

The week ahead @ Saint James

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

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Friday 14th November

Issue 164

Fri 28 th Nov	Mon 1 st Dec	Tues 2 nd Dec	Wed 3 rd Dec	Thurs 4 th Dec	Fri 5 th Dec
SJSA Christmas Shopping Day	Year England class – Nativity for parents 2.30pm	Year Scotland class – Nativity for parents 2.30pm	Year Wales class – Nativity for parents 2.30pm	Year 4 Christmas concert 2.30pm	Year 1 Christmas concert 2.30pm
Mon 8 th Dec	Tues 9 th Dec	Wed 10 th Dec	Wed 17 th Dec	Thurs 18 th Dec	Fri 19 th Dec
Year 2 Christmas concert 2.30pm	Year 3 Christmas concert 2.30pm	Year 5 and 6 Carol concert at St James church 5pm	Christmas lunch	Year 3 and 4 Christmas service at St James Children only	Class Christmas parties Last day of term

Collective Worship



This week's theme:

Remembrance

This week's story:

**The greatest gift - the
widow's offering**

Mark 12:41-44

A message from the Senior Leadership team

Wow! What a week it has been! An impeccably observed minute of silence on Remembrance Day was one of the few quite times! Years 1, 2 and 3 enjoyed a STEM coding workshop on Wednesday, where they had the opportunity to code a successful moon landing, our Year 4 children have visited the site of the old workhouse in West End and children in Year 6 have been completing a set of mock SATs! We've also enjoyed welcoming many of you into school for Parents' Evening on Wednesday and Thursday and the Book Look on Tuesday! To complete our busy week, we've celebrated Children in Need today, by wearing sporty or spotty clothes and completing Challenge 25, where we've looked at completing 25 of something, collectively, in our classes. We're proud that we've managed to support such a worthwhile charity that focusses on improving the lives of children who are less fortunate than us. As for the pupils at Saint James? We'd say, after our busy week, our *children* are now *in need* of a relaxing weekend!

Remembrance Day 2025

When Colonel Perkins and other important dignitaries unveiled the new war memorial in West End on 5th June 1920, they surely would have been proud to know that Remembrance day was still being observed there 105 years later. We're sure they would have also been devastated to know that the names of the 35 men who tragically gave their lives in World War 1 had been joined by a further 20 servicemen who died during World War 2, a mere twenty years later.

Despite the threat of rain, last Sunday's turnout for the Remembrance Day service was impressive. With the High Street and West End Road closed to traffic, those in attendance spilled out onto the road to participate in a moving service led by Reverend Vicky. In reality, there was little rain apart from during the last post, when a deluge added poignancy to the sombre sound of the bugle.

It was a pleasure to see so many Saint James pupils, past and present, attending the service as members of the uniform groups, and we were extremely proud of our head boy and head girl, Joey and Molly, who represented the school admirably in their respectful laying of the wreath. We would also like to extend a big 'thank you' to Mrs Shotter, for accompanying the children to this very special service.

With Remembrance Sunday falling on 9th November this year, it meant that Remembrance Day, (the day the armistice was signed) fell on Tuesday. Therefore, the children had the opportunity to reflect upon remembrance, and what it meant to them, during an impeccably observed one minute of silence held in their classes.



Prayers for our school

Since September, on the first Thursday of every month, Reverend Linda has been leading an informal prayer group for parents, grandparents, carers and friends of Saint James school. We love this opportunity to share poignant and pertinent thoughts and prayers and obviously many of you do too, as there was a number of people in attendance last Thursday. The group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 2:45pm (the next meeting will be on Thursday 4th December). Absolutely no experience is needed, just a chance to be still as we offer prayers for all who make up the Saint James' school 'family' and the things we care about.

Hard times inspire bright minds, as Victorian gloom is brought to the classroom: our Year 4 children learn about the reality of life in the workhouse

Those of you who have lived in West End and the surrounding area for a few years will remember the imposing Victorian apartment building, at the heart of the housing development on Botley Road, as Moorgreen Hospital. However, it is unlikely that many of you remember the building in its former role – the South Stoneham Workhouse. Constructed in 1848, with two gatehouses (now, also converted to private residences), the workhouse provided both food and shelter for those who fell on hard times. It was only in 1948, when the NHS was formed, that the building became Moorgreen Hospital.

Due to its architectural and historical importance the external features of the main building and both gatehouses have been preserved and integrated into the modern housing development. Because of this, and the imposing nature of the main building, the Year 4 teachers felt it was too rich an opportunity to miss, when introducing their new topic on the Victorians. The children will also be completing a writing journey from the perspective of a young resident of the workhouse: simply standing next to the gatehouses, in front of the main building, evokes some of the emotions that a new inmate must have felt.

On Wednesday morning, the Year 4 pupils visited the former workhouse site and completed a number of activities to immerse themselves in their Victorian topic. They were led past the gatehouses, where they would have been bathed and deloused upon arrival, and brought to the front of the main building. From there, they completed activities based around the census of 1881 and the jobs and roles that inmates would have to perform. Typically gender-specific, the roles differed based on whether you were a man or a woman. In the case of men this would consist of agricultural work or animal care on the farm, assisting staff in the boiler room or in repairs to the building. For women, the work would have been assisting the staff in the kitchen, laundry, wards or in childcare. There were also the two rather unpleasant roles of bone-crushing (where old bones were pounded into dust to use for fertilizer) and oakum-picking (which involved teasing out the fibres from old hemp ropes – the resulting material was sold to the navy and mixed with tar to seal the lining of wooden ships). All the children seemed very pleased to be born in the 21st century!

As the topic progresses, the children will be 'enjoying' a Victorian Day, where they will have the opportunity to experience life as a Victorian child for the day. We're fairly certain that the prospect of being a child from the workhouse is not an appealing one!



It's that time of year again ... Christmas Shopping Day! Friday 28th November



Please hand in the exact amount of money to your child's teacher week commencing 24th November.

Please ensure it's in an envelope with your child's name and class labelled on the front.

Scan the QR code for card payments, and add your child's name and class to the message to merchant section.
(Online payments can only be accepted until Thursday 27th)



CHRISTMAS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2025

10AM - 12.30 PM

UNDERHILL CENTRE, HEDGE END, SO30 4AF

CREATIVE BUILDING CHALLENGES, FESTIVE GAMES, EDIBLE CRAFTS, AND BIBLE STORIES - DISCOVER HOW GOD'S INCREDIBLE PLAN CAME TOGETHER, FROM THE FIRST BUILDERS TO THE BIRTH OF JESUS.

AGES 4-12
£5 PER CHILD



EMAIL HEVEBHOLIDAYBIBLECLUBBOOKINGS@GMAIL.COM TO BOOK

The Saint James girls shine under fading light!

From narrow wins in closely fought games to comprehensive victories against talented opposition, there's never a dull moment following the Saint James girls' football team! This week was no exception with another cracker of a game taking place in the early evening gloom. Mr Walsh reported that he was not far off needing night vision goggles to follow the action in the final five minutes!

Excitement had built to a crescendo before the girls' second round match in the Hampshire Cup, as they faced an unbeaten North Baddesley Junior School team away from home. As you may recall, in the first round our girls were the victors in a nail-biting thriller decided by penalties. This is quite a contrast to the home team who had a slightly easier time, with a comprehensive 7-1 demolition of their opponents. Representing Saint James for this second-round match were Alba, Alice, Ava, Amelia, Scarlett, Sophia, Mia, Keira and debutant Millie.

The game finally got underway at the delayed start time of 3:30. Whilst it is not unusual for games to be delayed; technical issues with lighting and team coach breakdowns (the transport, not the manager!!) have all been used as past excuses. The issue today? Parking chaos! In a way, it is refreshing to know that other schools suffer from the same issues with parking at the beginning and end of the day. As it was, when Keira and Alba arrived, they had barely enough time to take off their coats before the game started.

From the first minute, it was clear that the Saint James girls had been working tirelessly in their training sessions as they looked fantastic with the ball at their feet. Wonderful passing, nimble footwork and silky skills saw a rampant start to the game which was rewarded with one corner after another. The pitch, which was more suitable in size for a game of table football, proved difficult at first with Amelie's first corner flying straight off the other side of the pitch! However, before long, Ava had ably adapted and sent a fizzing cross into the box. The North Baddesley defender was helpless to stop the ball and it deflected it into the goal. 1-0!

The pressure continued to mount as Saint James surged forward and Ava, who had a brilliant game in left midfield, played a great pass inside to Alice. Alice, whose clinical finishing is becoming legendary, made no mistake with the chance, tucking the ball neatly into the bottom corner. 2-0!

Another corner led to goal number 3 which was almost a carbon copy of the first. This time however, it was Sophia who drilled a corner hip height and hard into the box. Another deflection, another goal. 3-0!

Half time came and went and we were out for the second half. Although light was escaping us, the North Baddesley net certainly wasn't! Amelie, playing off the right hand side, played a ball into the middle of the pitch reaching the lurking Keira, who drove with purpose into the opposition's box. A quick touch to settle the ball and she fired powerfully past the keeper. 4-0!

Finally, Alba was forced into action as the North Baddesley team started to create chances. Remember this team won their last game 7-1 so they have proved they know how to put the ball in the net! However, they had clearly not encountered a goalkeeper with the prowess and agility of Alba! She got her hands to everything they fired at her. Their best chance was a looping shot which took an almighty bounce and began to soar over her head. To the untrained eye, you would have thought a goal was a certainty, however no amount of coaching and training can account for the catch that Alba made. At full stretch, bent almost in half backwards, she caught the ball... and that was that! 4-0 and a comfortable victory!

Our goal scorers against North Baddesley were; Ava, Alice, Sophia and Keira. However, special mention need to be given to Mia, who as always was outstanding in defence. She did not let a single ball or player past her! Also excellent was Millie, who put on a great performance and did exactly what was asked of her, stopping all goal scoring chances for North Baddesley.

As always, we would like to extend a huge 'Thank you' to our fabulous parents for their assistance with transport and support throughout. We would also like to thank Mr Walsh for his excellent coaching, dedication and support. After his recent record in games, for both the boys' and girls' teams, we cannot wait until Southampton appoint their new manager so we can sleep more easily at night! We look forward to finding out our third round opponents and are ever hopeful that we can progress once more in the cup!



Eastleigh Fun Run 2026 – 1.2k around Fleming Park



The Eastleigh Fun Run will be on Sunday 22nd March 2026, providing children from 4-12 years with the chance to have fun and take part in one of the largest fun running events in the area. Participants will run 1.2km around Fleming Park in Eastleigh to earn their medal.

We realise that the date is still a few months away, however places are limited and booking is now available (at the time of writing, nearly half of the places had been taken).

<https://racesignup.co.uk/eastleigh-fun-run-2026>

[Eastleigh Fun Run - Running Mania](#)

How challenging is the learning at Saint James Primary School? It's not rocket science... or maybe it is!

Although many of us can name the first person to walk on the moon (Neil Armstrong) and even the three astronauts on the mission (Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins in addition to Armstrong), we doubt many can name everyone involved in the mission. There were approximately 400,000! However, of those who are less well known than the aforementioned astronauts, are mathematician Katherine Johnson who calculated the crucial flight trajectories and software engineer Margaret Hamilton who developed the flight software. There is famously a photo of Hamilton, stood next to a towering stack of books that matches her stature of 5ft 4inches. Some might think that this impressive stack is included as a visible nod to her academic prowess, however they are not simply a prop from the NASA library. The books are crammed full of the on-board flight software codes that she and her team developed for the Apollo space program!



So, although interesting, why is this all relevant to this week's newsletter? Because this week our Year 1, 2 and 3 children have all been planning algorithms to land a rocket on the moon! During Collective Worship on Wednesday, the children participated in an interactive STEM presentation delivered by *Get with the programme*. In the presentation, they were directed how to be human computers and how to create algorithms. When they learned that the computer machines used to plan and implement the first mission to the moon were the size of a large room and that a modern smartphone is vastly more powerful than the Apollo 11 guidance computer (a modern smartphone has a processing power over 100,000 times greater and memory more than a million times larger) they were amazed and 'hooked' on their learning. They then discovered how to create algorithms and how to 'debug' them, consequently the children felt confident enough to develop their own.



Back in the classroom, the children experimented with different algorithms and developing effective ones that could land the lunar module on the of the craterous, atmosphere-free surface of the moon. Whilst we always knew that our children are challenged to achieve their best, few would have thought that their best would be comparable to the most prominent NASA scientists!



Be a Sustainability Superhero

Sustainability and recycling clothing is often touted as vital, as we aim to protect our planet. Whilst we agree and we wish to save our planet as much as anyone, we also want to save something else too: our houses from overflowing with outgrown clothing, footwear and costumes! We imagine that many of you, like us, have children whose wardrobes and cupboards are crammed full of good condition uniform, football boots and costumes that simply no longer fit. Rather than leave them cluttering closets or clogging up landfill sites, we've got a few different ways that you could become a sustainability superhero (only, if our intention really is to be sustainable, our superhero capes would probably have to be repurposed from a pair of old curtains!)

Football boots

We're proud to support the Utilita Football Rebooted campaign. Our school now has a Football Rebooted Boot Box where you can donate or pick up pre-loved football boots. The aim is to give old boots a new life, helping families save money and reduce waste while keeping children playing the game they love. If your child has outgrown their boots, simply drop them off in the box — and if they need a new pair, feel free to take some!



Nativity costumes and Christmas jumpers

If you're reading this on the date on publication, in exactly six weeks' time it will be Boxing Day and Christmas Day will have come and gone! It seems incredible to believe! There are plenty of parties, concerts and nativities to enjoy before then. If you are suddenly finding that the nativity costume or Christmas jumper that your child wore last year no longer fits, please don't bin it. We have a donation box, next to the one for football boots, by the main entrance to the school. Our aim is to let as many angels, donkeys and wise men as possible live to see another Christmas!



Saint James uniform

In addition to more specialist items that not everyone owns, such as football boots and nativity costumes, there are some items that all our children possess: school uniform. If your children outgrow their uniform before they wear it out, please consider donating it to the school. We have a uniform recycling bin (next to the bin for all clothing donations) just inside the pedestrian gate at the entrance to the drive through. Quality uniform is then sold to other parents with all proceeds going to the SJSA. This will be used to enrich your child's experience of school.



Free holiday activities & meals for eligible children this winter!

Children in Reception to Year 11 receiving benefits-related free school meals can enjoy fun activities and healthy meals for free this Christmas through Hampshire's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme!

Spaces are limited - book now!
Scan the QR code below to check if you're eligible, find local HAF schemes, and book your child(ren)'s place



Funded by
UK Government

WINCHESTER WINTER HAF SCHEMES



360 Degree Sports Coaching

Harestock Primary School (SO22 6LU)

Active Me 360

Colden Common Primary School (SO50 6HW)

Stanmore Primary School (SO22 4AJ)

Sun Hill Infant School (SO24 9NB)

Swanmore Primary School (SO32 2PA)



CM Sports

Denmead Infant School (PO7 6PN)

Computer Xplorers

Cornerstone Primary School (PO15 7QE)



Globe Fit

Solent Hotel and Spa (PO15 7AJ)

Integr8 Dance

Weeke Primary School (SO22 6DR)

Winnall Primary School (SO23 0NY)

Unit 12, Winchester (SO23 0LD)



Please keep an eye on the FISH website as it will be regularly updated with available HAF schemes: <https://fish.hants.gov.uk>



DREAM EMPIRE EVENTS



West End ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 22 NOV 10AM-3PM
2025

ST JAMES CHURCH, CHURCH HILL, WEST
END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 3AT

MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS WITH NO NEED TO BOOK

STALLS - REFRESHMENTS
MUSIC - ARTS & CRAFTS- FREE KIDS CRAFTS & MORE

WWW.DREAMEMPIREEVENTS.CO.UK

Entry is £1 for adults, with funds going directly to the church.
Santa meet & greet with gift is £8 per child



Christmas Light SWITCH ON AND CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 29th November
3pm till 7pm

Free Father Christmas meet with gift

Christmas Market & Festive Food

Light Switch On & Local Choirs

Children's Activities & Entertainment

West End Parish Centre, Chapel Road, SO30 3FE

COME & TRY *Dance*

NEW

JOIN US FOR A
FREE SESSION
THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

Get moving, have fun, and make new friends!

Join our local Commercial Street dance class with our amazing teacher Emily — just £4.75 per week, and your first class is FREE!

THEN USE CODE "STJAMES" TO RECEIVE 10% OFF THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM

Perfect for all levels — no experience needed, just bring your energy and a smile! Call us today or visit our website to book your taster session.

WEST END
PARISH
CENTRE

THURSDAY
5.00-5.45PM

KS1 & KS2
CLASS

SUPERSTAR
Performing Arts

023 8212 7331

www.superstarsportsuk.com

NHS

Hampshire and
Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

School Nurse Clinic

Who are we?

School Nurses are public health professionals who work with parents, children, and young people to support health and wellbeing needs.

What will be doing?

We are trialling a bookable school nurse clinic once per half term for your school. This will give you the chance to meet face-to-face with a team member to discuss any concerns you may have about your child.

sleep
toileting
healthy lifestyles
emotional wellbeing

Call the Eastleigh School
Nurse team on 02382 318752
to book your appointment.

Hampshire
Healthy
Families

Health
for Kids!

ChatHealth



Osborne & Shepherds Down School Outreach Services Parent Workshop:



Tuesday 25th November 2025

10.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Shepherds Down School, Compton,
Winchester SO21 2AJ

This workshop will provide you with an insight into autism and how it affects your child. Our aim is to provide you with a range of practical strategies to support your child in the home environment.

The course will cover:

- ❖ An introduction to autism and the areas of difference
- ❖ Positive behaviour management
- ❖ Communication

Led By:

Carson Eiday

(Osborne School Outreach Service)

Laura Watts (Shepherds Down Outreach Service)



Free of charge

To book a place please contact Osborne School Office
Please do not contact Shepherds Down to book.
N.B. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Refreshments will be provided, please bring a packed lunch.

Email admin@osborne.hants.sch.uk
Phone 01962 854537

Parking – On site. Overflow parking if required at Compton Tennis Club SO21 2AB

ENDANGERED SPECIES



Supported using public funding by
Department for Education
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



FREE
TUITION!

FREE INSTRUMENT LOAN!



Saturday 1 and Saturday 8 February 2025, 10.00 - 10.50am

We are looking for Year 4 or 5 students to be the next generation of tenor horn, euphonium, trombone, and tuba players

The Hampshire County Youth Bands are re-launching their highly successful Endangered Species programme on Saturday 1 & 8 February 2024. Students will take part in fast-track learning every term-time Saturday at our rehearsal base in Perins School, Alresford, before joining the Hampshire County Junior Band



FREE RESOURCES!

Scan the QR code to register your interest



Hampshire
County Council

www.hants.gov.uk/hms