

The week ahead @ Saint James

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



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Friday 24th January

Issue 133

Thurs 30 th Jan	Thurs 13 th Feb	Fri 14 th Feb	Mon 24 th Feb	Mon 3 rd Mar
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:

Interfaith

This week’s bible story:

**Jesus and the Samaritan woman
John 4:4–42**

A message from the Senior Leadership team

It was a pleasure to welcome many of you to the parents’ consultation evening for pupils with SEND, on Thursday evening. Hopefully those of you who attended found it informative and useful.

Next week we are looking forward to our New Year’s Glow Disco and non-uniform day to provide prizes for the ‘Rainbow Raffle’. As we draw to the end of one of the darkest and dreariest months of the year, hopefully these events will add some colour whilst we are still weeks away from the beginning of Spring.

Our Year 5 and 6 athletes are fast-tracked for success



The World Indoor Athletics Championships has happened bi-annually since its inception in 1985. This popular event, that happens during Spring, has seen a number of well-known athletes achieve some impressive feats.

Interestingly the ever-popular event, the 200m, was removed from the program after the 2004 championships. Was it because it no longer captured the crowd’s interest? Was it because there were too few competitors? No. The event was deemed unfair to all participants and too predictable, with the tighter bends of an indoor track causing any athletes not drawn in either of the outside lanes to have minimal or no chance of winning.

Thankfully, unfair events were clearly not a feature of the indoor athletics competition that our Year 5 and 6 team recently participated in, due to the high levels of success they achieved across all the events. Throwing a javelin, speed jumps, triple jump, long jump and a wide and varied selection of races; none posed an issue for our enthusiastic athletes. The Saint James team excelled at many of the events, even finishing half a track-length ahead of other schools in some races!

Although an impressive sporting performance is praise-worthy, it was the team-spirit, camaraderie and sportsmanship that really distinguished the children from Saint James. Whilst it is probably unsurprising that they verbally supported each other throughout every event, it was pleasing to see Saint James athletes also encouraging children from other schools, too.

Their resilience and determination to always strive for their best, saw the Saint James team achieve a highly commendable 5th place (out of 14 schools) in the ‘medals’ table. However, had there been a table for sportsmanship, we would undoubtedly have topped it; our performance being beyond comparison.

Events like this would not be possible without the support of staff and parents. We would like to extend an enormous ‘thank you’ to Miss Howell and Mr Whitlock for accompanying the children to the indoor meet and encouraging them throughout the competition.

Do you have ambitious vision, whilst offering high-quality challenge and support? OFSTED recognise these are the qualities of our governors and, if you share them, you could become the newest member of our governing body

At Saint James, we are blessed with passionate and enthusiastic staff who are determined to make a positive and lasting difference to the children in their care. However, like us, OFSTED also recognised the effectiveness of our governors and the impact that they make on the school; *'Governors share an ambitious vision and know the school incredibly well. They work closely and engage with staff excellently, offering high-quality challenge and support.'* If you feel this description could also describe you, maybe you could become the newest member of our governing body.

The school's governing body is responsible for providing confident and strategic leadership and creating robust accountability, oversight and assurance for the school's educational and financial performance. Despite acknowledging an impressive OFSTED report, our governors are enthusiastic, committed and continually strive for school improvement, to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

As a parent governor, you would work with the board to make sure it effectively carries out the duties referred to above. You'll also play a vital role in bringing a parental perspective to the governing body. However, with a school of nearly 600 pupils, there are a multitude of views and perspectives held by parents. Therefore, you won't be needed to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body.

If you're interested in applying for the role, please return your application by 3pm on Monday 3rd February. This can be found attached to an email dated Friday 17th January. If you are unable to find the form, have any queries about the process or would like to find out more about the role, please contact Hayley Bach, Clerk to the Governors, via email: clerk@st-james-westend.hants.sch.uk.

If we are fortunate enough to receive more applications than there are vacancies, a secret ballot will be carried out. We will inform you closer to

New artwork to be displayed in Westminster

There is an advisory committee on works of art, with the responsibility of acquiring significant pieces for the House of Commons. The earliest pieces in the collection are 14 medieval statues of kings in Westminster Hall, dating back over 600 years to 1388 and the reign of Richard II. However, one of the most recent pieces added was composed far more recently and by an artist well-known to staff and pupils at Saint James!

You may remember that, during the Autumn term, we participated in the Christian Aid project, 'Get Creative For Climate Justice'. With the climate crisis presenting a pertinent issue that will shape the future of our children and young people worldwide, the project inspired many of our children to produce thought-provoking artwork exploring this theme.

The aim of this initiative was to send out a strong and clear message to MPs, Government Ministers and people in power. November saw that aim realised, as Liz Jarvis MP previewed an exhibition of our work before it was displayed for the community.

Once the pop-up gallery shut for viewing, the compositions were shared with Christian Aid, who, after careful deliberation, have selected one artist's work to be displayed in the Houses of Parliament. That proud honour has been bestowed on Darcey, in Year 6, whose composition depicts the effect of climate change and the resulting impact on our world. Well done Darcey, let's hope that, like the medieval statues, your work is still proudly displayed in 600 years' time and that, by then, your images haven't become the reality.



Stubbington Study Centre – Hampshire County Council propose to close

The Isle of Wight, Shropshire, Wales: just a few of the locations visited by children from our local area when enjoying a residential trip away. However, for many years, children, their parents and even their grandparents have enjoyed a visit to a location much closer to home. Nestled in a quiet location, close to the beach at Lee-on-Solent, is Stubbington Study Centre. Enjoyed by Year 4 children from Saint James, up to the period of lockdown in 2020, this local field studies centre has been well-loved by generations of children from Hampshire and further afield.

Stubbington Study Centre has existed for almost 90 years, providing residential visits for 4200 primary age children each year, with a further 1,800 participating in day visits. In the past 10 years, the facilities have been extensively modernised, providing home comforts and delicious food, including the fabled 'Stubby' biscuits. The staff, led by James Scarborough, are passionate about educating young people; engaging many children with the knowledge, respect and care they show them during their time at the centre.

However, under a new proposal by Hampshire County Council, the centre will close; bringing to an end nearly a century of history and precious memories for local children. If you have any memories linked to Stubbington and would like to be involved in the County's consultation process, please feel free to follow the link below to share your views.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/stubbington-study-centre>

New Year's Glow Disco and Rainbow Raffle

We are looking forward to our first SJSA event of the year, next week, with the New Year's Glow Disco. If you are able to, can we please encourage you to walk to school when dropping off and collecting from the disco, as pressure will be placed on parking in the roads surrounding the school. There is no time gap allowed between the end of one disco and the beginning of the next, so there is likely to be a greater volume of traffic.

Thursday 30th January looks to be an exciting day, with the non-uniform day to provide prizes for the Rainbow Raffle happening on the same day as the disco. Can we please remind you that children **do not need to** dress in the colour allocated to their year group – this is simply the colour of the prize they need to donate.

We're sure the events on this day will provide an exciting and enjoyable end to, what is considered by many to be, the most cheerless month of the year!

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.



SEIZE THE POWER

CHARITY 5K AND KIDS FUN RUN

RUN, JOG OR WALK YOUR POWER

SUPPORTING 261 FEARLESS

THE POWER IS YOURS, TAKE IT!

261
Fearless
CHARITY TEAM

Sunday 16th March 2025

START FROM 10AM

The Barn, River Hamble Country Park (Home of Manor Farm), Pylands Land, SO31 1BH

REGISTER NOW!

www.seizethepowerrunning.co.uk

WHILE THE PROFITS OF THIS EVENT WILL BE DONATED TO 261 FEARLESS, THE EVENT IS NOT SPONSORED FOR OR BY 261 FEARLESS.

Wyvern School Production

One of our local secondary schools, Wyvern College in Fair Oak, will be performing a stage version of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe at the beginning of February. Performances will be on Thursday 6th (evening), Friday 7th (evening) and Saturday 8th (with a matinee and evening performance). Tickets are available via the ticketsource website (see the advert opposite) for £6 and £8. It is sure to be a magical adventure for all the family.

Wyvern College

Wyvern College Presents

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Thursday 6th February (7pm)
 Friday 7th February (7pm)
 Saturday 8th February (1.30pm & 7pm)

Tickets via www.ticketsource.co.uk/wyvern-college