

St James the Great Catholic Primary School Newsletter

www.stjamesthegreat.southwark.sch.uk

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

Friday 13th March 2026

The
Season
of
Lent



In this Sunday's Gospel we read about how Jesus brought healing and light into the life of the man who was born blind. The man could then see the world around him, but the most important thing he saw was who Jesus really was - the Son of God.

Difficulties, worries and sickness can sometimes be part of our lives. Yet, when we believe in Jesus and we pray and look carefully, we can often learn something about the world and ourselves, and about how Jesus is always there for us.

A word from the Saints: "Prayer is certainly the most wonderful medicine in the world." St Hyacinth

Upcoming Events

Monday 16th March

Nursery - Library

Year 5 - Science Museum

Year 5&6 - Homework club

Year 4 - **STUBBERS BAGS TO BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL**

Tuesday 17th March

Year 3&4 - Homework club

Wednesday 18th March

Year 4 - Stubbers

Thursday 19th March

Year 3 - "Bring & Buy Sale"

From 3:15pm to 3:45pm

Friday 20th March

NURSERY OPEN DAY

Year 4 - RETURNING FROM

STUBBERS 3PM

Sunday 15th March

Mother's Day

10am Mass Nursery &

Reception please join us!

Catholic Social Teaching Principle
'Dignity of Work'

Loving God,

We give thanks for our talents.

May all people have the chance to participate in the decisions that impact their own lives and in creating a just and peaceful society.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Virtue

'Reflection'

I take time to think about the beauty and goodness in myself, others and God's world.

I reflect to see myself as God sees me.

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"
Romans 8:31

STATION PRAYER

We adore You O Christ and
we bless You.

Because by Your Holy Cross
You have redeemed the world.

I love you Jesus,
My love above all things.
I repent with my whole heart
For ever having offended You.
Never permit me to separate
myself from You again.

Grant that I may love You
always and then do with me
what You will.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Come and see our beautiful displays in the main hall!

Well done everyone!



St James' Superband at Dulwich College

Our Superband was invited to a brass
workshop day with the London
Symphony Orchestra last Friday!





Year 2 enjoyed an exciting trip to Tower Bridge on Wednesday.

The children had the opportunity to walk across the famous glass platform, giving them a thrilling view of the river and the city below. It was a fantastic experience and a memorable part of their visit!



HOT CROSS BUNS

Hot cross buns, traditionally eaten on Good Friday, hold religious significance.

The Cross: the cross on top of the bun is a direct representation of the cross on which Jesus was crucified.

Spices: The spices used in the buns, like cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves, are believed to represent the spices used to embalm Jesus' body.

Raisins: The raisins embedded in the bun represent the body of Christ in the tomb.

Yeast: the yeast represents the risen Christ.



Virtue we live by
REFLECTION

**I SHOW REFLECTION
when**

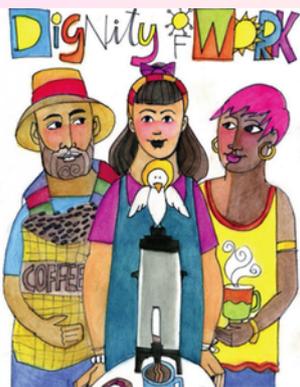
I can sit quietly and think.

I can be still.

I can reflect on the beauty of God's world and creation.

I can reflect on my achievements and what I have done well.

I can reflect on the good choices I have made.



Focus of Year 6

We believe in - 'Dignity of Work'

The dignity of work has been a key principle of Catholic social teaching from the very beginning.

In 1891, Pope Leo XIII issued Rerum Novarum (On Capital and Labour). He shone a light on the injustice and exploitation of workers by the rich during the Industrial Revolution.

He advocated for workers to join forces and fight against inhuman conditions.

Since then, Church teaching has upheld the dignity of work and participation. The human person should always come before the pursuit of profit. Workers have the right to join trade unions, to a just wage, to spend time with their families and to rest. Work is an essential part of our human dignity and everyone has the right to participate.



More from the World Book Day Parade!





Reception



Sunday 15th March

Mother's Day
10am Mass
at St James the Great
Church

Nursery & Reception please
join us!



Reception Class visit to Peckham Fire Station

During Lent, each class is taking part in a special activity linked to their Catholic Social Teaching focus, helping our pupils reflect on how they can support and care for others, for example:

Year 3 will be holding a 'Bring and Sale' on Thursday.

Year 4 will be selling raffle tickets next week. Please ensure children bring some pocket money to school if they wish to take part.

Year 6 will be running workshops each day during lunchtime.

£1 YEAR 6 £1

Lunchtime Workshops Next Week! Spaces limited to 20 per session, so sign up today!

Have you ever wanted to learn a new skill? Why don't you try your hand at one of these activities led by the members of Year 6:

- **Space club:** learn more about the universe: planets, stars and more! - Year 6 classroom, Monday 16th March, lunchtime.
- **Investigation:** try your hand at some detective skills can you crack the case? - Year 6 classroom, Tuesday 17th March, lunchtime.
- **Football skills:** work on your passing, shooting and dribbling techniques - Playground, Wednesday 18th March, lunchtime.
- **Dance:** try a new routine taught by some of our finest dancers - Upper hall, Wednesday 18th March, lunchtime.
- **Scratch Programming:** have you ever wanted to build your own interactive animation? - Year 6 classroom, Thursday 19th March, lunchtime.
- **Art club:** use your skills to create a chromatic still life image - Year 6 classroom, Friday lunchtime.

Cost for each session: £1 for our Lent Fundraiser for our Catholic Social Teaching focus-Dignity of Work and Participation. Year 6 will be signing children up on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th March.

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

These activities are a wonderful way for the children to live out the values of Lent by showing generosity, kindness and service to others.

St James the Great Award

'Writing'

- Year 1 - Daniella & David
- Year 2 - Kehinde & Ahnilah - Lea
- Year 3 - Briana & Mason
- Year 4 - Christodia & Keira
- Year 5 - Aryanna & Joseph
- Year 6 - Timi & Joseph

Catholic Social Teaching Principal
'Dignity of Work'

- Year 1 - Daphne
- Year 2 - Minahil
- Year 3 - Alayna
- Year 4 - Praise - Angel
- Year 5 - Yemariam
- Year 6 - Elmer

Pupil Leaders
'Lunchtime Helpers'

Year 6 - Jasmine & Sanpha

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

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

EASTER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2026
FOR 10-18 AND 19-25 YEAR OLD PEOPLE PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION

Submission Date: 1st May 2026

Categories

- 1) Photograph of an Easter Paschal Candle with appropriate bible verse about the Candle that best represents the scene in 2026. Photos 100
- 2) Photograph of a Station of the Cross with appropriate bible verse that best represents the scene seen in your Photo. There are some beautiful images, some are painted, others are carved. They are there to remind Catholics and Protestants, Traditional or Modern, of the same beautiful.
- 3) To be original and different and try to capture the best image possible of your subject, so that we can appreciate it. Take a during the day OR at night. Use your own or Parents or siblings Phone, OR Camera, but ensure you get a good image. Submit on Print or by the phone.
- 4) Submit on Print or Print file in folder OR as attached file please.
- 5) Submit Word Document with Title embedded in all images.

State the name of the Church/Catholic used in location.
State School Name/Parish/Parish Group for Submission.
State Date Photo was taken.
Name of Photos used in Names of Digital Camera used.



We are pleased to share that the Knights of St Columba are once again running their Easter competitions for young people in 2026

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA
Building on the Foundation for our 9 Years

ANNOUNCING OF ST COLUMBA NATIONAL EASTER PHASAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2026

The Easter Paschal Candle Photo Competition is launched in October 2025. However, entries must be in print or email before 1st May 2026.

The competition is open to young people:
1) 10-18 year olds (10-18 years of age)
2) 19-25 year olds (19-25 years of age)

Notes: The subject Year 10 onwards will be the entire competition Section.

ENTRY GUIDES

- 1) The entries should depict a scene of the exterior of an incident involving your Photo during the night through the Easter Season.
- 2) Write Bible chapter and Verse that best relates to your drawing. The competition entries will be their own free hand and capturing emotions. The use of pre-printed templates is to be discouraged.

The entries should be submitted along A4 or A3, on paper or card of a quality level of the entries choice.

The Bible Chapter and Verse can be written on the painting, on the reverse or on a separate sheet.

The drawings should be shown LEGIBLY in full on the reverse of the photo. THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT.

State name of Church/Catholic used in location.
State Date Photo was taken.
Name of Photos used in Names of Digital Camera used.

Children can take part in two different categories:
Photography Competition - capturing an image of an Easter Paschal Candle or a Station of the Cross, with a Bible verse that reflects the scene.
Easter Painting Competition - open to pupils in Years 3-6, where children create their own artwork inspired by an event from Palm Sunday through the Easter season, also including a related Bible verse.
This is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to express their creativity while reflecting on the meaning of Easter.
Submission deadline: 1st May 2026