



Be COVID Aware

Do not come onto school site if you have any Coronavirus symptoms, & get tested. Maintain social distancing at all times. The symptoms are:

- High temperature
- New, continuous cough
- Loss of or change to sense of smell or taste

Newsletter

25th June, 2021

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We hurtle towards the end of the term and academic year, with lots of busy-ness around school. Staff are planning various end of term events, and children are just as busy.

Children in Year 4 have completed the on-line Multiplication Tables check—this is a government assessment, which is normally a statutory requirement, but this year is optional. We should be sent the results over the next few weeks, and will use these to support the children as they move into Year 5. Children across the school have been enjoying weekly yoga sessions, as part of our commitment to support their overall well-being. Our friends from Bedford Blues have been in school using sport to develop spelling skills and knowledge. Children in KS2 enjoyed special Making Me workshops, exploring resilience and ways to deal with the challenges we all face in life. Year 2 have been using a book called the Flower to develop their literacy and art skills, and Year 3 and Year 1 have recently enjoyed going on Now Press Play adventures. There's been a lot going on!

Wednesday was national Thank a Teacher Day—we have a wonderful team here at St James' and all our staff are teachers. You don't need a special day to share your thanks—throughout the year, we receive so many kind messages of support and thanks from you, which are always so appreciated. I know you recognise and appreciate the amazing teachers we have here—but I want to appreciate all of you—you have always been teachers for your children, and in the past 18 months, you have had to step up a gear to support your children's learning at home and you have been amazing—so, this week, I thank all our home teachers!

Unfortunately, the Government did not end the current COVID restrictions earlier this week, which means we still have to continue with the restrictions we have in school. Unfortunately, this affects Sports Day—the children will still enjoy a Sports Day of sorts, but this will have to take place in their class bubbles, and we will not be able to invite parents in as we would want to. Having considered the guidance, the availability of staff, the fact that we know that there will, unfortunately, be some parents who won't follow the measures we put into place, and the logistics of managing more visitors on site, we have made the decision that we are unable to allow parents to come and watch the Sports Days, I'm afraid. I know it seems strange that 60,000 people are allowed at Wembley, but we just don't have the staff availability to monitor and steward parents for every class, and our priority must be to ensure that we don't end up having a COVID outbreak across our school family. We are, however, looking at having some sort of whole school family event towards the very end of term.

As always, we all wish you a very happy and peaceful weekend,

Maria & all the team at St James'



COVID Update

Please remember to keep your child at home if they show any of the following symptoms:

- Temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- Loss of or change to sense of smell or taste

We know that some children experience allergies/hayfever at this time of year, which may lead to coughing. We ask that if your child starts to cough, that you arrange for a COVID test, just in case; likewise, if staff notice a new cough, we will ask you to collect your child from school. We know we might be being ultra-cautious here, but we just want to make sure we can keep everyone safe. Other possible symptoms are shown below—if your child displays any of these, even if your best judgement is that it's not COVID-related, please get it checked out. Thank you!

| Symptom | Coronavirus <i>Symptoms can range from mild to severe</i> |
|---------------------|--|
| Fever | COMMON |
| Fatigue | SOMETIMES |
| Cough | COMMON |
| Loss of taste/smell | COMMON |
| Sneezing | NO |
| Aches & pains | SOMETIMES |
| Runny or stuff nose | RARE |
| Sore throat | SOMETIMES |
| Diarrhoea | RARE |
| Headache | SOMETIMES |
| Shortness of breath | SOMETIMES |

If your child is told to self-isolate, they must do so for the full 10 days, even if they receive a negative PCR test result.

We received an email this week telling us we had been nominated for a special bundle of goodies. We didn't win the bundle, but were absolutely blown away by the message from our nominator—we don't know who you are, but thank you for your kind and generous words!

St James is a small village school with a huge heart. The children's emotional well being is at the core of the schools ethos but during the pandemic this stretched out to the families also. My child is in year one and hasn't had a full year at school yet, but feels so happy and supported at St James. The school don't have a lot of money and the PTA have spent most of their funds on additional craft equipment for each class as the one pack could no longer be shared due the bubbles in place. If we were to win a well-being bundle it would feel like we were able to give something back to this fantastic school.

Summer Term Dates Ahead
(COVID restrictions may apply)

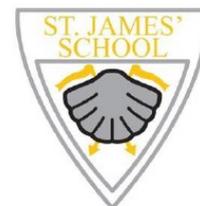
Y6 Transition Days for secondary schools have been cancelled, and are taking place virtually. Please ensure you know what the arrangements are for your child's school.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 1st July | Y6 Leavers Trip |
| 5th July | Y2 Sports Day |
| 6th July | Y1 Sports Day |
| 7th July | Y4 Sports Day |
| 8th July | Y3 Sports Day |
| | Science workshops Years 3,4,5 |
| 12th July | Y5 Sports Day |
| 13th July | YR Sports Day |
| 13th July | Parents evening |
| 14th July | Moving Up morning—time in new classes |
| 15th July | Y6 Sports Day |
| | Y2 Art Day with Katie Allen |
| 19th July | Y6 Leavers Trip |
| 20th July | Proms in the Playground—whole school celebration 5pm |
| 21st July | Leaver's Service 2.00 |
| 22nd July | Last day of term |

Our School Badge



You will, hopefully, recognise the rainbow on our school badge and understand how this relates to our school ethos and Rainbow Promise, but do you know the rest of the story?



Before we became a primary school, we had a slightly different badge, which was modelled on a scallop shell—this is the emblem for St James. James was a fisherman in Galilea and was one of Jesus' disciples. After Jesus' death, James travelled to northern Spain in order to spread the Good News. There are lots of stories, myths and legends that tie James and the scallop shell together—one of my favourites is that pilgrims use the scallop shells found in Northern Spain as markers to show the way. The scallop shell then, is linked to journeys, and, of course, children embark on a journey when they start school here, and we hope we can be the markers to guide them on their way. When we re-designed the school badge, we told children about the scallop shell and invited them to combine the shell with the rainbow, and through their work and ideas, and that of parents, we ended up with our current badge.

It reflects our Rainbow Promise and our 7 classes, the link to St James' and his shell (and our connection to our history as a school), the idea of the journey we are all on the cross reflects our Christian values at the centre of our school, with the bright light shining from it—the light of God's love shining for and within us all.



SUMMER HOLIDAY FOOTBALL CAMPS

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE AT: www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk

Starting from the 26th July until the 3rd September 2021, we will be running holiday soccer camps at a range of locations across Luton, Bedfordshire and North Hertfordshire (Camp details below). Each day from 10 am to 3 pm will be dedicated to training a specific technique, where the main objective is still to have fun – but, to improve individual technique performance. We'll be offering professional and fun technical training combined with speed, agility and quickness (SAQ) training for a full action-packed day.

FOR HOLIDAY CAMPS TECHNICAL FOOTBALL TRAINING FOR BOYS & GIRLS WHO ARE GOING INTO YEAR 6 LEAVING YEAR 5

SESSIONS RUN FROM 10AM - 3PM PRICING STARTS AT £10

| | WEEK 1 26 th - 30 th July | WEEK 2 2 nd - 6 th August | WEEK 3 9 th - 13 th August | WEEK 4 16 th - 20 th August | WEEK 5 23 rd - 27 th August | WEEK 6 3 rd August - 3 rd September |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| LUTON Ely Way Training Ground, LU4 9QN OK Training on Fridays | Luton | Luton | Luton | Luton | Luton | Luton |
| BEDFORD & KEMPSTON St John Rigby Catholic School, MK45 5DQ | Bedford | Bedford | Kempston | Wixams | Kempston | Bedford |
| HARPENDEN & WHEATHAMSTEAD Sir John Lawes School, AL5 5QP | Harpenden | Harpenden | Wheathampstead | Harpenden | Wheathampstead | Harpenden |
| DUNSTABLE & WOBURN Cressy Park Community Football Centre, LU8 9J3 | Dunstable | Dunstable | Woburn | Dunstable | Woburn | Dunstable |
| FITWICK The Rufus Centre, MK35 1AH | Fitwick | Fitwick | Fitwick | Fitwick | Fitwick | Fitwick |
| CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE | | Silsoe Silsoe Parish Council, MK35 5PQ | Biggleswade Edward Peake Middle School, SG18 1EJ | Leighton Buzzard Astral Park, LU7 4AY | Arlesey Arlesey Town FC, SG15 6RS | |

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT: www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk

FOR ANY QUERIES, CONTACT US VIA:
Phone: 01582 841822 and 07725 172345
Email: socceracademy@lutontown.co.uk



Sports Day 2021

Sports day will be different this year due to covid. It will be class based with each child in a coloured team, points will be awarded for the winning team of each event. All classes' points will be counted so we have a school team winner. Your child's teacher will send you a message to let you know what team colour your child is in. Unfortunately parents will not be allowed to spectate due to rules and regulations.

Class Sports Day Dates:

- Reception – Tuesday 13th July
- Year 1 – Tuesday 6th July
- Year 2 – Monday 5th July
- Year 3 – Thursday 8th July
- Year 4 - Wednesday 7th July
- Year 5 – Monday 12th July
- Year 6 – Thursday 15th July




Biddenham

International School & Sports College

Principal: Mr David Bailey Head of School: Ms Eleanor Grylls

June 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

RE: Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Summer School

We are delighted to announce that we will be running a 2-week transition summer school to take place from 26th until 30th July and 2nd until 6th August. This will involve a combination of both academic and enrichment activities, with the aim to better prepare students for the move to secondary school in light of the disruption they have encountered during the past year. Below I have tried to pre-empt some of your questions regarding the summer school.

What is summer school?

Summer school will be here at Biddenham for a two-week period at the start of the summer holidays. It will support students prepare for their move to secondary school and help them make up for learning lost during the pandemic. It will include a variety of both enrichment activities and academic catch-up in subjects such as Maths and English. All provided by the amazing staff at Biddenham.

Who will be able to attend summer school?

All Year 6 students joining Biddenham in September 2021 are eligible to attend. We feel this will best prepare this group of students for the move from Primary to Secondary education. It will help students make new friends, meet the staff here at Biddenham and familiarise themselves with the building. It's also an opportunity to fill any gaps in learning that may have occurred over the past year.

Is there a cost?

No. The summer school program is part of a £200 million investment from the government to help students who have been affected by the disruption of the pandemic. **Meals will also be provided, free of charge.**

Does my child have to attend?

Attendance to summer school is optional, but we strongly encourage students who are eligible to take up a place as it will help them with their new start in September.

What will the day look like?

The day will start at 9am and finish at 2pm. Students will take part in a variety of activities throughout the day, each approx. one hour long. As mentioned earlier, **lunch will be provided and a short breaktime in the morning.**

What do I have to wear?

Your own clothes are fine. Just be prepared to do some PE activities each day. So, trainers and sports suitable clothing is probably best. **A drinks bottle would also be a good idea, as it will hopefully be warm this summer.**

Staffing Update

Sadly, Sui Wong will be leaving us this week—her house sale has happened much more quickly than anticipated and she is relocating to Surrey. We are very grateful for all her hard work and support in keeping the school's finances in order and wish her every happiness in her new home.

Next week, Connor Gooch joins us to start his induction into St James', in readiness for his new role as Class Teacher from September. I know you will all join us in welcoming him into our school family.

How do I reserve a place?

Please click the following link that will take you to a short form. You do not need an Outlook account and the form can be accessed on Apple or Android devices as well as your home computer: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZAcxtUmehPac0KcQvqjUVvDTvcUzn5adxbanRL2lbo/edit>

Please reserve your place by Thursday 8th July.

We encourage your child to attend the summer school and reserve a place, so we can best prepare for the number of students expected to attend.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs A Speight
Head of Year 7