



St James the Great Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

www.stjamesthegreat.southwark.sch.uk

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

Friday 16th October 2026



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus' enemies are plotting his downfall and try to trick him with devious questions about paying taxes.

If Jesus says they should pay, it means that he accepts the Roman Emperor, and not God, as his ultimate boss. If he says they shouldn't pay, he can be attacked for being disloyal to the Roman Empire. But then Jesus follows up with the real clincher: 'Pay to the Emperor what is due to the Emperor and pay to God what is due to God!'

St Teresa of Avila - "In all created things recognise the care and wisdom of God, and give him thanks."

Upcoming Events

Monday 19th October

Nursery - Library

Wednesday 21st October

Year 3 - Science Museum

EYFS & Y5 - Story Telling

Session

PECKHAM CITIZENS PARENTS

SESSION - ANNEX

Thursday 22nd October

Year 6 - Southwark Junior

Citizenship Scheme

Friday 23rd October

Flu Immunisation

LAST DAY OF TERM

SCHOOL WILL RESUME

MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

After School Activities

THURSDAYS

Year 3 - Multisports Club

LAST SESSION THU 22ND OCT

THIS WEEK AT SCHOOL

Prayers for Pope Leo XIV

We ask our school community to keep Pope Leo XIV in their thoughts and prayers following his recent cancer diagnosis and surgery. We pray that God grants him strength, comfort and a full recovery during this difficult time.

May he feel the love and prayers of Catholics around the world as he continues his journey towards healing.



THE MANNA SOCIETY

HELPING WITH THE HARVEST

As we do every year, our school community will once again be supporting The Manna Centre, a charity based near London Bridge that provides food, clothing, showers and essential support to homeless and vulnerable people.

From Monday 19th October, we kindly ask families to bring in donations of non-perishable food items, such as tins, pasta, rice, cereals and other cupboard essentials. Your generosity makes a real difference to those in need, and we are always grateful for the kindness and support shown by our school community.

Thank you for helping us make this year's Harvest Collection another success!



Next Wednesday will be our final opportunity this October to come together in prayer. We warmly invite all parents and carers to join us at 3.25pm by the school playground entrance to recite one decade of the Holy Rosary, as the children line up for collection.

Together, we will continue to pray for peace around the world.

We hope you can join us!



LAST DAY OF THIS HALF TERM IS
NEXT FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER
PICK UP AT 3.30PM

SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR
ONE WEEK.

BACK TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY
2ND NOVEMBER

Catholic Social Teaching Principal

'Dignity'

Loving God,
We believe that every person is
created in your image and that all
life is sacred.

May we work to end poverty and
injustice so all people can live life
in dignity.

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Virtue
'Prayer'

I grow in friendship with God
through prayer.

*"Then you will call on me and
come and pray to me, and I will
listen to you."*

Jeremiah 29:12



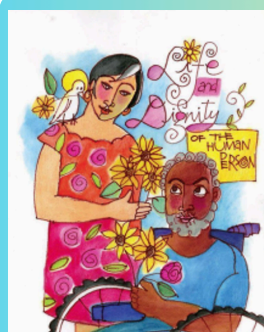
NURSERY

STORY TELLING SESSION WITH ANNE



NURSERY

KELLY AVENUE PARK



Virtue we live by
PRAYER
I AM PRAYFUL
when

I spend time with God.
I listen to God.
I rest in His presence.
I tell God I love Him.
I grow in friendship with God.
I pray from the heart.

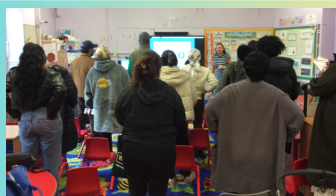
We believe in 'Dignity'

We believe every human person is made in the image and likeness of God.

This is a gift that we all share as fellow human beings; we are all infinitely loved by our Creator.

God is present in every human person, regardless of religion, culture, nationality, orientation or economic standing.

Each one of us is unique and beautiful. We are called to treat every person and every creature with loving respect.



Phonics

It was lovely to see so many parents attending our Reception phonics session! Parents joined in with the ABC chant, which the children enjoy before every phonics lesson, and had the opportunity to observe phonics teaching in action. They also received some helpful tips on how to support their children's reading and learning at home.

Thank you to all the parents who came along and took part!



Thank You to Our Parents and Carers!

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended Parents' Evening this week. We really appreciate your time, support and continued involvement in your children's learning.



so proud
of
You

Well done Ms Jayawardhana for receiving on behalf of the 'Design & Technology Association', the Royal Ballet and Opera Schools Create and Design Excellence Award For Outstanding Primary Subject Leadership last Friday.

'Lil Jayawardhana has transformed design and technology at St James the Great Catholic Primary School and across her Federation creating an ambitious, inclusive and highly valued curriculum that inspires both pupils and teachers.

Through exceptional subject leadership, Lil has developed clear progression in knowledge skills and vocabulary, while ensuring learning is purposeful, created and connected to real life. Her practical approach to staff development has significantly increased teacher confidence, enabling colleges to teach D&T with greater expertise and ambition.

Her impact on pupils is equally powerful. Developing technical knowledge, problem solving skills, resilience and pride in their work. Her inclusive practice ensures pupils with SEND and additional needs can experience genuine success as designers and makers.

Beyond her school, Lil leads professional development across Southwark, sharing best practice through the borough's growing D&T network. Her strategic and generous leadership has raised the profile of D&T, empowered teachers and inspired a new generation of confident, creative designers and problem-solvers.'

St James the Great Award

Academic
'Writing'

Catholic Social Teaching Principal
'Dignity'

Year 1 - Joanna & Darasimi
Year 2 - David & Sophie
Year 3 - Noel M & Eilaf
Year 4 - James & Miah
Year 5 - Eliana & Chidebem
Year 6 - Hope & Marcel

Year 1 - Felipe
Year 2 - Daniel
Year 3 - Kehinde
Year 4 - Hesed
Year 5 - Maria
Year 6 - Anthony

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