



# The St. James' Journal Newsletter

14<sup>th</sup> February 2025



## MR LEEMING'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of this half term, I am pleased to reflect on the numerous achievements and activities that have taken place at our school.

Our recent school disco was a resounding success, providing our pupils with an enjoyable evening of music and socialising. I want to thank our committed group of "Friends" that provided this experience.

On Tuesday we celebrated Online Safety Day, focusing on an important aspect of digital literacy, understanding and recognising scams. In today's digital age, it is crucial that our pupils develop the skills to navigate the online world safely and confidently.

Our Year 3 and 4 pupils went on a geography walk around the local area, applying their classroom learning to real-world observations. These practical experiences are invaluable in deepening their understanding of geographical concepts and their local environment.

Looking back, I am proud to say that this has been a highly successful half term, filled with rich learning experiences across all year groups. Our pupils have shown great enthusiasm and dedication in their studies, and I commend them for their hard work.

As we look ahead to next half term, there is much to anticipate. World Book Day is on the horizon, an event that always brings excitement and creativity to our school. We also have parents' evenings scheduled, providing an important opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with their teachers.

It is such a privilege to serve as the Headteacher of St James and work alongside such a committed staff, delightful pupils and supportive parents. I look forward to continuing our journey together. I wish you all a restful half-term break, and I look forward to welcoming our pupils back for another engaging period of learning and growth.

### Update us

Have you moved or changed  
your contact details recently?

Please inform the  
office asap.

### Attendance

It is vital that your child is in school on time every day.  
The class with the best attendance this week was:



**BIRCH**

## Collective Worship

“So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love” James 1 v 2-4



This week we have been looking at how we can show love to others. We learned about our school and how St James' Church established the school because of the love they had for children that were not able to go to school. We looked at some photographs of the school like this one.

Can you please remind children of the school policy that pupils do not bring their own balls in from home. Balls and play equipment are provided at lunch time, break times and in Jimmy's wrap around care.



Thank you.



## Golden Ticket

Pupils who go **over and above** to demonstrate our school values will be awarded a 'Golden Ticket' and will be placed in the draw for prizes at the end of term. The following children have been awarded a Golden Ticket:

**Jack T (Chestnut)**



## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Acorn

Amber & Harrison

### Ash

Oskar & Isabelle

### Birch

Otis & Sofia

### Chestnut

Elowyn, Eliza & Jaxon

### Rowan

Rose & Milo

### Oak

Jack & Dorothy

### Willow

Roni & Tyler

### Hawthorn

Oliver & Jerald

### Alder

Annie & Daniel

### Sycamore

Anya & Archie

## Jimmy's Out of School Club

As of 24th February Jimmy's will be a cashless club, all payments must be paid up front by bank transfer only.

Bookings for the wrap around can be made on an ad hoc basis as required.

To register, please go to: <https://jimmysatstjames.kidsclubhq.co.uk/cust#/auth>

# THANK YOU

Thank you from the PTA to everyone who came to our Half Term Disco last night! We hope you all had a brilliant time, we loved seeing your disco outfits and dance moves - great party games by the Infants and some classic song requests in the Juniors too! We'll let you know how much was raised after half term, enjoy the holidays and remember we'd love any donations of children's books you don't use any more - just drop them in the office after half term. Thanks!

## WE NEED YOUR PRE-LOVED CHILDREN'S BOOKS!

To help Friends of St James' School plan a World Book Day surprise (March 6th) for the children, we'd love any donations of pre-loved or unused children's books please!

We need to cover readers from Reception and KS1 through to chapter books and KS2. Books need to be in good condition, please drop donations into the school office in the next few weeks.

Thank you!



**There has been a lot of exciting learning going on this week.....**

# **CLASS NEWS**

**Acorn class:  
We have been busy junk modelling this week.**

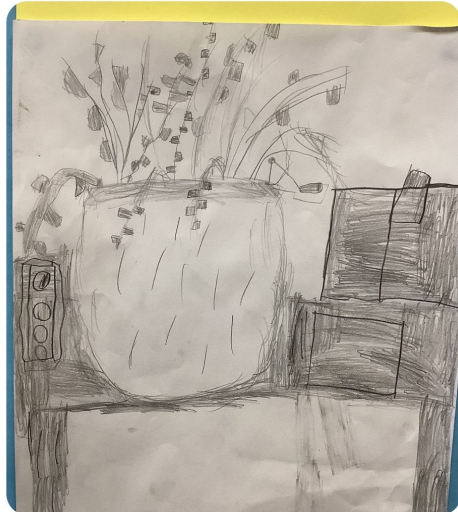
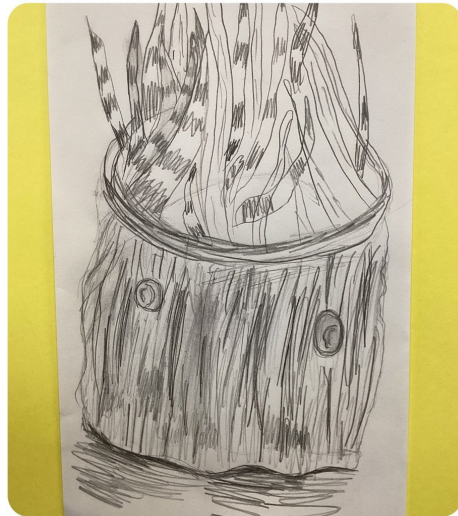


**Hawthorn class have enjoyed looking at Ancient Egyptian artefacts from the museum and have also been on a Geography walk exploring features in the local area.**



**This week Alder Class enjoyed their fieldwork enquiry lesson in Geography. The children had to collect data about the amount of rubbish in three different locations along the brook.**

**Rowan Class have been studying Still Life in Art lessons. The children grouped objects in an arrangement. They marked out the key shapes of the objects and tried sketching them from different angles.**



PIC•COLLAGE



**Oak Class: In our science we have been learning about materials and then we tested different ways to keep an egg safe. We made a parachute to test whether it would break when we launched it.**

**Ash class have been learning about the properties of materials in their Science lessons. The children used this knowledge to design and create a parachute to keep an egg safe! It was very messy but great fun, with the large paper parachute being the winner!**



**Chestnut Class have been on a walk in the local area surrounding school, looking at land use. They saw the nature reserve and many different types of buildings.**

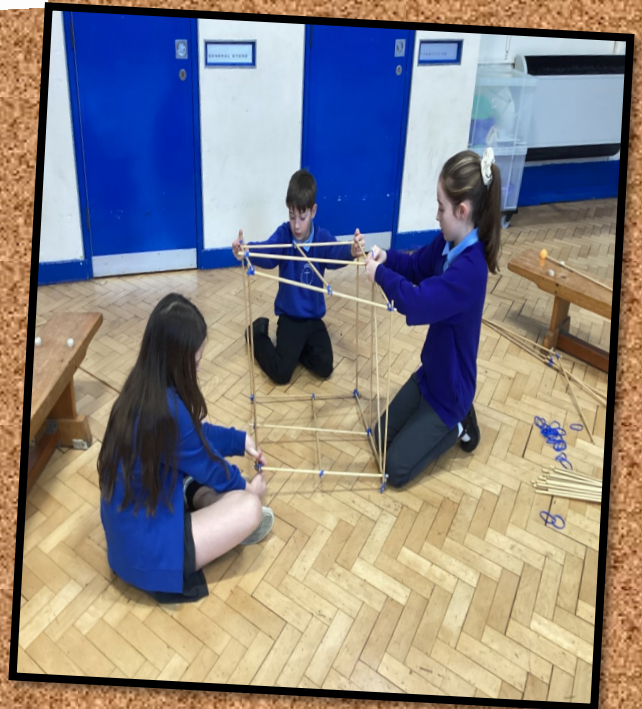


**Birch class learning about Chinese Dragon Dance music.**





**Willow Class: The children have been using different sized and styles of balls to complete catching challenges.**



**All the Year 6 took part in a STEM challenge organised by Johnson Matthew. The challenge was to design and build the tallest radio tower they could as a group for the smallest budget. The children showed fabulous collaboration skills and perseverance when initial designs weren't successful. Well done to the winning team: Amelia, Lewis, Sara, Olivia, Georgia and Max.**