

St James' Church of England Primary School

Paringdon Road, Harlow, Essex, CM18 7RH

Telephone: 01279 432459

Email: admin.harlow@dcvst.org

Website: www.stjamescofeprimaryschool.co.uk

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 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents,

What a start to the academic year it has been! The children have certainly hit the ground running and have definitely earned a well-deserved break next week.

The school has been a hive of activity and the learning behaviours seen in each class have been excellent. This term our focus foundation subjects are Geography and Design Technology and we hope your children have been sharing their new knowledge and experiences with you at home.

As you know our value for the half term has been **Respect** and we have been really proud of the way the children have demonstrated this value each day. They were asked to reflect upon what Respect means to them and write it on a leaf to add to our reflection tree. The responses were very thoughtful and overwhelmingly they all understood that we should treat others as we wish to be treated.



Hopefully this update will give you a good idea of some of the exciting things that have been happening over the half term.

Race for Life

A huge thank you to all of you for the amazing support you gave our first ever in school 'Race for Life'! The children had a brilliant time running laps of the school field. In the end, we raised £1469.32!!! Which is just incredible – thank you so much! The Year 6 Charity Ambassadors took the money to the Cancer Research UK shop in Epping and the staff there praised the schools' fantastic achievement.



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

International Democracy Day

St James' celebrated International Democracy Day by voting for our School Council members. The pupils from Years 1 to 6 had the opportunity to make a speech to their class and then they all went into the hall to cast their votes. They were asked to complete a ballot paper in private and then post their vote into box in the hope of recreating the voting process adults use.

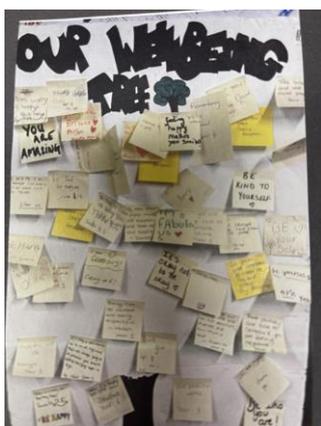
Congratulations to all of the children elected! They will be working together to further improve our school over the coming year.

School Ambassadors

Pupil Voice is an important part of our school community and we have created the following ambassadors: Wellbeing, ECO, Worship, Learning, Charity, Play Leaders, Head Boy and Head Girl. This year's ambassadors have been selected and have already started to work on their focus areas. We look forward to seeing the wonderful work they'll do!

Mental Health Awareness Day

As is our annual tradition, St James' celebrated Mental Health Awareness Day on 8th October by wearing yellow and taking part in special activities in class. Our pupils continue to make us proud by showing how much they understand the need to look after their mental health and wellbeing.



Visit from Rabbi Posen

The children in KS2 thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah with Rabbi Posen on 6th October. They asked fantastic questions and the Rabbi was very impressed with their thoughtful contributions to the discussion. The children were all excited to learn that there is going to be a giant menorah in the water gardens soon, so please do go and have a look if you can.

Black History Month

October is Black History Month and in school we have celebrated this by learning about inspirational Black figures that have made incredible contributions to Britain today. We have talked to the children about valuing our differences and feeling proud of themselves as individuals.



Oludah Equiano
By
Isabelle
Y6



Harvest

On Monday 11th October the Year 6 Charity Ambassadors visited the Harlow Foodbank with Mrs Cox to learn more about how the donations are processed and who benefits from them. The children then helped Mrs Cox to tell the whole school about the work that is done as part of our Harvest festival celebrations. They were amazed that the Foodbank supports around 700 people per week and that most people working there are volunteers. Thank you for your generosity and the fantastic donations we have received this week.



A huge well done also goes to our Year 1 and 2 children who led our Harvest Collective Worship this week. They did a brilliant job telling the school about the importance of Harvest and leading us in prayer to thank everyone involved in producing the food we eat.



Whole School International Food Project

Every child had a great time making a delicious dish as part of our whole school international food project for Design and Technology this week. Each class chose a country, researched the food, looked up the recipes, made their dish and then tasted and evaluated them. Today, every class shared what they had made with the rest of the school and made everyone feel very hungry!

Reception made fruit skewers from Nigeria



Year 1 made rocky road from Australia



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



Year 2 made fruit smoothies from the Caribbean.



Year 3 made Lemon Cookies from Italy



Year 4 made cheese bread from Brazil



Year 5 made hard dough from Jamaica



Year 6 made sushi from Japan

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

Just a gentle reminder that applications for secondary schools close on the 31st October (next week). You must submit the application online. The link is below:

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>



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

Clubs

We are very pleased to be able to offer new clubs after half term. The letter has been sent out to you but the details are also below. Please book these clubs directly with the provider listed.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Gymnastics 3.20pm – 4.20pm Reception to Year 3 £36	Karate 3.30pm – 4.15pm Year 1 to Year 6 £30 per pupil or £55 for two	Hip Hop Pop Street Dance 3.15pm – 4.15pm Year 2 – Year 6 £4.50 per lesson	Sting Performing Arts 3.20pm – 4.30pm Year 1 to Year 6 £30
<u>Gym Kats</u> To reserve place contact Karen on 07807 766245 include your child's name and year group.	<u>Pro-Karate Academy</u> Contact Sensei Aimee Sell 07926 298673 pkaoffice@yahoo.co.uk www.pro-karate.co.uk	<u>Hip Hop Pop</u> www.hiphoppop.net/schools	<u>Sting Performing Arts</u> Contact Lisa 07903 192094 lisa@stingperformingarts.com

Parent Tours

If your child is due to start Reception in September 2022, Parent tours of the school are available on the following dates:

Thurs 18th Nov 10am
Tuesday 30th Nov 2.15pm
Thurs 6th Jan 10am

If you would like to book a tour contact the Office on 01279 432459 or email admin.harlow@dcvst.org

That's it for now – have a fantastic half term and we look forward to seeing all the children on **Tuesday 2nd November!**

Very best wishes

Gina Bailey
Executive Headteacher

Casey Cox
Head of School



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