

St James' Catholic Primary

"Great News"

Tuesday 29th April 2025

LENTEN RETREAT DAYS

We had a lovely, final week of term. On Monday and Tuesday, our Houses came together to focus on a different day of Holy Week and prepare a station as part of our prayer trail. Ward created a wonderful display in the hall for Palm Sunday, with their road of hope lined with palm leaves. Clitherow set out a scene from the Last Supper in our outdoor classroom and recreated the Garden of Gethsemane in our new wooded area of Forest School. In the Peace Garden, Barlow helped us to reflect on Good Friday. Finally, Beckett shared the Good News of the Risen Lord, as we celebrated Easter Sunday at the empty tomb. As part of the prayer trail, each House visited church for Stations of the Cross. On Thursday, we came together again for a beautiful Lenten Service. Each house shared a special prayer and their pledge for the Year of Hope. Thank you also to the Mini Vinnies for their excellent stick dance.

LENT SHARE DAY

Our Mini Vinnies organised an excellent Lent Share Day, with money donated split between Cafod and Comic Relief. The comedy show was enjoyed by all pupils. Milkshakes and biscuits were sold at break time and a bake sale at the end of the day. We raised a total of £309.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

We had a fantastic Easter egg raffle, with every child winning at least one egg. We raised £485 for school fund. Thank you to all the parents, staff and governors who donated eggs.

ATTENDANCE ASSEMBLY

All children with 96% or above attendance so far this year, received a certificate and were entered into a prize draw. Well done to our three winners.

1st Prize (£100 gift voucher for the Play Factore) Christopher in Year 1

2nd Prize (£30 restaurant gift card) Elsie in Year 4

3rd Prize (£20 gift card) Esme in Year 1

You should have received your child's latest attendance figure in their reading/homework diary. As a school we are no longer able to authorise holidays in term time. Our school attendance target is 96%; however, attendance across the school has taken a real dip recently and this is impacting on pupils' progress and attainment. Please try to make appointments outside of the school day. If you would like some help, support or guidance with attendance matters, please do contact us in school.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Staff have been on the lookout for pupils who are making an outstanding contribution to our school. They nominated one child from their class and they received a special certificate at the assembly. Well done to these people - Nursery: Rowan, Reception: Jace, Year 1: Amelia, Year 2: Adam S, Year 3: Simon, Year 4: Liam, Year 5: Poppy, Year 6: Bethany.

The overall winner was Poppy, who received a £50 gift card.

BRASS CONCERT

Our Key Stage Two children all performed brilliantly at our recent brass concert, but a special thank you goes to the 1 o'clock club who played the James Bond theme tune. They were absolutely incredible. Mr Conway said that in all the 16 years of teaching brass to primary school children this was the best performance ever! We are so fortunate to work in a school with such talented children. Also, thank you Mr Conway for all your hard work. A video of the performance is on Facebook, in case you missed it.

WARM WEATHER

Please make sure during warmer weather, you apply sun cream (ideally one that will last all day) to your child/ren before school and provide them with a sun hat/cap.

KEY STAGE TWO SPELLING BEE

On Wednesday 30th April, the juniors will be participating in a spelling bee competition. Over the past few weeks children have been practising lots of spellings in preparation for the event. A lovely trophy will be presented to the overall winners in each of the four classes.

MAY CROWNING

This Friday 2nd May at 9:15am, we are bringing back an old tradition in the church that I am sure many of you will fondly remember from your own childhood. As it is the month of May, we will show our devotion to Mary in a special way, with flowers. Traditionally, those who are participating in the Sacramental Programme have the honour of crowning Our Lady. We are also asking every child to bring in a single flower (ideally white) and they will form a procession into church and place their flower in front of the statue of Our Lady. Please do not worry, if you can't provide a flower, as we will have plenty of spares! A whole school Mass will then follow the May Crowning, with some of our Nursery children and Mini Vinnies taking a lead with the readings and prayers.

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!

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 skills 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, at least the day before, 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. **Many of our clubs are now at full capacity so please book early to avoid disappointment.**

MONDAY	Activity 1 Year 4/5/6 Arts & Crafts	Activity 2 Year 2/3 Art	Activity 3 Juniors Running	Activity 4 Infants Cooking
TUESDAY	Activity 1 Infants Fine Motor Fun Juniors Drama	Activity 2 Year 2/3 Cheerleading	Activity 3 Juniors Sports	Activity 4 Year 5/6 Book Club
WEDNESDAY	Activity 1 Year 5/6 Board Games	Activity 2 Nursery, Rec, Year 1 Science	Activity 3 Year 2/3/4 Sports	Activity 4 Juniors Computers
THURSDAY	Activity 1 Infants Imaginative Play	Activity 2 Year 3/4 Lego & Construction	Activity 3 Year 5/6 Football	Activity 4 Juniors Computers or Brass
FRIDAY	Activity 1 Year 4/5/6 Crochet & Knitting	Activity 2 Year 3/4 Creative Play	Activity 3 Infants Games	Activity 4 Juniors Computers

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 (e.g. an urgent appointment), 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

Next half term it is multi-skills/games for the infants and athletics for the Juniors.

PE is on a Tuesday for Nursery children and Years 2-5. PE is on Friday for Nursery (they have two shorter sessions), Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. For the summer term, Year 3 have an extra PE session on a Friday too.

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

This half term it is Year 4's turn for Forest School on Mondays and Reception on Thursdays. Children need to arrive at school already dressed in their forest school clothes and bring their wellies or outdoor footwear with them in a bag.

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 are, give us a ring, we may be able to offer them places. Remember, we now offer up to 30-hour 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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 30 th April	KS2 Spelling Bee
Friday 2 nd May	May Crowning in church 9:15am
Friday 2 nd May	First Forgiveness Meeting in the Ark at 3pm
Thursday 8 th May	VE Day Picnic Lunch
Friday 9 th May	First Forgiveness in church at 6pm
W/C Monday 12 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 23 rd May	Race for Life
Friday 23 rd May	Last day of term
Monday 9 th June	School reopens

