



St James' Church of England Primary School

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Executive Head Teacher: **Mrs Gina Bailey**

Head of School: **Mrs Casey Cox**

Opening doors to our future.

I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. Revelation 3:8

Friday 12th March 2020



Parent Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Despite the awful weather today, I am starting to feel a bit more hopeful and Spring-like, particularly with all the children back in school and seeing some daffodils growing on the school field!

We are absolutely delighted to let you know that St James' has been awarded the 'Enhanced Health School' status. The Essex Child and Wellbeing Service, in their letter to us, wrote:

"It is very evident that the emotional health and wellbeing of your pupils are at the heart of the school, with a clear commitment by the senior leadership team, staff, pupils, parents and governors to ensure that the pupils are happy, healthy and feel safe and listened to. There has been a clear commitment by everyone to ensure that effective strategies and projects are available for your pupils to utilise and have their voice heard."

I would like to say thank you to all of the wonderful, dedicated staff we have in our school and also give a special mention to Mrs Dutton for the incredible work she has done in leading mental health and well-being, thank you!

We have a busy couple of weeks coming up, so please do have a good look through the newsletter so you don't miss anything!

Young Carers' Day – Tuesday 16th March – Wear Wacky Socks!

As you know we take our role in supporting young carers very seriously and want to do all we can to help them and their families during difficult times. On Tuesday 16th March, it is National Young Carers' day and we would like to invite the whole school to wear wacky socks for the day to raise awareness. We will not be collecting money for this.



Our Core Christian Values: Respect, Responsibility, Community, Friendship, Forgiveness, Courage.

Let's Count Census Day – Thursday 18th March

We will all be participating in a fun day of counting on Thursday next week in order to mark the National Census on 21st March. Each class will be learning what the census is and counting something that is important to them. It is a great opportunity for the children to learn how public services are allocated and the important part each person plays in deciding this. A booklet about the census that you can share with you child will be coming home today.

Red Nose Day – Friday 19th March – Non-Uniform Day

As you know, Red Nose Day is taking place next Friday 19th March. We would like everyone to wear non-uniform and a mad hairstyle to celebrate. Members of staff will have buckets on the gate to collect donations so please have your £1 to hand as you arrive at school.

Birthday Parties

On Thursday 25th March the children will be having a celebration for all the children who have had birthdays during the Spring term. If your child has had a birthday since the last birthday party in school, and you would like to send in some sweets or individually wrapped food (e.g. mini rolls, single packets of crisps), can you please send it in by Tuesday 23rd March so it can be shared out at the party on the Thursday afternoon.



Early closure for the end of term- Friday 26th March

Class finishing times will be 2 hours early than usual on the last day of term. We will send an email to confirm these times during the last week.

Vine Passport

Children can bring in their Vine Passport on Friday 16th April to show their teacher which zones have been completed. Badges and certificates will be awarded on Friday 23rd April.

Play Equipment and Scooters

In order to meet Health and Safety requirements, please ensure your child does not ride a bike or scooter on the school site or climb on school equipment. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Primary LFD Testing Scheme

Households, childcare and support bubbles of Primary aged children are eligible for twice-weekly home testing. Those individuals will be able to order a box of lateral flow tests to be delivered to their home (or they can collect from a convenient location).

It is important to note that this scheme is not for staff or secondary students who should use the school based kits, or for primary pupils who are still not eligible for testing. The kits are for the remaining household, support or childcare bubble adults.

Full guidance is available [here](#).

You can order home test kits online click on the link below:

[Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#)



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What twice-weekly testing involves

You will be asked to:

- take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)
- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test

[Report your test result online](#) or by calling 119.

If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result
- follow the [stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all [coronavirus advice](#) including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing
- wearing a face covering where recommended

Take care and stay safe,
Best wishes,

Gina Bailey
Executive Headteacher

Casey Cox
Head of School

Dates for your Diary

This week: Science Week

Tuesday 16th March: Young Carers' Day – wacky socks please

Friday 19th March: Red Nose Day- non-uniform day & mad hair, there will be donation buckets on the gates between 8.40-9.00am

Friday 26th March: Last day of term- Early finish- 2 hours earlier than normal times (Reminder of exact times will be sent out nearer the time)

Monday 29th March- Friday 9th April: Easter Holidays

Monday 12th April: First day of the Summer Term

Monday 3rd May: May Bank Holiday- School closed

Friday 28th May: Last day of term- normal finish times

Monday 31st May- Monday 7th June: Half Term holiday and Non-Pupil Day on 7th June

Tuesday 8th June: First day of the Summer Term 2

Wednesday 21st July: Last day of term- Early Finish



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