



# St James the Great Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter

[www.stjamesthegreat.southwark.sch.uk](http://www.stjamesthegreat.southwark.sch.uk)

*"Doing our best for God, for others and for ourselves"*

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel, we return to the beginning of Jesus' mission. The humble witness of John the Baptist gave people a sense that something exciting was about to happen.

John the Baptist is one of the best known saints. He never pushed himself forward. He encouraged his own followers to leave him and become followers of Jesus. His life witnessed to the truth about Jesus and, because of him, many people came to know and follow Jesus.

A word from the Saints - "Example makes a much greater impression on the mind and heart than just words." St John Baptist de la Salle



### Upcoming Events

#### Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Nursery - visit to the library

Year 4 - Cricket

Year 5&6 - Homework Club

#### Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January.

Year 6 - PARENTS MEETING

ISLE OF WIGHT TRIP

Year 3&4 - Homework Club

Year 6 - Mandarin Club

#### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

EYFS Open Day

#### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

PARENTS EVENING

### Catholic Social Teaching Principle

#### 'Common Good'

Loving God,  
You call us to look beyond our own  
interests to what is good for all  
people.

May we work towards a world  
where everyone has their fair share  
in order to live life to the full.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

#### Virtue

#### 'Friendship'

I am friendly and show my friends  
love.  
I want the best for my friends.

*"Two are better than one, because  
they have good return for their  
labour. If either of them fall down,  
one can help the other up. But pity  
anyone who falls and has no one  
to help them up."*  
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

### THIS WEEK AT SCHOOL



Parent session for our Nursery class,  
focused on the positive impact that  
reading has on developing children's  
communication and early reading skills.

Parents also had the opportunity to take  
home wonderful "BookTrust" resources to  
enjoy and share with their child at home.



### Story telling for our Year 5 & Reception



# STORY TIME



### SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>  
January

EYFS Open Morning  
from 9.10am to 10am

If you know of friends or  
neighbours who are  
looking for a Reception  
or Nursery place

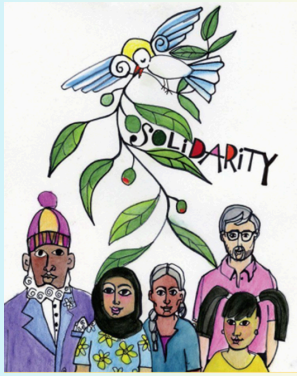
PLEASE TELL THEM  
ABOUT US!

ISLE OF WIGHT TRIP  
YEAR 6

PARENTS MEETING  
AT

9AM ON TUESDAY  
20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026

SCHOOL MAIN HALL



**Virtue we live by  
FRIENDSHIP  
I AM A GOOD FRIEND**



**when**

I am friendly.

I treat others as I want to be treated.

I show an interest in others.

I ask people about themselves.

I say kind and loving words.

I show my friends love.

I share my time and things with others.

I help my friend when they are in need.

I do little things for others that make them happy.

I forgive my friend.

**We believe in 'Common Good'  
Focus of Year 2**

The Common Good means that the fruits of the earth belong to everyone.

No one should be excluded from the gifts of creation.

"You are not making a gift of your possession to the poor person.

You are handing over to them what is theirs."

Saint Ambrose (340-397 AD)

**Citizens Advice Support at Rye Oak**

We are pleased to share that a new Citizens Advice session has started at Rye Oak, running every Wednesday morning from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Families can also access remote advice and guidance if they are unable to attend in person.

This service is part of the Family Financial Resilience Partnership (FFRP), a Greater London Authority-funded programme that supports low-income families with children by providing free, high-quality social welfare advice to help ensure household income meets everyday needs.

An adviser from Citizens Advice Southwark will be available to support families registered with Southwark's Best Start Family Hubs. Advisers will take a holistic approach, offering help on the day where possible, arranging follow-up appointments, or referring families to specialist services if needed. Support may include advice on maximising income and addressing wider issues such as immigration, employment, childcare support and housing.

We are currently awaiting promotional materials, which we will share with families as soon as they arrive. In the meantime, families can contact Gabriel Crozier -

[gabrielcrozier@citizensadviceSouthwark.org.uk](mailto:gabrielcrozier@citizensadviceSouthwark.org.uk) - or email directly [childrenscentre@ivydale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:childrenscentre@ivydale.southwark.sch.uk) for more information.

**STUBBERS TRIP**

**YEAR 4**

Gentle reminder to please come see us in the office to settle any outstanding payments as soon as possible!



**PE & SWIMMING**

PE and swimming lessons are part of the National curriculum and are both fundamental for your child's development!

Please parents and carers, we kindly ask that you make sure your child has everything he/she needs to participate in the lesson!

**PE KIT - THURSDAYS (YR 1 TO YR6)**

White plain t-shirt, black joggers, black plimsolls (Yr1 to Yr4) / black trainers (Yr5 & Yr6)

**SWIM KIT - FRIDAYS (YR3&4)**

One-piece swimsuit for girls, swim trunks for boys, swim cap & towel

**ON FRIDAYS BRASS LESSON FOR OUR YR 5 & 6 PUPILS**

Please remember to bring your instruments

**PAYMENTS**

Please note that payments for items such as uniform, breakfast club, nursery fees, family fund, trips etc. can now be made by card at the school's office!

**Gentle Reminder**

Please note that the school gate opens at 8:40am, and children should not be left unsupervised outside the school before this time.

We would also like to remind families that our Breakfast Club is available from 7:50am for those who require it; please ensure you book a place in advance.

With the colder weather, we also kindly ask parents to make sure children arrive dressed warmly.

**PARENTS EVENING**

**TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY**

**MORE INFO TO FOLLOW IN THE COMING WEEKS**

**St James the Great Award**

**'Maths'**

Year 1 - Emma & Lisa  
Year 2 - Bukola & Kehinde  
Year 3 - Mason & Hesed  
Year 4 - Emily & Matthew  
Year 5 - Raffaele & Adeola  
Year 6 - Gina & Kingston

**Catholic Social Teaching Principal**

**'Common Good'**

Year 1 - Daniela  
Year 2 - Noel M  
Year 3 - Brianatu  
Year 4 - Amilia  
Year 5 - Hannah  
Year 6 - Millie

**'Reading Buddies'**

Year 6 - Eghosa & Jaiden

**Well done Everyone!  
St James the Great, Pray for us.**