

The week ahead @ Saint James

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

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Friday 11th September

Issue 195

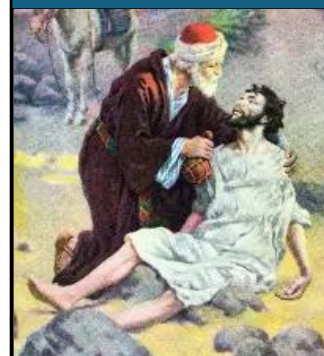
Mon 14 th Sept		Fri 18 th Sept	Thurs 24 th Sept	Thurs 1 st Oct		Wed 7 th Oct
Year 1 Phonics Parents' Evening 5.00pm	Year 6 leave on Residential trip	Year 6 return from Residential trip	Year 6 Beginning of Bikeability	Year 6 Last session of Bikeability	Burger Shack Special Menu – Pupil Census Day	Tour for parents of prospective Year R pupils

A message from the Senior Leadership team

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the *Meet the teacher* meetings on Tuesday this week. We hope you found it useful and informative. In our first full week back in school, we have immersed ourselves into learning about our class countries and the countries that lend their names to other classes in the year group. The children have loved learning about some of the traditions, landmarks and geographical features that contribute to the national identity of that country – some have even had the opportunity to taste some of the food popular in their country.

On the subject of popular food; it is clear that many of the dishes served by our new caterers, *Chartwells*, have been well-received by our children and staff. Thank you for your patience with the new ordering system. We hope you are now finding it to be clear and intuitive.

Collective Worship



This week's theme:

Help!

This week's bible story:

The Good Samaritan

Luke 10: 25 - 37

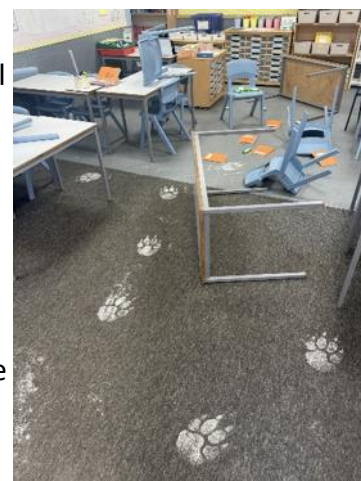
Paw Prints, Pandemonium and Powerful Prose – a Howling Good Hook for Year 4 Writing

Many of you may be aware that we have a family of deer living beyond the fencing at the end of our field and, those of you with older children in the school, may recall that one of these creatures found a gap in the fence and came onto the field a couple of years ago. As the gap has since been repaired, we were confident of having no further unexpected and uninvited visits by inquisitive wildlife. It now appears that the confidence was misplaced. However, this time it was not the visit of a gentle herbivore but something a lot more terrifying.

On Monday morning, the Year 4 classes returned to their classrooms to discover the tables had been upturned and enormous paw prints had been left on the carpet.

Close observation revealed these to be the prints of a wolf – a rare sight in West End! Whilst we might expect that the aforementioned deer would be a tasty attraction to a hungry wolf, this would not explain why the classrooms had been overturned.

Then it became clear. The children in Year 4 have begun reading *Arthur and the Golden Rope*, an epic adventure set in Viking times, where the protagonist has to contend with a number of challenges to complete their quest. Whilst avoiding sea monsters and traversing rough terrain are all easily accomplished by the unlikely hero, Arthur's most difficult and dangerous challenge is to overcome the fearsome beast Fenrir. Fenrir, a giant wolf, has already attacked Arthur's town, extinguishing the great fire that keeps the villagers warm and put everyone at risk of freezing to death. Knowing that this beast has a history of destruction



Continued overleaf

and that it would be angered by Year 4's championing of Arthur, the children quickly determined who had destroyed their classrooms.

Never ones to miss an opportunity, the Year 4 teachers seized the chance to use the path of destruction as a 'hook' for their creative writing. Generating fantastic vocabulary about the enormous carnivorous beast, the children are now prepared with some fantastic descriptions that they will use to enrich their narrative writing. Well done Year 4. We're sure your writing will prove to be as successful as the results of Arthur's quest!

Do you have any enriching experiences to share with our children?

Last year, we mentioned that we are aiming to enrich our curriculum by drawing on the experiences and expertise of our wider Saint James family. Are you an electrician who could help when we're looking at electrical circuits and relate it to your job or are you a chef who could help us when we're trying to design and make innovative new chocolate bars in our Charlie and the Chocolate Factory topic? Have you enjoyed an extended holiday (or even lived) in one of our class countries or do you have a plethora of artefacts, letters and photographs from a family member who served on the Somme in World War 1? Are you a firefighter who could explain why the Great Fire of London spread so quickly and devastatingly or a nurse, paramedic, GP or surgeon who could help teach us how to be healthy and how our bodies grow? These are just a few ideas of how our curriculum could be enriched by your experiences.

Last year, we received information from a few parents who are willing to support us by sharing their experiences and we are thinking about how we can best use this wealth and diversity of experience to enrich our children. However, we have only had responses from a small minority of families and are aware that we may now have a multitude of new occupations and experiences from the families of children in Year R. Thank you if you offered your experiences last year, we have forwarded a database of these responses to teachers at the beginning of this year, so they can consider how the curriculum in their year group might be enriched most effectively. However, we would still love to hear from a wider cross-section of our parents and carers.

The following link, to an online form, invites you to include your occupation, hobbies and/ or cultural background, if you feel these may benefit and enrich our curriculum and consequently our children.

We look forward to hearing from you and learning about the diverse experiences of our Saint James family.

<https://forms.office.com/e/eT8EyeTJqh?origin=lprLink>

Perpetual Parking Problems

As families start to negotiate their routines and arrangements for the beginning of the school day, it is perhaps unsurprising that parking around the school site has been challenging. However, please do read and action the information given in last week's newsletter, as we have received several complaints about inconsiderate and dangerous parking over the past week.

'I was watching today parents with several children and children on their own trying to cross the road, with cars coming from three directions at them and then people also trying to reverse cars on to road from the first close and reversing also into school gates, it's an accident waiting to happen.'

there is... 'illegal parking on double yellow and over driveways, plus the car in front of the house was actually touching the back of our car . We spoke to the lady and she just walked away. It really is not acceptable.'

'Since the start of term, I have been sworn at by three separate people who are 'in a rush to get their child to school', 'my child can't walk very far' or 'this is easy for us'.

Continued overleaf

'Cars frequently park on the corner by the junction, which can make it difficult for drivers and pedestrians to see clearly and creates a potential safety concern, particularly for children travelling to and from school, and that get out of their car on the junction and there are several near misses a day.'

The quotes shared are from three separate emails that we received this week. Whilst we do appreciate the pressures of trying to park and that this week we finally saw some rain, after an uncommonly dry Summer, please park considerately and model the values of Love, Respect and Courage that are so frequently shown by our children.

Whilst there is still room for improvement in the parking around the school site, we would like to extend a big 'thank you' to everyone who has used the drive-through to drop-off their children this week. Parents have been diligent in driving to the furthest point (nearest to the exit gate) before dropping off and ensuring that their children leave their vehicle on the side of the school.

Thank you for your consideration when using this provision – it helps ensure that drop-off at the beginning of the day is safe, swift and effective.

Colour, Costumes and Carnival Chaos: Year 5 celebrate South America

Carnivals in South America are renowned for their spectacular displays of colour, culture and tradition. While there may be a few comparisons to be made with our Year 5 classes, we cannot imagine anyone walking into the Camino and instantly thinking they had been transported to Rio de Janeiro. At least, not until this week!

Armed with colourful feathers, sequins, shimmering card and translucent paper in a dazzling array of colours, the Year 5 children set about creating masks that would not have looked out of place at the famous Rio Carnival. Yet, despite the impressive results, the children were adamant that their carnival costumes were not complete. Returning to their plentiful supplies of feathers, sequins and other embellishments, they began fashioning striking headdresses to complement their masks.



At the time of writing, the carnival celebrations are still to come, but we are already looking forward to joining Year 5 as they celebrate South America with their very own vibrant and flamboyant festivities.



THE GREGG
Year 6
Activities Morning
Saturday 26th September
8.45am – 12.20pm

Year 6 children are warmly invited to a fun-filled morning of activities, where they can meet our teachers, make new friends, and explore The Gregg School grounds.

Choose from a range of activities when you book.

Book online
thegreggschool.org/open-events

Eastleigh Area Schools Orchestras (EASO)

Calling all wind, string, guitar & percussion players

Wind orchestra trainers: beginner to grade 3, 4:15pm - 5:15pm
String starters: beginner to grade 1, 5:00pm - 5:45pm -
String orchestra: grade 1+, 5:15pm - 6:30pm
Guitar ensemble: intermediate +, 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Thornden Hall, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2DW

Come along & play on 14th September 2026

St. James Church Come and join the Junior Choir

For young singers aged 8+



When: Rehearsal - Thursdays (from 8 October) from 6.00 – 6.45pm
Service - every first Sunday of the month from 9.00 – 10.40am

Where: St. James Church (during term time)

The children will sing at the first Sunday of the month. They will have lots of fun receiving voice and musical theory tuition and will work towards RSCM awards - and it's free!

To find out more come along to our 'Come and be a Chorister' information session

When: Thursday 8 October from 6 – 6.45pm

Where: St. James Church

Enjoy singing, refreshments and hear more about what's involved!

Contact Chris Fay stjameswe.music@gmail.com or
Rev. Vicki stameswe.vicar@gmail.com for more information.

LOOKING FOR A FULL-TIME FEMALE YOUTH WORKER!

Do you love working with young people?
Do you want to make a real difference?
Are you passionate about helping young people reach their full potential?
Are you kind, resilient, adaptable and a team player?

We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced **Female Youth Worker** to join our growing team. This is a rewarding opportunity to support, encourage and inspire young people while working alongside a dedicated and caring team.

37 hours per week
4 days in Alton, 1 day in Petersfield
£14.64 per hour (£28,243 per annum)

An enhanced DBS check, full driving licence and access to a vehicle are required.

Due to the nature of the role and the needs of the young people we support, there is a genuine occupational requirement for the postholder to be:
* female and Christian.

Join us and help young people thrive.

Who are we?

The King's Arms Youth Project (KA) is a Christian Charity that supports the emotional, physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of young people aged 11-18 years.

We run a range of different clubs and programmes including group and 1:1 mentoring, Young Carers support, clubs for those with additional needs or on the edge of exclusion, after school and holiday clubs and a safe space to chill and have fun!

For any questions or to arrange a visit please contact **Will Schofield** on **01730 231292** or info@thekingsarms.org.uk

Closing date for applications
4th September 2026, 12noon
Or earlier depending on applications

THE KINGS ARMS

will@thekingsarms.org.uk

01730 231292

www.thekingsarms.org.uk

The Kings Arms Registered Charity No. 1087176 Company No. 04107481



**Hampshire
County Council**
Library Service

First Words Together

Did you know speech and language is crucial for your child as it supports their learning, social skills and wellbeing?

Are you worried about your child's talking, listening or attention?

Would you like to help your child learn and become a confident talker?

If so, First Words Together may be for you...

Enjoy exploring stories, rhymes and learning 5 top tips with your child on our 5 week course

This course is for parents/carers of children aged 6 - 30 months

Scan the QR code to find out more and register your interest:



National Literacy Trust
Change your story

The National Literacy Trust is a registered charity no. 1116260 and a company limited by guarantee no. 5836486 registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in Scotland no. SC042944.

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hants.gov.uk/library



**Hampshire
County Council**
Library Service

Early Words Together

Is your child starting school soon? This free 6 week course will help your child's speech and language, learning, social skills and wellbeing.

Are you worried about your child's talking, listening or attention?

Would you like to get ideas for fun activities that will help your child be a confident talker and prepared for school?

If so, Early Words Together may be for you...

Enjoy exploring talking, singing rhymes, sharing books and playing together

This course is for parents/carers with children aged 3 - 4 years old

Scan the QR code to find out more and register your interest:



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