

The week ahead @ Saint James

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

Headteacher: Mrs Michelle Marsh

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Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Gardiner

Tel: 023 80 900995



Supporting our school this week:

Shergolds Nursery

Welcome to Shergolds, a Farm Shop with a difference

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Wednesday 22 nd July 2026
Year 6 Photobooth	Last Day of Term Yr 6 Leavers Service for parents 10.30 (Year 6 children only to leave at 11.30) All Year Groups Leave 1.00 – 1.15

Friday 17th July 2026

A message from the Senior Leadership Team.

As we share our final newsletter of the 2025-2026 academic year, we would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been another wonderful year at Saint James. Our children have amazed us with their kindness, determination, resilience and enthusiasm, embracing every opportunity and challenge that has come their way. From achievements in the classroom to successes in sport, music, the arts and the wider community, there has been so much to celebrate. Most importantly, our pupils have continued to live out our school values each day, making Saint James such a special place to learn and grow.

This time of year is always filled with mixed emotions as we say goodbye to our Year 6 children and a number of valued members of staff. Whilst we will miss them greatly, we know they leave with wonderful memories, strong friendships and exciting futures ahead of them. We thank those staff who are moving on for their dedication and contribution to our school community and wish them every success in their next chapters.

At the same time, we look forward with excitement to September. We are delighted that Mr Boyden will be returning from his secondment at a local school, and we know many families children and staff will be pleased to welcome him back. We also look forward to welcoming new children and new members of staff, who will bring fresh energy and experiences to our Saint James family.

A school year is made up of thousands of moments, some big, some small, that together create something truly meaningful. As one chapter closes and another begins, we would like to thank our children, staff, governors and families for the part they have played in making this year such a success. We wish everyone a happy, restful and well-deserved summer break and look forward to all that the next school year will bring.

A Big Heart for Small Paws

Adele from Japan Class showed great kindness and community spirit by raising awareness of the Blue Cross online and encouraging others to support its work. Through her efforts, she collected a generous donation of kitten and cat food to help animals in need. Once all the donations had been gathered, Adele and her family visited the Blue Cross centre to deliver the items in person. Their thoughtful contribution will help provide essential care and nourishment for cats and kittens waiting for their forever homes. We are incredibly proud of Adele for taking the initiative to support such an important cause and for making a positive difference to the lives of animals in her community.



Changing of the Guard for the Boys' Football Team

On Wednesday, our two-year undefeated and Hampshire Cup-winning boys' football team took to the pitch in sweltering heat for one final match. Their opponents? The next generation of Saint James footballers! The Year 6 boys were left to manage themselves for the fixture, while Mr Walsh took charge of the Year 5 side. Representing the Year 6 team were Charlie, Henry, Ben, Taylor, Lucas, Max, Jude, Joey and Harry. The Year 5 squad consisted of Grayson, Leo, Sophia, Flynn, Connor, Eddie, Ollie, Freddie and Enzo.

With temperatures soaring, the match was played over four 15-minute quarters, complete with hydration breaks. We wouldn't like to admit we were inspired by the World Cup in the Americas, but they certainly felt necessary! The Year 6 side had two clear advantages going into the game: two years of experience playing together and, quite simply, a significant size advantage. Despite this, it took ten minutes before the deadlock was broken, when a pinpoint cross found Taylor, who expertly nodded home to make it 1-0.

The second quarter saw Lucas and Henry introduced from the bench, presenting an even greater challenge for the determined Year 5 side. However, they rose to it brilliantly. Their hard work, resilience and excellent teamwork made life difficult for the outgoing champions. Lucas doubled the lead with a weaving run before Harry finished confidently after an excellent pass to make it 3-0. Despite the scoreline, the Year 5 team were still very much in the contest.

The third quarter belonged to the Year 5s. Outstanding pressing, crisp passing and confident footwork created several opportunities before a dangerous corner caused problems in the Year 6 defence. Unfortunately for Max, the ball bounced kindly for the attackers and into the net for an own goal, making it 3-1. It was a thoroughly deserved reward for the Year 5 team's efforts.

After 45 minutes the match would usually have been over, but one final quarter remained. This was where the Year 6 team's physical presence began to tell. The next name on the scoresheet was none other than Charlie. Saint James' very own brick wall in defence had been pushed up front and calmly slotted home to score his first-ever goal for the school. Moments later, Joey curled in a superb free-kick to score his first school goal too, sealing a 5-1 victory.

The final whistle brought mixed emotions. There was great excitement about the future after such an impressive performance from our Year 5 players, who have shown they have all the ingredients for a successful season next year. At the same time, it marked the end of a truly remarkable two years for our outgoing Year 6 team.

It has been an absolute privilege to coach, manage and watch these boys grow into not only excellent footballers but, more importantly, respectful, kind and caring young men. Thank you, as always, to the parents and families for your fantastic support throughout the season—it means a great deal to us all.

We can't wait to see what next year brings for Saint James football!

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Sunday 8am to 4pm

“The Make A Difference” Project



Earlier this term, the children took part in the “Make A Difference” Project, a wonderful initiative designed to give children the opportunity to recognise and celebrate members of staff who have made a positive difference to their school experience.

Children were invited to reflect on the adults who had supported, encouraged, inspired or helped them throughout the year. They then completed special recognition slips, sharing thoughtful messages of appreciation and gratitude for staff members across the school.

Once completed, the slips were collected and prepared for distribution.

The project was a heartwarming success, with many kind and uplifting messages being shared. We would like to thank Mrs Langridge for introducing such a meaningful initiative, which provided an opportunity for children to recognise the positive contributions of our staff and celebrate the strong relationships that make Saint James such a special community.

Amazon Wishlist - Thank You for Your Incredible Generosity

At Saint James, we love to read! We believe that every child can and will learn to read, and we are passionate about inspiring a lifelong love of books. This year, our 40 Recommended Reads Challenge has been a tremendous success, encouraging children to explore a wide range of high-quality texts and develop their enthusiasm for reading.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the families who have generously purchased books and other resources for our classrooms and library throughout the year. We have been overwhelmed by your kindness and support. Your donations have helped us to continue providing exciting, engaging and inspiring reading opportunities for our pupils, and they are already making a real difference.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/MFKB3CA4JB08?ref_=wl_share

Parking Reminder

For the safety of all children, families and staff, parents should not use the staff car park during normal school drop-off and collection times.

The only exception is for families who are dropping off or collecting children from Early Birds or Night Owls, when access to the staff car park is permitted.

Please also note that the disabled parking bays may only be used by parents and visitors who have been issued with a permit by the school office. These spaces are reserved to ensure accessibility for those who require them, and we ask that all members of our community respect these arrangements.

We appreciate your support in helping to keep our school site safe and accessible for everyone.

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EXCLUSIVE

VIVID HOMES

SUBSIDISED PLACE OFFER!

SUMMER HOLIDAY SPORTS COACHING COURSES

JUST £4.50 PER CHILD, PER DAY!

EXCLUSIVELY FOR VIVID HOMES CUSTOMERS

✓ PROOF OF VIVID HOMES TENANCY WILL BE REQUIRED

VIVID HOMES

THANK YOU TO VIVID HOMES FOR SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES!
YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE.

FOOTBALL **MULTI-GAMES** **PICK & MIX ACTIVITIES** **BOYS & GIRLS (YEAR R - YEAR 6)** **EARLY DROP OFF & LATE PICK UP AVAILABLE (SUBJECT TO DEMAND)** **Klarna. KLARNA PAYMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

THURSDAY 23RD JULY - FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST 2026 **9:00AM - 3:00PM** **WYNTER ROAD PLAYING FIELD, BITTERNE**

PLACES ARE EXTREMELY LIMITED AND WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. **SUBSIDISED PLACES AVAILABLE TO VIVID HOMES CUSTOMERS ONLY. PROOF WILL NEED TO BE PROVIDED.**

BOOK NOW! **SECURE YOUR PLACE TODAY!** <https://pbbl.uk/4w0skFR> **USE CODE: VIVID1**

20 YEARS OF INSPIRING CHILDREN • BUILDING CONFIDENCE • CREATING MEMORIES

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

OF LEARNING THROUGH SPORT!

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY SUMMER HOLIDAY OFFER!

To say thank you for 20 amazing years of support and to help families with the cost of the summer holidays...

SAVE £8 PER DAY! JUST £6.50 PER CHILD, PER DAY (plus booking fee)

WHILST PLACES REMAIN thanks to VIVID HOMES

FOOTBALL **MULTI-GAMES** **PICK & MIX ACTIVITIES** **BOYS & GIRLS (YEAR R - YEAR 6)** **EARLY DROP OFF & LATE PICK UP AVAILABLE (SUBJECT TO DEMAND)** **Klarna. KLARNA PAYMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

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PLACES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED TO MAINTAIN QUALITY AND ENSURE EVERY CHILD HAS THE BEST EXPERIENCE. **PLACES ARE STRICTLY FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. DON'T MISS OUT!**

BOOK NOW! **SECURE YOUR PLACE TODAY!** <https://pbbl.uk/4w0skFR> **USE CODE: VIVID26**

THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR JOURNEY OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS!

Sponsor Our School Newsletter

We are excited to offer parents and local businesses the opportunity to sponsor our newly refreshed school newsletter. This is a wonderful way to support the life of the school while also promoting your business within our community.

Our newsletter is shared with all families and is a key way we celebrate achievements, share important information and highlight the many successes of our children. By becoming a sponsor, your business will be featured within the newsletter, giving you visibility across our engaged and supportive school community.

Sponsorship is available for £50 per week.

If you would be interested in supporting us in this way, we would love to hear from you. Please email: adminoffice@st-james-westend.hants.sch.uk for further details.

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GIVE IT A GO THIS SUMMER
EASTLEIGH ACTIVE

PRICE £3.50*

AGES 5-16 YEARS

Monday 27 July - Friday 21 August

Activities include:
 Badminton, Big Sister Sessions, CrossFit, Fishing, Football, Weightlifting, Pickleball, Reformer Pilates, Rugby, Sailing, Basketball, Tennis, Swimming, AquaRun Skatejams and much more...

BOOK NOW: EASTLEIGH.GOV.UK/EASTLEIGHACTIVE

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL **SportWorks**

*£1 concessions available to residents receiving qualifying benefits
 Activities may be subject to change

BE INSPIRED THIS SUMMER
EASTLEIGH ACTIVE

PRICE £3.50*

AGES 5-16 YEARS

Monday 27 July - Friday 21 August

BUILD STRENGTH, SKILLS AND FRIENDSHIPS THIS SUMMER

GIRLS ONLY SESSIONS

BOOK NOW: EASTLEIGH.GOV.UK/EASTLEIGHACTIVE

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL **SportWorks**

*£1 concessions available to residents receiving qualifying benefits
 Activities may be subject to change

WANTED

 

Do you like making a difference?
 Could **you** be the person who helps a child to learn to read?

If you have an hour, a morning or an afternoon each week that you could offer, then we would love to hear from you!

Please contact Mrs Gardiner (Deputy Headteacher) or Mrs Griffiths (SENCo).

REWARD

Knowing that by volunteering, you are helping to boost the self-esteem, reading confidence and ability of some of our wonderful children who are desperate to learn to read and enjoy books.



As we reach the end of the school year, we would like to remind families to check our lost property collection for any missing items. Over the course of the year, a large number of unclaimed jumpers, cardigans, coats, water bottles and other belongings have accumulated.

Any items that are clearly named will be returned to their owners wherever possible. However, any unnamed items remaining at the end of term will be donated to our second-hand uniform stock or given to charity.

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