



The St. James' Journal

Newsletter

12th June 2026



MR LEEMING'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had another full and memorable week in school.

Year 6 Prayer Spaces Experience Our Year 6 pupils took part in an inspiring Prayer Spaces event at Turret House. This was a special opportunity for them to pause, reflect on their journey through primary school, and look ahead to the new adventures awaiting them at secondary school. The children were very engaged with the activities, showing gratitude, and thoughtfulness. We are incredibly grateful to all the volunteers who made this experience possible. Your time, care, and creativity made a real difference.

Class Photographs On Monday, pupils had their class photos taken. We look forward to seeing the finished images and sharing ordering details with you soon.

School Building & Renovation Updates We are delighted to share that the next phase of our building and renovation work will begin next week; continue throughout the summer and be completed in Autumn. As part of this development:

- The **old infant offices and classrooms will be demolished**, making way for a beautiful new garden space and car park.
- We will be **retaining the infant hall and adjoining classroom**, which continues to serve our school community well.
- Next week, work will begin on **remodelling the entrance of the junior building**, which will become the new main entrance and office area.

The transformation will significantly enhance our school environment, and we are really excited for the future of our site.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to another positive week ahead with our Junior Sport's Day on Friday 19th June, weather permitting.

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:

ACORN & HAWTHORN





Collective Worship

Treat other people as you would want to be treated. Mark 12 v 3

In our collective worship this week, we explored the importance of using our manners and how true manners come from a heart of kindness and respect. We reflected on the parable of the Good Samaritan that Jesus told, thinking about what it means to show care to others.

Thank you to all who expressed an interest in receiving/providing a good home to our school guitars. We received over 40 requests, however, we only had 10 available. Pupils were chosen at random to receive one, and these have now been distributed.



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:

Lalya N & Sebastian H (Birch)
Rory J (Chestnut)



STARS OF THE WEEK



Acorn

Ravin & Penelope

Ash

Harry D & Aria B

Birch

Alfie B & Jacob L

Chestnut

Isaac B & Amelia C

Rowan

Esemae G & Alice P

Oak

Raela B & Ella K

Willow

Dylan & Harry C

Hawthorn

Mabel H & Zander B

Alder

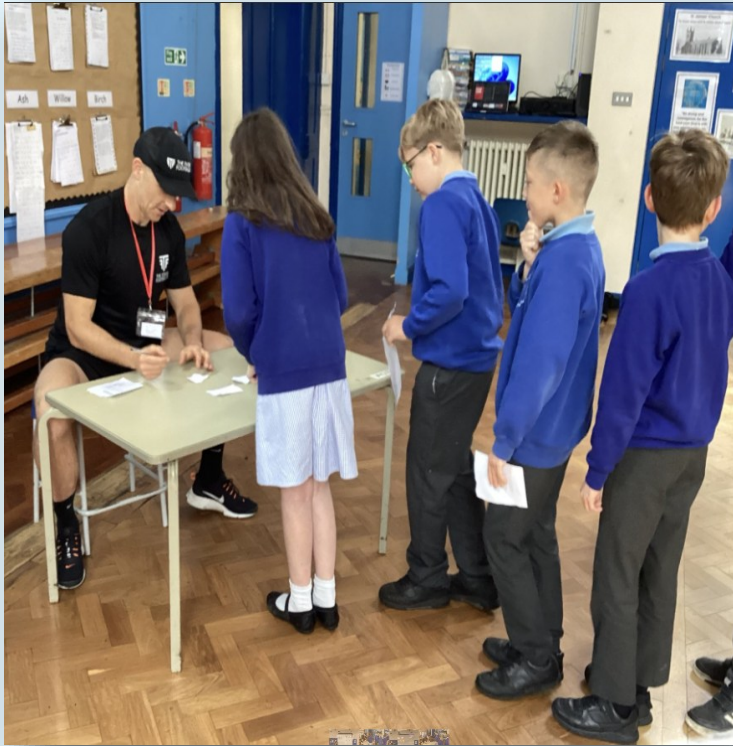
Anita & Ted

Y6 children from Rowan & Sycamore enjoyed a wonderful morning at the Turret House of Prayer for a transition prayer space activity. The children reflected on their time at primary school as well as the mixed emotions of excitement and nerves ahead of moving to high school. Thank you to everyone from Prayer Spaces and Helen from St. James' for a lovely morning.



On Tuesday, we were fortunate to have a visit from Marc Pugh, a former professional footballer, who visited school to share his story about his dreams as a child to become a professional footballer and how, through a positive growth mindset and resilience, achieved his dream. It was lovely to see how engaged the children were and the thoughtful questions that they asked about his career.

We hope that the children will have been inspired by his visit to aim high and believe that they too can achieve their dreams.



CLASS NEWS:

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

Birch class have enjoyed learning about life in Ancient Rome by looking at artefacts.



Last week, Alder Class started off their World War Two topic with an enrichment visit, where the children were immersed in how the war affected civilians at home, evacuation and a hands on session where the children handled a number of artefacts and were able to try on different helmets and military jackets.



Hawthorn Class:
We have planted sunflower seeds in Hawthorn and the children have been enjoying observing how much they have grown each day. In PE, the children have been practising their under arm throws to start off our rounders unit.

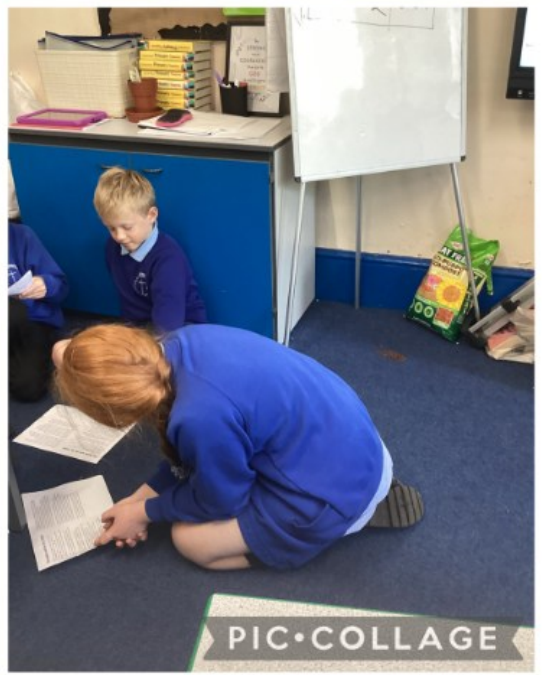


Oak Class had a wonderful time at Mrs Dowson's Farm last week. They fed llamas, alpacas and lambs. They saw water buffalo, cows and pigs. Then they had a delicious ice cream and a play on the adventure playground!



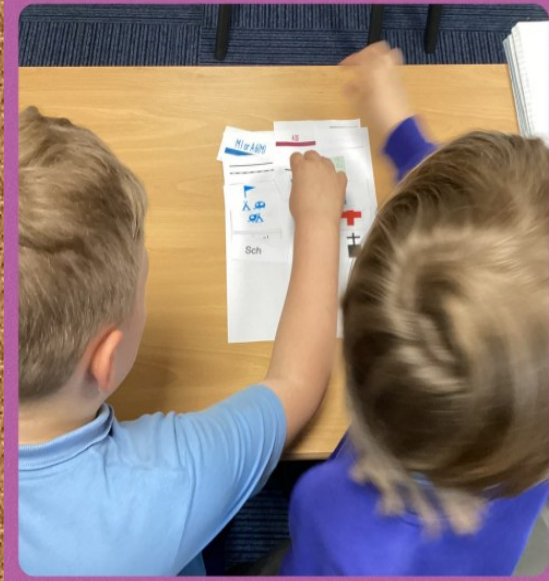
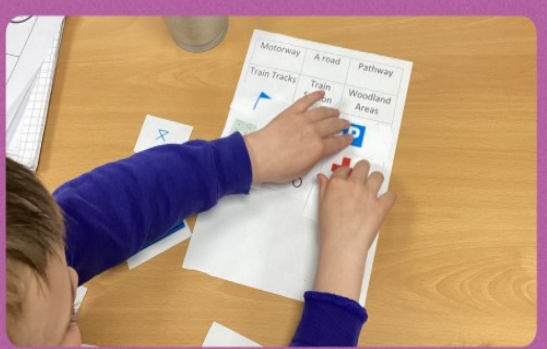
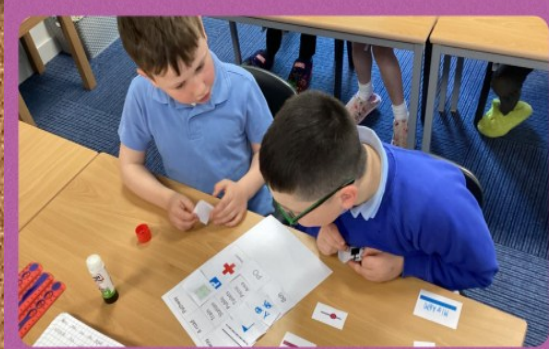
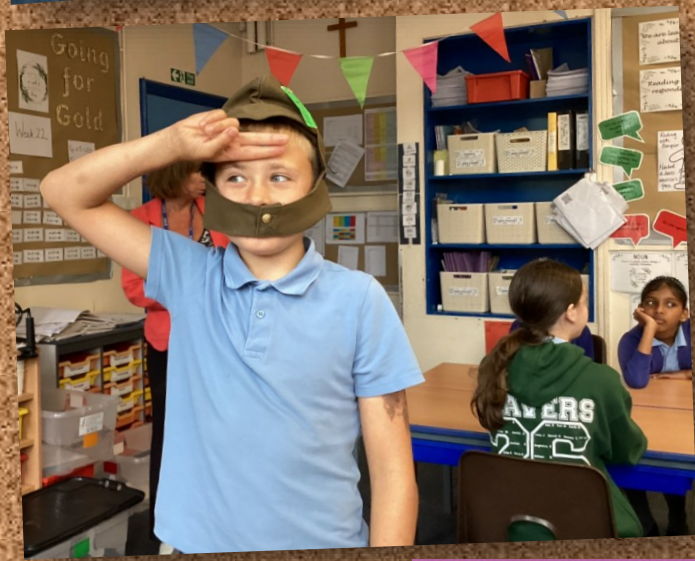
Acorn class we went on a sensory walk in our RE lesson this week.

Chestnut Class: This term we've been looking at the poem 'The Spider and the Fly'. Chestnut Class have worked hard in their groups to retell the poem using some lovely expression and great team work skills!





Rowan Class: A week full of enriching learning opportunities in Rowan class, from re-enacting The Witches scene in Macbeth to hands on opportunities to find out all about life during World War II.



Willow class really enjoyed investigating map symbols. We are now experts!



Sycamore had a brilliant WW2 workshop exploring the events leading up to the start of WW2 and the important role played by Air Raid Wardens during the war.



Ash Class have really enjoyed using the laptops to create digital music compositions, developing their computing skills whilst being creative with the pitch and rhythm of the piece.



"Thank you for your amazing pebble creations over half term!

We'd still love some more for story time in the playground or small pebbles with bees or ladybirds on for a game, so why not get creating this weekend?

There are prizes for our favourite creations, to be judged by Friends."



WE NEED YOU!

St. James' Friends are sprucing up the playgrounds

AND IN NEED OF:

- ✓ Any mud kitchens no longer needed
- ✓ Outdoor paint of any colours!
- ✓ Fancy dress items & outfits for age 9-11
- ✓ Any garden games
- ✓ Small musical instruments (tambourine, drum sticks, shakers etc)

We'd also love the help of anyone with good **DIY skills** for some bits on the **INFANT WOODLAND AREA** - if you can spare any time please let us know!

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE OUR PLAYGROUNDS EVEN BETTER!

FUN OUTSIDE TOGETHER