



# NEWSLETTER

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**ST JAMES'**  
CE ACADEMY

## Welcome Back

The children have settled into their new classes very well and they should be congratulated for their effort, attitude and attendance during the first three weeks back at school. We are very pleased to welcome our new children to St James' - those that are starting their full time education in our reception class and the children new to our nursery class.

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### School Councillors are Already Making Improvements

At the first whole school council meeting of this academic year, our newly appointed school councillors made a very important decision. Pupils throughout the school have been telling us how important it is that they can share information about their school day with an adult at the end of the day. To help this happen our councillors are proposing that we make our school site a 'NO PHONE ZONE' so that children can talk to the person picking them up without interruptions from a phone.

### Attendance and Punctuality

I am delighted that the children have attended so well at the beginning of this term. A good attendance record has a very positive impact on children's achievement, their ability to socialise and their emotional well being. Please remember that we are unable to authorise any absence due to holidays taken during term time and that penalty notices may be issued to parents of children who are absent due to a holiday (£60 per parent, per child). Holidays during term time can seriously disrupt your child's learning. Not only do children miss the teaching provided on the days they are away, they are also less prepared for the lessons building on this learning after their return. As a result, your child's progress will be seriously slowed and there may also be a future risk of underachievement.

It is also essential that children arrive at school on time to ensure they do not miss out on any of their learning or cause disruption to the learning of others. Breakfast club is open daily from 7.45 am. Please remember that children can arrive at breakfast club up to 8:40am (if your child requires a breakfast they need to be in school by 8:30 am).

**Children should not be on the school site before 8.40 am unless they are attending the breakfast club.** Classrooms are open from 8:45 am and registration is at 8:55 am. Any child arriving after 8:55 am should report to the school office.



**Good Behaviour Policy** We are delighted with the behaviour of all of our pupils. You are very welcome to look at the good behaviour policy—or any other school policies. All policies are available from the school office. You will also find a number of school policies on our school website.

### Marvellous Me

If you have already signed up to use Marvellous Me, you will be receiving lots of additional information about your child's learning this term. If you have not yet signed up, please complete the form as soon as possible.

### Child Protection Co-ordinator/ First Aiders:

Miss Strickland is our Child Protection Co-ordinator/Safeguarding Lead. Our first aiders are:

Mrs Burton, Mr Jowett, Miss Brown, Miss Strickland, Miss Thornton, Mrs Eden, Mrs Leonard, Mr Allen & Mrs Stewart.

### Do you know how to keep your child safe at home when they are using a mobile phone, tablet or similar electronic devise?

Although we teach the children on a termly basis about keeping themselves safe whilst online, we are still hearing concerning stories from some of our parents about unsuitable material or conversations their children have accessed (often quite by accident because settings on devices did not protect them). Many parents and staff are surprised and alarmed by the extent that some people will go to gain access to children online. I am asking that you seriously consider coming along to an Online Safety session for parents on Tuesday 10th October at 1.15 pm. Every parent who attends will be entered into a draw to win a £10 ASDA voucher.

### Supporting your children's learning at home

We really appreciate the support that you give your children at home with their learning, particularly with their reading and maths homework. To further support you to help your children at home, we have arranged a number of information sessions throughout the year for parents.

On **Tuesday 10th October**, in addition to attending the Online Safety session, you are also invited to attend a **reading workshop at 2.15pm**. This will be followed by an opportunity to spend time in your child's classroom during story time. A number of our governors will be in school during the afternoon to give you the opportunity to have a chat with them. Refreshments will be available during the afternoon.

## Working with Local Businesses and Organisations

To enhance our work in all areas of the curriculum and to develop our enterprise skills, we continue to look for every opportunity to work with local businesses and organisations. Our year 6 children will be visiting Pizza Express in Beverley to learn all about the restaurant industry.



They will make their own pizza before visiting St Mary's Church, Beverley. Year 6 pupils are also visiting Beverley Races where they will use maths skills to solve problems during a real race day.

Year 5 pupils will be working with marine biologists when they visit Flamborough in October. Year 5 pupils are also working with Hull



Children's University and will spend a day with a resident artist in the beautiful village of Warter. They will create landscape paintings in the style of David Hockney.

## School Uniform

I am delighted with the appearance of all the children in school, they look extremely smart and I thank you for your support of our school uniform policy. There have been some questions raised by some parents regarding the uniform colour of shorts, trousers, skirts and pinafores. **These items should be light grey not charcoal.** If you are in any doubt regarding this, please see the display of uniform in the school foyer.

Please remember to ensure your child has suitable footwear to wear in school. Slippers are not appropriate for health and safety reasons. Sandshoes are available from a number of shops locally, including Boyes in Bransholme Centre and ASDA. Please ensure you write your child's name in their uniform, this prevents any upset if items are misplaced.

## PE Kit

Please ensure your child wears the correct PE kit at school. This consists of a plain white T-shirt and plain red shorts. As many PE lessons this term will take place outside, children may need to wear trainers for these lessons. As we advised you in the summer term, our outdoor kit consists of plain black sweatshirt and jogging bottoms. They are also available from Asda and on display in the foyer.

## Keeping Safe on the Playground Before and After School

Children riding bikes or scooters on the playground before or after school presents a health and safety risk for other children and adults. Please make sure that your child does not ride his/her bike or scooter on the playground at the beginning or end of the school day. Unfortunately, due to limited space, we can only store cycles belonging to children who have passed the Bikeability test at school during the day (year 5/6 children). If your child is not in year 5 or 6 and rides to school on their bike or scooter please do not leave it on the school site.

For health and safety reasons it is essential that no children climb on the play equipment on the playground or field before or after school.

## Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Service will take place at St James' Church, Sutton on **Friday 13th October at 1:40 pm**. All children, with the exception of our Foundation Stage Class, will walk up to the church. We ask that, due to lack of space, no younger children are brought to the Church for this service. Following the success of last year's Harvest celebration, we would like to once again ask the children (including Foundation Stage) to bring groceries into school that we can deliver to the elderly in our area. We would ask that children bring at least one item of food each into school during the week beginning **Monday 9th October**. We will create a display of all the donations received in the school hall on **Wednesday and Thursday, 11th and 12th October**. Any items brought in to school should be non perishable and not past their 'best before' date. If you know of an elderly person (over 65) living in the area who would appreciate receiving a food parcel, please complete the slip below:

I believe that the below mentioned **elderly** person would appreciate receiving a food parcel from the children of St James' C E Academy:

.....(name)

.....(address)

Signed: ..... Date: .....

## Jewellery

We don't consider it is necessary for your child to wear any jewellery whilst at school. However, if you feel that this is essential, please make sure that this is limited to one **small** pair of stud earrings in the lower lobe area and one watch; these must be removed for health and safety reasons when taking part in P.E. lessons.

## Music provision

We are delighted that every child in year 5 will learn to play the violin this year and we all look forward to seeing the children perform their new skills in the not too distant future.



## School Security and lunchtimes

The entrance gates to the school field remain locked throughout the day between 9:00 am and 3:10 pm. If your child goes home at lunch time please arrange to meet them at the main door into the school (school office entrance). Children should return into school via this route on their return after lunch, from 1.10 pm.

## Car Parking



It is imperative that no parents or taxis use the school drive to turn round, drop off or to park. For the sake of the safety of all of the children please do not come onto the school site in your car to drop off or collect your children. This applies before school, at lunchtime and at the end of the day, including following after school clubs. If you have a problem with this arrangement please make an appointment to discuss it with me as soon as possible.

## School Dinners and Funding

We are very proud of the quality and variety of the food prepared, cooked and served by our kitchen staff.

As previously, children are offered one main menu option with one 'reserve choice' of a jacket potato (with cheese, beans or tuna). If your child prefers to eat a jacket potato rather than the main choice they should let their teacher know during registration. A menu for this term was sent out at the end of last term but if you need another one please call at the office. Our School Councillors will soon be collecting the views of all children who are staying at school for a hot dinner.

School dinners are still free for all children in reception, year 1 and year 2. Dinners still cost **50p per day** for our KS2 children. Please make sure that your child pays for their dinner either on the day they stay or in advance (you are welcome to pay for your child's school dinners at the beginning of each week).

Unfortunately a number of children are not paying for their dinners in advance or on the day that they are staying. This is causing a difficulty as we have no facility within school to cope with these arrears. If a child owes any money for school dinners at the end of a week, they will not be allowed to stay at school for a school dinner the following or subsequent weeks until the debt is paid. In these circumstances you will either have to provide a packed lunch or take your child home for their dinner.

## School Photos

On **Friday 20th October** the photographer will be in school. He will take individual photos of the children throughout the morning. Family group photos for those with brothers and sisters or younger children not yet at school will be taken if you choose this option. If you require a group photo please arrive at school for 8:30 am.



## Important Information about Funding—Please help us to help your children

For every child who receives free school meals the school receives additional funding. We use this to help us pay for our Teaching Assistants, to pay for breakfast club as well as to subsidise visits for the children out of school.

If you receive certain benefits, eg **Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance**, your child may well be entitled to receive free school meals. It is very important for the education of all of our pupils, that even if your child is in reception or KS1, you complete the free school meal form that is available from the school office.

**A £10 ASDA voucher will be given to any parents who complete a form that results in their child receiving free school meals.**

## Flu Vaccination

Parents of children in Reception and years 1, 2, 3 & 4 are being given the opportunity to have their child vaccinated against the flu virus. This will take place on Tuesday 21st November. Consent forms will be sent home at the end of October.



## Dogs on the school site

Please remember that dogs are not allowed on the school site, even if being carried.



## Reading champions

You will be aware of the weekly reading competition in each class—please help your child to improve their reading skills by encouraging them to read at home every day. Our reading mentors in year 6 continue to read with the younger pupils every week.



## Outdoor Clothing

I know the weather has been kind to us of late but as we are nearing the end of September, could you please make sure your child brings a coat to school for playtimes and lunchtimes.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Parents of children in reception and year 1 are invited to attend our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September at 9.00 am. The children will perform a number of songs for their parents who will have the opportunity to buy a cup of tea or coffee and a piece of cake.

Straight after the coffee morning, parents are invited to join us in the classrooms where they will see their children taking part in phonics lessons. This will help you to help your child practise their phonics at home.



**Operation Encompass** As part of the Operation Encompass project, the school is working in partnership with Humberside Police and Social Services to ensure that information between agencies is shared more quickly. This means that the school is made aware of any incidences of domestic abuse involving our pupils as a matter of urgency, enabling us to provide support and help to our children as soon as possible.

**Extra Curricular Clubs** There will be a number of extra curricular clubs this term. If your child is offered a place at a club, please make sure that they are able to commit to attend for every one of the sessions. It is essential that children are collected promptly at the finish time.

Club	Member of staff	Day/time	Year group
Street Dance Club	First Step Staff	Monday 3.15—4.15 pm	Years 2/3
Gymnastics Club	First Step Staff	Tuesday 3.15—4.15 pm	Years 5/6
Percussion Club	Ms Vigars	Tuesday 12.00—1.00 pm	Years 5/6
Book Club	Mrs Eden	Wednesday 3.15—4.00 pm	Year 1
Dodge Ball Club	Pelican Park staff	Wednesday - 3.15 – 4.15 pm	Years 4/5/6
Football Club	Pelican Park staff	Thursday - 3.15 – 4.15pm	Years 4/5/6
Art Club	Mrs Leonard	Thursday 3.15—4.15 pm	Year 3
Chatterbooks Club	Mrs Ketley Mrs Hawksley	Monday/ Wednesday Lunchtime Tuesday/ Thursday Lunchtime	Year 5/6 Year 3/4

## Dates for the Term (and holiday dates for the year)

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with some dates for your diary. There will be additional dates to follow, including our arrangements for Christmas celebrations. Letters will be sent home regarding visits etc. nearer the time.

DATE	EVENT
20th September	Year 6 pupils are 'Racing to School' at Beverley Races
29th September	Macmillan Coffee morning for parents of children in reception and year 1 followed by phonics demonstration lessons in
4th October	Year 6 Pupils visiting Pizza Express and St Mary's Church in Beverley
5th October	Year 5 pupils visiting Flamborough where they will work with marine biologists
Week beginning 9th October	Children to bring in food for our harvest collection
10th October	1.15 pm - 2.15 pm - Online Safety Session 2.15 pm - Reading workshop for parents followed by time spent in classrooms during story telling time
12th October	Year 2 pupils visiting the Streetlife Museum
13th October	Harvest service at St James' Church - 1:40 pm
Week beginning 16th October	Parents' evenings –appointment information to follow
20th October	Hullabaloo and talent trail day
20th October	School Photographer
24th October	Year 5 pupils taking part in Paint Box module with Hull Children's University at Warter
26th October	9.00 am - Year 5 class assembly for their parents and friends followed by coffee and biscuits
27th October	3.15 pm - School closes for the half term holiday
<b>HALF TERM</b>	
<b>Monday 6th November</b>	<b>Children return to school—breakfast club is open as usual</b>
9th November	Six year 5 children to environmental conference at the Guildhall
10th November	Remembrance Day within school
17th November	Children in Need celebration at school organised by year 6 pupils
Week beginning 20th November	Anti-bullying week/Road Safety Week
29th November	9.00 am - Year 4 class assembly for their parents and friends followed by coffee and biscuits
1st December	Hullabaloo and Messy Christmas day
20th December	Christmas service at St James' Church - 1:40 pm 3:15 pm - School closes for the Christmas holidays
<b>Monday 8th January</b>	<b>Children return to school—breakfast club is open as usual</b>