

# The week ahead @ Saint James

“Be strong and courageous and do it!” 1 Chronicles 28:20



Headteacher: Mrs Michelle Marsh

[adminoffice@st-james-westend.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-james-westend.hants.sch.uk)

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Gardiner

Tel: 023 80 900995

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January

Issue 132

Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan		Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar
Parents evening for parents of children with SEND	Non-uniform day – bring an item for the ‘Rainbow’ raffle	School disco	Last day of half term for children	INSET day	First day back after Half term break	Parent book look

## Collective Worship



This week's theme:

**Hopes and Dreams**

This week's bible story:

**Dry bones!**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

### A message from the Senior Leadership team

Most children learn best when they are able to explore concepts and ideas themselves and apply their learn in context. However, rather than *exploring their learning* this week, the Year One children have been *learning about explorers*, including Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong.

We have also seen a group of our Year 4 children who, like famous explorers, have broken new ground; bravely and determinedly considering how to raise money for others and initiating a new and previous unexplored idea for fundraising. No wonder they were given the honour of ringing our Jubilee bell!

### Selfless fundraising initiated by Year 4 pupils

Many of us had the pleasure of an enjoyable Christmas, spending valuable time with family and friends and receiving generous presents. Unfortunately, it's made the reality of January a lot harder with thoughts turning to the dark, dreary mornings and the impact Christmas has had on bank balances! Thankfully, in the case of four of our Year 4 children, these gloomy musings haven't been the thoughts of everyone. Reflecting on their fortune over the Christmas period, Teddy, Ella, Conrad and Luca have been thinking about our two sponsored Rwandan children, Prince and Ineza, and considering how we can support them more.

Rather than simply a fleeting thought, the children puzzled over how to use their time and skills to help raise money. Inspired by the trading cards / collectables that are ever popular, the children set about creating their own and selling them to friends and family. After painstakingly imagining, drawing and colouring the individual creatures that adorned the many hand drawn and individual cards they produced, sales began.

It wasn't until the children, sporting big smiles across their faces, brought their earnings to school that we even aware of this act of philanthropy. Without direction or suggestion, they had initiated the whole venture, with selfless motivation. In recognition of this act of kindness, towards two children who they'll probably never meet, all four rang our Jubilee bell during Collective Worship. It is so pleasing to devote column inches, in two consecutive weeks, to two altruistic acts of fundraising that have been entirely initiated by our children.



### Carriageway Repairs due on Moorgreen Road

As part of the annual programme of works being undertaken by Hampshire County Council, carriageway surface repairs are due to be completed on Moorgreen Road between Tuesday 21st January and Friday 24th January. Although work will typically take place during the evening and through the night, between the hours of 19:00pm and 6:00am, there may be time when these time periods need to be adjusted.

While the works are carried out, the road will be closed to vehicular traffic, however access for residents will be maintained wherever possible. Pedestrian access will always be available. If you need to make a journey during the period that these works are taking place, please allow a little extra time.

If you live on Moorgreen Road, please ensure that no vehicles are parked on the road on the days when work will be taking place. In addition to slowing down the repairs, dust created by the work may settle on stationary vehicles.

To find out more information regarding these works, please click on the following link:

<https://one.network/?GB141150940>

### Mental healthcare for parents

The challenges of being a parent are hard; often a selfless juggling act where your own well-being comes well down the list of priorities. If, after supporting your own child, you feel you need support with your own mental health and well-being, there is a useful, free resource available. To access a recorded session that focuses on parental mental health, please use the following link:

[Parental support for mental health](#)



## Children in Year One explore the possibility of moving their learning into uncharted territory

*In fourteen hundred and ninety-two,  
Columbus sailed the ocean blue.*

With this simple rhyme, over the years, many children have memorised the date for the discovery of the Americas by Christopher Columbus. However, we are suggesting a new rhyme to remind us of the exploring Year One have been doing over the past two weeks;

*In two thousand and twenty-five, Year One  
Enjoyed a topic they'd never done  
Across the school site, new land was sought  
And space was explored like an astronaut.*

So, in the modern era, is it really still possible to be like Christopher Columbus and discover unfamiliar lands? You might think it to be a difficult task, however Year One seem to have achieved it. To begin the week, the children took a short walk across the school field to discover a land, largely unexplored and entirely unfamiliar to them. Once opened, a locked gate on the perimeter of the field revealed an unspoiled wooded area, which is home to many animals but has rarely been visited by humans.

Although, unlike Christopher Columbus' journey, it didn't take two months and nine days to reach their destination, they didn't lose 138 explorers on the way and they didn't encounter any indigenous people when they arrived, the children certainly enjoyed exploring territory that was new to them. Reassuringly, unlike Columbus, they didn't think they'd arrived in India upon reaching the new land!

Excitingly, this area of undeveloped land is owned by Saint James Primary School and a long-term project will be to develop it for use as a Forest Schools area, when funds allow.

As the week progressed, the children advanced from an expedition to an unfamiliar setting in this country to exploring other worlds.

Most people probably associate space travel with the NASA space shuttle, or even the extortionately expensive commercial flights offered by Richard Branson's and Jeff Bezos' companies. Few would probably expect that their journey to the stars would be via two, rather plush, coaches! However, this was the reality for Year 1 who embarked on their space-themed educational visit on Thursday!

Although Saint James Primary School may seem a less glamorous location than Kennedy Space Centre or Cape Canaveral, it, like the aforementioned destinations, was the point of launch for this historic exploration of space. We're sure the astronauts of the many Apollo missions would have been envious, if they knew that a comprehensive study of space could be achieved through a short journey up the M3, to Winchester Science Centre, in an air-conditioned bus!

Our intrepid Year 1 astronauts, could barely contain their excitement as they entered the planetarium and were overcome by the impressive screen. It truly felt like they were flying through space, as they journeyed past the planets in our Solar System accompanied by inspiring tales about the universe and fascinating space facts.

So, what do budding astronauts do, when they're not exploring space? They apply their exploratory behaviours to investigating hands-on science experiences and discovering more about the world around them. The children enjoyed looking at and exploring the many interactive exhibits in the Science centre, including the fascinating Space exhibition downstairs and investigating the visual spectrum of light.

Thankfully, unlike the Apollo 13 mission which inspired a film by the same name, the journey back from space was remarkably uneventful and the children disembarked their 'space' bus tired after a thrilling but exhausting day!

NASA's criteria for astronauts insists that candidates must;

- Be aged less than 40.
- Have a height less than 5 feet, 11 inches.
- Be in excellent physical condition.
- Have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- Be a graduate of test pilot school.
- Have at least 1,500 hours total flying time.
- Be a qualified jet pilot.

However, our Saint James criteria was a bit more achievable. On our trip to space, our children were expected to behave impeccably and be fantastic ambassadors of Saint James Primary School. All the children achieved this with ease. Well done Year 1!

As it was, looking at the NASA criteria, our children have achieved the first three of those criteria as well!



## New Year's Disco and Rainbow Raffle

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January, we will be holding a non-uniform day to collect donations for the **Rainbow** raffle (see the poster below). This intentionally coincides with our first SJSA event of 2025, the 'New Year's Glow Disco', enabling children to wear their disco clothes to school during the day, if they wish. There is no expectation for children to wear clothes in their year group colour.

**SJSA**  
The PTA for Saint James School

# NEW YEAR'S GLOW DISCO

**Thursday 30th January**

**Year R: 2.15pm-3.00pm**  
**Year 1 & 2: 3.00pm-4.00pm**  
**Year 3 & 4: 4.00pm-5.00pm**  
**Year 5 & 6: 5.00pm-6.00pm**

To book and pay for your child's place please visit <https://sjsa.sumupstore.com> or scan the QR code below.

Please ensure to enter your child's name and class in the 'Your Message to Merchant' and include any dietary requirements or Night Owls arrangements.

**£4.50**  
Includes water or squash, a choice of sweets or chocolate and a glow stick! (NO high heels or phones allowed)

Thursday 30th January will also be a non uniform day.

**Thursday 30th January**

# Rainbow raffle

Year R - RED      Year 1 - PURPLE  
 Year 2 - PINK/WHITE      Year 3 - GREEN/BLUE  
 Year 4 - BLACK/SILVER      Year 5 - ORANGE/BROWN  
 Year 6 - YELLOW/GOLD

Thursday the 30th of January is colourful non-uniform day for a donation of a coloured raffle prize. All donations need to be new. Wine to washing up liquid, biscuits to bubble bath, chocolate to candles, unwanted gifts and everything in between.

It just has to be at least three months in date and in your child's year group colour.

All donations will be mixed and used for hampers to raffle as prizes at a later date. All money raised will go towards new playground equipment, equipment for the classroom and games for wet play.

Funded by UK Government

## KICKSTART YOUR CAREER WITH SKILLS BOOTCAMPS

**SKILLS FOR LIFE**  
SKILLS BOOTCAMPS

Health  
Care

Hampshire County Council

Do you want to work in Health and Social Care?  
Come and join our Skills Bootcamps

Starting 13th January 2025. This course runs Monday-Friday 9.30-2.30 for three weeks (13th-31st January 2025)

Venue: Chandlers Ford Methodist Church, Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire SO53 2GJ

For more information or to book onto the Skills Bootcamps please contact Itchen College on 02380 435636 or email [courses@itchen.ac.uk](mailto:courses@itchen.ac.uk)

Funded by Hampshire County Council

# SPORTED PAN DISABILITY FOOTBALL

SPORT IN THE COMMUNITY 2020 CIC

**FIRST SESSION FREE**

DAY	STARTING	PRICE
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>14TH JANUARY</b>	<b>£5</b>
INSIDE	5PM - 6PM	PER SESSION

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT

## BITTENE PARK SECONDARY SCHOOL

AGES **5-11** YEARS OLD

**BOYS & GIRLS**

BOOK BELOW      FOR INFORMATION

[HTTPS://SPORT-IN-THE-COMMUNITY.CLASSFORKIDS.IO/INFO/39](https://sport-in-the-community.classforkids.io/info/39)      [SPORTINTHECOMMUNITY2020@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SPORTINTHECOMMUNITY2020@GMAIL.COM)

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE BEEN AWARDED A GRANT FROM THE BARCLAYS COMMUNITY FOOTBALL FUND, DELIVERED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SPORTED