



St James the Great Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

www.stjamesthegreat.southwark.sch.uk

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

Friday 30th January 2026



Out of His great love for us, God created us to be happy with Him forever.

The blessings in this Sunday's Gospel, which promise true, lasting happiness, are taken from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and are known as the Beatitudes.

To be gentle and to mourn means to share the sorrows of other and help them. To hunger and thirst for what is right, and to prepare to be persecuted for it, needs courage and good judgement. 'Meek' really mean un-pompous, genuine. The merciful don't insist on their rights, but have strength to see the point of view of others and to think of the needs of others as well as their own needs.

A word from the Saints - "Whoever possesses God is happy!" St Augustine

Upcoming Events

Monday 2nd February

Nursery - visit to the library

Year 4 - Cricket

Year 5&6 - Homework Club

Tuesday 3rd February

PARENTS EVENING

Reception - Brunswick Park walk

Year 3&4 - Homework Club

Year 6 - Mandarin Club

Wednesday 4th February

Year 2 - South London Gallery

Saturday 7th February

AT ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH

ALTAR SERVER PRACTICE 2PM

REGULAR & NEW SERVERS

THIS WEEK AT SCHOOL

Year 6 went to visit the Tower of London on Monday for their History topic 'Crime and Punishment'. They explored the Tower with their very own historical guide, investigating historical graffiti from prisoners throughout time and discovering who was imprisoned within the tower's walls. They even managed to witness the Crown Jewels!



A message from

Bridget Phillipson - Secretary of State for Education

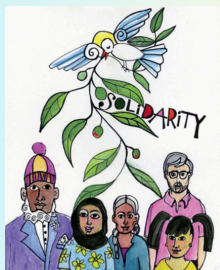
Dear Denis,

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at St James the Great Roman Catholic Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.



Virtue we live by I LOVE MY NEIGHBOUR

when

I treat others as I want to be treated.
I say kind and loving things.
I share my things with others.
I do little things for others that make them happy.
I show affection.
I notice when someone needs my help.
I show care by listening to others.
I help people and animals in need.

We believe in 'Solidarity' - Focus of Year 3

Solidarity arises when we remember that we belong to each other.

We reflect on this in a special way at Mass.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The Eucharist commits us to the poor."

To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognise Christ in the poorest."

Solidarity spurs us to stand side by side with our sisters and brothers, especially those living in poverty.



STORYTIME

RECEPTION
&
Year 5

Performing poems and listening to a story.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

If you are in Years 5 or 6 and have received your First Holy Communion please consider joining. New members very welcome!



Our parish - St James the Great Church

Altar Servers Practice
Regular and new servers
Saturday 7th February at 2pm

TUESDAY 3RD
FEBRUARY

Don't forget parents evening!



Digital Webinar
Sun, Earth & Moon



On Tuesday Year 5 took part in a zoom session with the Greenwich Observatory. The children engaged with the session learning more about the Earth, Sun and Moon from astronomers.

St James the Great Award

'PE'

Year 1 - Xavier & Eliab
Year 2 - Harry & Soliyana
Year 3 - Keira & Santiago
Year 4 - Larelle & Elnathan
Year 5 - Adeola & Hope
Year 6 - Faridah & Eghosa

Catholic Social Teaching
Principal

'Solidarity'

Year 1 - Esther
Year 2 - Latefaat
Year 3 - Sariyah
Year 4 - Larelle
Year 5 - Sultan
Year 6 - Husafiata

'Register Monitors'

Year 6 - Inaaya & Husafiata

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

Catholic Social Teaching Principle 'Solidarity'

Loving God,

Help us to see the suffering of others and build up a world of love and solidarity.

As we go about our day and strive to walk with Jesus as people in solidarity, may we be reminded that we are the love of Christ, who is with us always.

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Virtue
'Love of neighbour'

I know that loving my neighbour means loving EVERYONE.

I show my compassion when I am patient, understanding and loving to my neighbour.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is: You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

Matthew 22:33-39