

MESSAGE FROM MRS TYRER

What a busy week it has been in school. Thank you for your continued support as we all continue to navigate the changing Covid guidance. I would encourage you to contact the office if you do have any questions, they always have the most up to date guidance and will be able to offer advice.

The children have settled back into their learning and school routines well after the Christmas break. I have spent time in classes this week getting to know the children. There is a fantastic atmosphere and attitude to learning around school and some exciting work going on.

I spoke to the children last week about my expectations for good manners in and around school. I am delighted to tell you that I am seeing lots of examples of good manners throughout school which is brilliant. I am hoping that you are seeing the same at home too. As one parent said to me this morning when I was praising her child's manners, "Good manners cost nothing" which is indeed true but what a difference they make - I am sure you will agree.

As I am writing this to you there are nine of our St James' girls who are at Thornton-Cleveleys competing in the Lancashire Football County Finals. This is an amazing achievement for the girls, and we are incredibly proud of them. I will let you know in next week's newsletter how they did.

WORSHIP FOCUS

Our worship this week has focused on kindness and that God made us all different. We have thought about our own strengths, likes and dislikes. We all agreed that this makes our school a very special place.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

14–18 Feb 22	Half-term
21 Feb 22	INSET Day
4–18 Apr 22	Easter
29 Apr 22	Extra BH
2 May 22	May Day
27 May	Jubilee Celebration Day
30 May–3 June	Half-term
6 June 22	INSET Day
22 July 22	INSET Day
25 July	Summer Holiday



DANCEATHON

During the week commencing 31st January 2022, all our pupils will be taking part in a Danceathon to raise money for King's Highway School our linked school in Kenya. This event will take place during school hours; you will be told by the class teacher which day your child will be participating. All monies raised by the event will purchase text books and classroom resources for the school.

If you would like to donate please visit our online fund raising page:

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/kingshighwayschool2021>

Cash donations can be placed in an envelope and handed to the School Office staff. Thank you to Miss White for arranging this. I am sure it will be a brilliant event.



STARS OF THE WEEK

Acorn

Connor Barton
Reuben Rhys-Whittaker
Ollie Graham

Ash

Amelia Snape
Esemae Gill

Oak

Jack Braithwaite
Cora Holgate
Cian Peck

Chestnut

Arry Lewis
Evie Wyness
Ella Taylor

Birch

Jasmine Isherwood
Lewis Wright
Harry Kenyon

Willow

Sarah Grigor
Jacob Batulis
Sienna Wharton
Sam Wade
Tom Wyness

Rowan

Mason Edwards
Blake Taylor
Lili McTear

Martyna Wilczynska
Sophia Robbins
Frank Goggins

Alder

Declan Kimmins
Gordon Chong
Mia Braithwaite
Noah Hamilton

Hawthorn

Teddy Wignall
Dylan Guiver

Hawthorn

Harry Walton
Nevaeh Shields
Charlie Bond
Logan Bridson
Gabbie Jackson
Imogen Miller

Sycamore

Harrison Heyworth
Sam Wilson
Mason Waring

Attendance

The attendance figures for the week commencing 10th January 2022 are as follows:

<u>Oak</u>		<u>Acorn</u>	
93.5%	20 mins late	100%	50 mins late
<u>Ash</u>		<u>Willow</u>	
99.6%	40 mins late	97.7%	50 mins late
<u>Birch</u>		<u>Hawthorn</u>	
96.7%	50 mins late	98.8%	35 mins late
<u>Chestnut</u>		<u>Alder</u>	
99.6%	20 mins late	87.5%	5 mins late
<u>Rowan</u>		<u>Sycamore</u>	
97.2%	25 mins late	99%	5 mins late

School

97.1% Attendance

5hrs of education missed due to late arrival

Government guidelines recommend a minimum attendance of 96%.

UNIFORM

Please ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform; **Pale Blue** Shirt, School Tie, **Royal Blue** Jumper/Cardigan, **Grey** Skirt/Pinafore/Shorts/Trousers, Black Shoes.

PE Kits should be worn on PE days. PE kit includes the School Jumper worn over a White T-Shirt, **Navy Blue** Shorts/Jogging Bottoms/Leggings, Black/Navy/White Trainers.



Pupils may wear a dark hoodie/fleece over their school uniform if they are cold in class.

COVID

Omicron is still highly prevalent in Lancashire, leading to staff absences and rising hospital admissions, and includes the indirect impacts of disruption to education and on children's mental health, which is why it is imperative that we all play our part in mitigating the impacts of Covid-19 on our children.

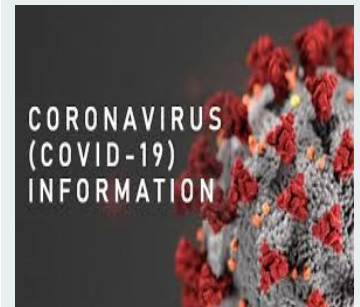
From 11 January 22, individuals who test positive with a lateral flow device (LFD) won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. This is another temporary measure while Covid-19 rates remain high across the UK. Because the rates are so high, the vast majority of people with positive LFD results can be confident they have the virus. If your child or anyone in your household tests positive, make sure you follow the Government's Stay at Home Guidance.

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during these challenging times.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

At St James' School, we expect children to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so.

Research shows that pupils who attend school regularly are more likely to do well in the future. Regular attendance helps children to develop their confidence and to make and keep lasting friendships.

What is 'good' attendance?

Anything less than 100% attendance means that your child is missing out on their education.

For example, 90% attendance is the same as missing half a day each week, or one whole month a year off school.

Punctuality is also very important. School starts at 8.40am each morning.

Did you know, that being just 15 minutes late each morning means your child would miss the equivalent of 10 days from school each year.

If your child is absent

If you know your child is going to be absent from school, you should notify school at the earliest opportunity.

School will contact parents if they are in any doubt as to the whereabouts of a child.

Leave in term time

Leave in term time is not a 'right'. Absence from school can have a serious impact on your child's education.

All requests for leave in term time must be made in advance of confirming any arrangements and may be granted at the Headteacher's discretion dependant on the circumstances.

Changes to the Regulations mean that schools can only authorise leave in term time if the circumstances surrounding the request are considered to be exceptional.

The next step:

If the attendance of a pupil is low, the parents will be contacted to see how this can be improved. Support will be offered to both parents and pupils as required. The use of a 'Parent/School Agreement' may also be considered.

If concerns remain, school may have to consider referral to external agencies, such as the Local Authority Pupil Attendance Support Team.

