



St James Catholic Primary School Newsletter

28th September 2015

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"I have loved you with an everlasting love"
Jeremiah 31:3

RECEPTION: What a great week in reception. Everyone has settled really well and have all enjoyed staying for their dinner. This week we have had an incy wincy spider week and have enjoyed completing lots of activities involving spiders. They have completed some super writing tasks. We have started teaching phonics this week and we have learnt our first sounds s, a and t. You will find in your child's reading bag a letters and sounds booklet, they can complete the first three pages! Please help ensure your child is forming the letters correctly. In maths we have looked at numbers 1-4 and how to form the numeral. Next week we will be having a humpy dumpty themed week.

Just to remind you all the children will be staying full time next week and home time is 3:15. If you have any cereal boxes, washing up bottles, carrier bags etc that have familiar labels and signs that can be easily recognised then we would be very grateful if you could bring them in as we are setting up a supermarket next week. Have a great weekend.

YEAR 1: This week the children have worked very hard creating their own story called 'How to Catch a Butterfly', the children might even share their stories with you at home! Next week will be carrying on looking at how Neil Armstrong landed on the moon, the children were amazed when they watched the clip of the rocket launching and seeing him floating on the moon!

Next week, we have the Magic Carpet Theatre company visiting school on Thursday, a letter has been sent home about this. Please could we ask that the £1 donation be brought into school as soon as possible please! Have a lovely weekend!

YEAR 2: Next week we are looking at adding and subtracting in maths in lots of different ways with lots of exciting problems. In literacy we are looking at diary recounts, which will eventually link to the Great Fire of London. In RE we are thinking about Moses as a baby and why he was chosen. We are going to do some art work linked to this too.

Have a great weekend.

YEAR 3: This week we have had another good week in school, completing our stories about a wishing tale. Children have been practising starting sentences using adverbs and also writing speech. Next week we will move to some non-fiction writing, aiming to write instructions of how to trap a troll! We have started looking more in depth at our 'Beneath our feet topic' and have begun to think about Hodbarrow. Next week, hopefully on Wednesday (weather depending) we will be taking a walk down to Hodbarrow to look at the area. Please ensure you return the local visit consent forms to school as this will cover this walk. We will remind you of this early next week.

Please could children bring in any baptismal / christening photos that we could look at on Monday and Tuesday. Many Thanks.

YEAR 4: Another great week in Y4! The children have really got to grips with rounding numbers to 10, 100 and 1000 and in English, they have planned and begun to write, their letters to Charlie Lupton. This coming week, we will be learning about Roman Numerals in Maths and thinking about making numbers. In English, we will be writing, editing and making a final draft of our letters. Toward the end of the week, we will be moving onto some story writing.

On Tuesday, we will be going across to Mass so it would be great if you could join us. In RE we will be reading the story about Joseph and his brothers. Our topic work is really starting to get going and this week we will be thinking about the Blitz and what people did to try and keep themselves safe. Have a great weekend!

YEAR 5: It has been a lovely week in Year 5. We have been looking at story openings in literacy and the children have written some fantastic story setting descriptions. On Thursday afternoon, Key Stage 2 had the pleasure of watching the BAE Roadshow and I am pleased to say that everyone enjoyed themselves.

As of next week I will be holding a homework session during Tuesday lunchtimes for any children in Year 5 who have found the week's homework challenging. If your child is struggling with their homework, please encourage them not to leave it, but to come along and get the help they need ready for it to be handed in on Wednesday. I hope you all have a great weekend!

YEAR 6: We had a fabulous trip to Lancaster Castle this week; our tour guide was excellent and really brought the history of the castle to life for the children. We have also enjoyed a thrilling science show brought to us by BAE this week.

In maths we have learnt how to reflect shapes in the x and y axis, translate shapes and give the co-ordinates of missing vertices. Next week we will be using rulers and protractors to draw shapes accurately. Any practise with using a protractor at home would be very much appreciated, as the children always find this rather tricky! In Literacy, we have continued to write news reports; the children are becoming excellent journalists!

A few children have said that they struggled with their homework this week. Can I remind parents that the children can always ask one of the adults in class for help on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. We are always happy to help!

A NOTE FROM MRS NICHOLAS (PLEASE READ THIS SECTION AS ALL SCHOOL INFORMATION IS IN HERE)

What's been happening?: Year 6 had a brilliant trip to Lancaster Castle on Tuesday to support their topic on Crime and Punishment. The children heard all about the trials which were held at Lancaster and about the way in which people were punished. There was also a mock civil court case to decide who had rights to a football! Definitely a place worth visiting. Year 3 had their Mass on Tuesday at 9.30am, thanks to all who joined us. On Wednesday we had a visit from BAE Systems who held a science roadshow for KS2 children. Everyone really enjoyed the show and we thank BAE Systems staff for bringing the experience to us. On Thursday Karen Hirst, our school nurse held a drop in session for parents. Please do feel free to call down when she has her next session as she is able to answer any queries concerning your child's health.

This week: On Tuesday year 4 have their class Mass at 9.30am in Church, please do come and join us if you possibly can. On Tuesday evening our Parents Guild has their start of year Annual General Meeting at 6pm in year 4 classroom. Please, please do come along to this if you possibly can as the guild is a very important part of our school life. On Thursday 1st October, The Magic Carpet Theatre Company are coming to perform 'Moon Magic' a space adventure for the whole school. We would like to ask for a donation of £1 per child towards the cost of this brilliant production please. On Friday 2nd October we have our Harvest Fast Day, details of this will be sent out shortly. Year 5 and 6 will be visiting Millom School for the REACT Science show. Reception Class will be having their class photograph taken on Friday for the Evening Mail's 'First Class' special edition.

Advance information for this Half Term: On Tuesday 6th October, year 5 will be going on a trip to Liverpool Maritime Museum, further details will be sent home shortly. Year 6 will have their class Mass at 9.30am in Church. There will be no Assembly on Friday 9th October as we will be having our Open Afternoon for parents who are thinking of sending their children to our school in September 2016.

Year 5 have their class Mass on Tuesday 13th October at 9.30am. We break up for half term on Friday 23rd October at 3.15pm.

Martin's After School Clubs: Due to Martin being ill we have postponed the start dates of the football clubs which were due to start on Tuesday and Friday this week. We will advise you of the new start dates once Martin has returned to work.

Future Newsletters: We are now producing our newsletter electronically, which will be e-mailed to you if you have supplied us with an up to date email address. The newsletter will be published on the school website www.stjamesrc.cumbria.sch.uk and a link to this will also appear on our school Facebook page.

School Meals: From Monday 14th Orian changed to an online system for ordering and paying for school meals. The new system has been received very well by both parents and children. Parents have found the site easy to use and children think the system in the hall is brilliant! The website is www.lunchshop.co.uk and log in details have been issued to parents for each child. It is important that you go on the site and order your child's lunch before 9.30am on the day the meal is to be taken; this applies even if you are in receipt of free school meals or your child receives the universal free school meals. We will not be accepting payments for meals from 14th September, any meals owed for the first week have now been placed as arrears on the accounts.

Facebook site: We have launched our new Facebook page, which we hope to use to let you know about things in the future. Please have a look and 'like' the page! Please check the page regularly in case our posts don't show up on your newsfeed.

IMPORTANT! Parents Guild: We have been very lucky these last few years in having a very pro-active Parents Guild, who have worked hard to put on discos, fun days and other events to raise much needed funds for our school. The Guild have paid for school trips and equipment for our Breakfast Club, ICT and for the classrooms. Without their efforts we would be without so many lovely things that the children use on a daily basis. Our Parents Guild are having their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 29th September at 6pm in school, they are looking to form a new committee and would also like some new people to come and join them as helpers even if they don't want to take up positions on the committee. Please could all parents make an effort to come to the meeting and see if they can help out in any way – the work they do does directly benefit your children. Thank you.

Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents: We are having an **OPEN AFTERNOON** on **Friday 9th October** at 2pm for parents who are thinking of sending their children to St James' in September 2016. If you have or know of anyone who has a child who will be **4 years old before 31st August 2016**, please tell them about our afternoon.

Cycling to School: If children come to school on their bikes, please can you make sure they wear a helmet for their safety. Thank you.

Important! - SCHOOL TIMES: Just to remind you that children are not to be sent into school before 8.45am, after which there will be a member of staff in the playground and the teachers from Reception and year 1 will be in class ready to supervise them.

Our school day ends at 3.15pm unless your child is staying to an afterschool club. Please arrange to collect children from school promptly at the end of the day. Staff often have to attend meetings and training after school and it does cause problems if children are not picked up on time. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and enjoy the nice weather which is forecast once again!