Facebook** page is Friends of St James Hattersley, please request to join, you will be asked questions about your relationship to children in school so we can ensure that we can check who is joining.