



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.

"Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

Friday 24th November 2023



Dear Parent/Carers,

We are just 4 weeks into the second half of the autumn term and already so much has happened at St James' that we want to share with you. At the bottom of this newsletter, you will see the upcoming events for the rest of this half term – please take the time to note down important dates as we know this is an incredibly busy time of year for families.

Reception Admission Window 2024/25

Please be reminded that the window to apply for your child's 2024 reception place is now open and the closing date is 15th January 2024. You must complete your application on the [Essex Admissions Website](https://www.essexadmissions.gov.uk). If you wish to find out more or add additional evidence to support your application via a supplementary information form, please visit the admissions page on our school website: <https://stjamescofeprimaryschool.co.uk/key-information/admissions/>

Opening doors to our future through enrichment activities...

Y3 Visit to
Pizza Express

During our visit to Pizza Express we learned which ingredients they use in their recipes, where the food comes from and how much of each ingredient they used in each pizza. We also learned how to flip the dough, spread the sauce without a spoon and how to drop the cheese so it spreads evenly on the pizza. The best part was definitely coming back to school and eating our delicious pizzas!



Opening doors through our Christian values: Respect, Responsibility, Community, Friendship, Forgiveness, Courage.



Y4 Visit to Woburn Safari Park

"I liked Woburn because it was so fun and the monkeys kept jumping on the roof of the coach. I loved the panda because it was so cute that I just wanted to hug it! We talked about the animals that live in the rainforest and we learned about the different layers of the rainforest."

Billie, Year 4



Young Voices

We are really excited to be taking a choir of 19 children to the O2 for the Young Voices 2024 concert in January next year. We are very grateful to our school sponsor Reyland Johnson Estate Agents who have kindly bought the choir

the official Young Voices t shirts for the event. The children have been working really hard to learn the songs and we can't wait to go to the O2 next year. The after school choir club will be opening up to all KS2 children from February and we will be working towards the Harlow Music festival in the Summer.



Opening doors to our future by supporting our mental health and wellbeing...

Our Year 5 and 6 Girls to part in a "Well-being though boxing" workshop with Boxer and well being practitioner Carly Attridge. Carly works with The Loss Project and uses boxing to help people through grief and promote mental wellbeing. This great workshop was organised with Changing Lives who run fantastic interventions in St James and also local sports projects, after school and holiday clubs.



Opening doors through our Christian values: Respect, Responsibility, Community, Friendship, Forgiveness, Courage.

Opening doors to our future by challenging ourselves in new situations...

It has been great to see our pupils participating in the Harlow sports events over the last few weeks. They always bring such positive attitudes and determination to the games. There are plenty more planned across the year and we are excited to see the other children following in their footsteps!



**Y3 and Y4
Boccia Event**



**Year 5
Dodgeball**

Opening doors to our future by supporting our community...



A huge thank you for all your donations to Children in Need. We raised a total of £119.31!



Another huge thank you for the many, many, many kind offers we have had to replace the stolen selection boxes. We have been truly overwhelmed by the kindness of you all – thank you!

Upcoming Dates:

Please note, we have added Christmas performance dates for Years 3, 4 & 5

Saturday 2 nd December	PTFA Christmas Fayre 1pm
Tuesday 5 th December	New parent tour – Reception 2024 9:30am
Thursday 7 th December	Whole School Trip – Panto – South Mill Arts
Friday 8 th December	Christmas jumper day – Children can wear their Christmas jumper or Christmassy colours Year 6 Swimming
Monday 11 th December	KS1 Christmas performance – 9:30am
Tuesday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas Performance – 2pm
Thursday 14 th December	Y3, 4 & 5 Christmas Performance – 9.30am
Friday 15 th December	Y3, 4 & 5 Christmas Performance – 2pm Year 6 Swimming (Last session)



Opening doors through our Christian values: Respect, Responsibility, Community, Friendship, Forgiveness, Courage.

Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Church Service and Dinner
Wednesday 20 th December	Christingle Service Last day of Term – School finishes at 1:30pm
Thursday 21 st December – Wednesday 3 rd January	End of Term School Closed
Thursday 4 th – Friday 5 th January	Inset Days – School closed
Monday 8 th January	School re-opens at normal time
Thursday 11 th January	New parent tour – Reception 2024 9:30am

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Mrs Gina Bailey

Mrs Casey Cox

Executive Headteacher

Head of School



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