

The week ahead @ Saint James

“Be strong and courageous and do it!” 1 Chronicles 28:20

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Friday 8th March

Issue 99

Wed 13 th March	Fri 15 th March	Wed 6 th March	Mon 25 th March	Thur 28 th March
SENCo surgery (please pre-book)	Red Nose Day – non uniform	Easter Church service for Year 5 and 6	Year 3 Music concert	Last day of the Spring term

Please note: there will be no Night Owls after school provision on the last day of term Thursday 28th March

A message from the Senior Leadership team

What a week it's been! We enjoyed seeing so many parents into school for book look on Monday, before waving our Year 3 children off on a hugely successful trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace on Tuesday. On Wednesday we saw the first of our Parents' Consultation evenings and the opportunity to share with you the progress your child has been making this year.

By the time Thursday arrived, we were welcoming anyone into our school: from the BFG to Harry Potter, Gangsta Granny to Dog man, all came to celebrate in World Book Day with us! It was a pleasure to walk around the school and watch the children sharing and immersed in books. However, we do hope it wasn't too disconcerting to be faced with a friendly crocodile, a racing driver or a Mr Men character (to name but a few) if you attended Parents' Evening on Thursday!

It might seem like a long week, but Year 3 appear to have started it in 75 AD!

The children in Year 3 must have been extremely puzzled on Tuesday. Why was it that, when they were supposed to be visiting the site of a Roman villa, the coach turned into, what appeared to be, a 1960s housing estate? However, their perplexed faces were short-lived as it soon became apparent that the historic site was situated in the middle of these far more modern houses.

We are truly fortunate that Fishbourne Roman Palace, the largest known Roman residence north of the Alps, is a mere 30 miles away and a short journey down the M27. Although no longer standing, like a contemporary palace, the children were amazed at how beautifully preserved some of the features were, especially some of the ornate mosaics. This was all the more remarkably when they heard that it dated from 75 AD (75 years after the birth of Jesus) and only 30 years after the Roman conquest of Britain!

The children learned that the desire for home improvements and updates is not a modern concept, as the Romans made extensive alterations to Fishbourne Palace over time. In fact, alterations were in progress in 270 AD when the palace burned down and was eventually abandoned.

As well as being transported back nearly 2000 years by just being on the site, the children participated in a number of activities that the Roman residents would have. With the exception of a couple of lucky children who had the opportunity to dress like the owners of such a significant residence, the rest of the children got to dress as slaves and attempt some of the tasks that would have been required of them. This included writing on tablets (not ipads, but some made from wax that were used frequently during Roman times) and cleaning the kitchen (a useful fact to know, considering it is Mothers' Day this weekend)! As well as inscribing on waxen tablets, the children tried their hand at mosaic-making (the palace included as many as 50 excellent mosaic floors as well as under-floor central heating and an integral bathhouse).

For the duration of this fascinating and revealing day, the children's behaviour was a credit to Saint James Primary School. Other visitors even commended the Year 3 staff on this. We're sure the children enjoyed learning about life in Roman times, although we're convinced very few would swap places with a Roman slave!

Collective Worship



This week's theme:

Caring for our planet

This week's bible story:

In the Garden of Eden

Genesis 2:4-15



Our Year 2 Titanic trip was certainly no disaster

As many of you are undoubtedly aware, the city of Southampton and its people share many links with the RMS Titanic and her ill-fated maiden voyage. However, there is also one specific act of heroism related to the devastating maritime disaster that links it explicitly to West End. Captain Rostron of the RMS Carpathia risked his crew, cargo and ship as he raced through ice-fields to rescue survivors of the tragic ship. Whilst it is difficult to find positives in a disaster that claimed the lives of 1517 men, women and children, this total would be even higher if the crew of the Carpathia hadn't been able to pluck 705 souls from the freezing waters of the North Atlantic ocean. Rostron was a resident of West End up to his death in 1940 and is buried in the churchyard of St James church.

With this meaningful link in mind, the Year 2 pupils began their, rather eventful, journey to the Sea City Museum on Thursday 21st February. Whilst their journey didn't suffer an untimely end at the hands of a sizable iceberg, it was impacted by the closure of the M27 and the resulting traffic chaos. Upon their arrival (thankfully not too long after the museum opened at 10am) the children dropped their bags in the Grand Hall, before beginning their journey of discovery.

Although they may have already been aware of the main protagonists in the Titanic disaster, such as Captain Smith and Captain Rostron, the events that occurred leading up to the fateful night on April 15th 1912 were brought to life through the hidden stories of less well-known individuals on board. These contrasting accounts varied between passengers in different classes, as well as crew members of different rank and position.

Following on from their immersion in the varied experiences of travellers on RMS Titanic, the children had the opportunity to enhance their learning through dressing up in period costumes and engaging in hands-on activities that would have been performed on board.

Whilst others were investigating the museum, the children took turns to visit workshops to help them understand what the historic ship was like and why it met such an unfortunate fate. This included conducting scientific experiments to investigate the reason for the sinking, even with the different watertight compartments and bulkheads. They also had the opportunity to experience a number of fragrances designed to replicate the smells of different areas of the Titanic including the boiler room and first-class dining room.

After a busy morning, it was time for lunch. Although the delicacies offered for lunch on the Titanic's final day; Fillets of Brill, Egg a l'Argenteuil, potted shrimps, soused herrings and apple meringue (to name but a few) were not on offer, the children still heartily attacked their packed lunches.

The time after lunch was spent consolidating the morning's learning by exploring the exhibition and engaging with the interactive activities on display throughout the museum.

A fantastic day was enjoyed by all, and the children returned to school, with their learning about the Titanic enriched through the day's experiences. We were extremely impressed with the behaviour throughout the day and the museum guides even commented to teachers what a delightful group they were to work with. Well done Year 2!



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Comic Relief Day 2024

One of the roles of our Christian values team is to consider charities that we will be helping each year and plan fundraising events to support these. With the sponsorship of Prince and Ineza, our children in Rwanda, most of our fundraising efforts will go towards their provision each month. However, our Christian values team have decided that we should still support some nationally recognised charity days, such as Comic Relief.

Comic Relief recognises that the impact of poverty and conflict continues to be felt worldwide and that support is needed more than ever to help those in need. Considering poverty and those most in need, our Children's Christian Values team have decided to make donations to Comic Relief two-fold. As well as monetary donations, which can be made directly to the charity via our link;

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=14192>,

the children have decided that we can also make a difference to those most in need in our local community. Therefore, they have decided that children may **bring tinned or packet goods** to school on Friday 15th March, to donate to our local foodbank at King's Community Church.

We are intending Comic Relief Day to be a non-uniform day based around the colour red, children may choose to wear items of clothing, hair accessories or face paints to reflect the red theme. There is no expectation to make a donation for this day, however feel assured that any contributions will be gratefully received and will benefit a very worthwhile cause.



World Book Day 2024



With its largely 1970s architecture, Saint James Primary School doesn't have the gothic presence of Hogwarts, although judging by the number of cloaks and wands on view yesterday, it probably has most of its pupils! With a diversity of characters as wide as the range of books in our library, it was great to see so many interesting and imaginative costumes on display – some children (and staff) were barely recognisable!

Our Thursday Collective Worship is usually led by either Reverend Vicky or Reverend Linda and this week it was no different. However, after the candles were lit and the opening liturgy was shared, some of our Year 5 pupils began the act of worship. Their presentation, about World Book Day, was engaging, interactive and humorous as they encouraged us to think about this annual event. Thank you to Maisie, Lailah, Belle, Erin, Louis and Harry!

Back in class, teachers had planned a wide range of interesting activities for the day, and the children had a great time immersed in books. From sharing a book with a child in a different year group to completing a quiz about favourite books, all the tasks had one thing in common; they were designed to celebrate and showcase a love of reading. With special, World Book Day, lunch choices, the children could even celebrate the day through what they had for lunch!

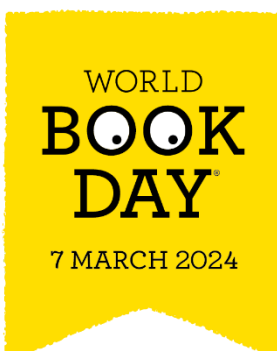


More netball success!

After the recent successes of our netball and basketball teams, we had high hopes as a team of netballers from Year 5 and 6 attended a competition at Wildern this week. Resplendent in smart new polo shirts, our team's performance was equally impressive as they gained a place in the County finals, at Southampton Sports Centre, at the end of this month. Their impressive performances achieved the following results;

2	Saint James		Fair Oak	0
0	Saint James		Wellstead	0
0	Saint James	vs.	Curdridge	2
2	Saint James		Upham	0
0	Saint James		Berrywood	7

Equally as impressive as the sporting performances was the sportsmanship shown, as well as the adaptability, as all children were given the opportunity to play in each position on the court. We are truly proud of our team's performances – good luck in the finals at the end of the month!



Wildern transition and open days

It may still seem a long way off, but September looks a tricky month if you're a parent of a child in our current Year 5 cohort. Not only do you need to wave your child off for a week to enjoy the delights of a residential on the Isle of Wight but there is also the difficult decision of secondary schools to be made. This was going to be even harder, as one of the Wildern Open Mornings clashed with the residential visit. Wildern have recognised this and have kindly moved the day to accommodate our children. We would like to extend a big 'thank you' to everyone from Wildern who has been involved in this decision.

Adjacent to this article is a flyer with dates for Wildern Summer school on it. This is for our current Year 6 children, who will be attending Wildern, to ease their transition into Year 7. Please take a read and enquire with Wildern if it seems like something you'd be interested in.

**SUMMER
SCHOOL
2024**



wildernschool

For current Year 6 students who will be joining Wildern in September 2024

**SAVE THE DATE:
MONDAY 29TH JULY -
FRIDAY 2ND AUGUST**

We are pleased to announce that we will be running our transition Summer School provision again this year. This is the ideal opportunity for our new Year 7 students to get to know our school and make new friends.

More information will be sent out in the Summer term.

MEET NEW PEOPLE

This is the perfect time to meet new people and make friends with students who will be in the same year group.

GET SUPPORT WITH OUR SUMMER READING BOOK

Every Year we invite our new Year 7 students to take part in our Summer Reading project. Lots of our summer school sessions will get students engaged with our chosen book: 'Lost'



GET TO KNOW OUR SCHOOL

Have fun on our treasure hunt getting to know our site. Summer School is a great opportunity to find out more about your new school.

HAVE FUN!

All our Summer School sessions are interactive. You will get to take part in activities like: team games, arts and crafts, treasure hunts and much more.



Attendance league table

Well done to Kenya and Scotland class who top our attendance league table for this week.

Nearly half the classes in the school have achieved 97%+ attendance, with three quarters of our classes achieving 95%+ attendance.

Well done.

Attendance League		23/24 season
Saint James CoE Primary School		
1		KENYA
		SCOTLAND
2		FINLAND
		WALES
		ITALY
3		SOUTH AFRICA
		GERMANY
		GAMBIA
		FRANCE
4		POLAND
		JAPAN
		CHILE
		PORTUGAL
5		ARGENTINA
6		ENGLAND
7		CHINA
		NORWAY
8		SPAIN
9		INDIA
10		SWEDEN
11		BRAZIL

St James Church – special celebrations

This Sunday, 10th March at 10.30am, there will be a special Mothering Sunday Service. It will be a special service celebrating Mothers and all who care for us. Flower posies will be given out at this service. All are welcome.

With Easter rapidly approaching there are a number of services and events held over the Easter period. Look at the flyer below, for more information.

Celebrating Mothering Sunday

**An opportunity to say thank you
to mums and those who care for us**

**Celebration Eucharist
Sunday 10th March 10.30am
St James' Church, West End**

Flower posies will be given out in the service

St James Church, West End

Holy Week and Easter Services 2024

Palm Sunday – 24th March

9.30am Sung Eucharist with Blessing of Palms and Palm Procession
11am Church Alive All Age Palm Sunday Service

Wednesday - 27th March

11am Eucharist with Hymns

Maundy Thursday – 28th March

7.30pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper followed by a Watch until 9.30pm

Good Friday – 29th March

9.15am Children's Activity Morning
11.30am All Age Good Friday Service
2pm Liturgy of Good Friday

Holy Saturday – 30th March

8pm Easter Vigil

Easter Day – 31st March

9.30am Celebration Eucharist for all ages followed by Easter Egg hunt
11am Church Alive Communion for all ages with Easter Egg hunt

Everyone is very welcome!