

The week ahead @ Saint James

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

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Issue 146

Wed 21 st My	Fri 23 rd May	Mon 2 nd June	Wed 4 th Jun	Thurs 5 th Jun	Mon 9 th Jun	Fri 13 th Jun
Year 6 educational visit	Last day of the half term	First day back after half term	First day of Book fair school	Ascension Day and Pentecost at church – Years 1 & 2	Start of Phonics screening Check in school	End of Phonics screening Check in school

A message from the Senior Leadership team

It seems hard to believe that we're nearly at the end of the penultimate half-term of the year, our Year 6 pupils have just taken their SATs tests and we've just enjoyed Sports Day! Where has this year gone?

We have been especially proud of Year 6 pupils this week. The way they have embraced the challenge of SATs is a credit to them and exemplification of the determined, resilient and capable young people they've become. We're pleased that, now the testing is complete, they can begin to enjoy some of the exciting and memorable leavers' activities, in their final half-term at Saint James.

It was great to see so many of you at Sports Day today. We hope you enjoyed the event and appreciated the opportunity to see your child compete. It was a pleasure to hear such positive comments from the parents we spoke to. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Collective Worship



This week's theme:
Christian Aid Week

This week's bible verse:
The Good Samaritan
Luke 10: 25-37

Across the country, children in Year 6 have been completing their annual testing – it's been an exami-*nation*! The week has been truly SATS-ifying for our determined Year 6 pupils.

Residential visits, theme days, performances, special visits and occasions; all events that we want our children to take away as their special memories of primary school. Historically, we've said that we wouldn't expect or want SATs tests to be one of these. They are a necessity, but aren't ultimately the defining aim for what Primary education should be about. However, the camaraderie and sense of togetherness and resilience that has been developed in Year 6, beginning with the team building during September's residential trip to the Isle of Wight, is definitely a special memory that will endure.

All of this has impacted significantly on the way our Year 6 cohort have approached their SATs tests this week; with a unified feeling of togetherness, a determination to succeed and an unwavering resilience. The SATs breakfasts each morning have probably helped too!

Whilst we will not receive the SATs results until July, we do not need to wait until then to commend our marvellous Year 6 pupils and the titanic effort they've put in this week. It does not take a spreadsheet with a set of results on it, to dictate how proud we are of them and the members of staff in Year 6 who have prepared them so well. It is an irrefutable fact that the staff in Year 6 are all vital cogs in the metaphorical machine that works so seamlessly to prepare our children for this week in May. However, it would be remiss not to give a special mention to the leader of Year 6, Miss Howell. So, as Year 6 leader, what do you plan for your Friday, after the last test is completed on Thursday? A well-deserved rest? A lie-down in a darkened room? A day to reflect on the successes of the week, before considering the enriching leavers' events coming up thick and fast after half-term? Of course not! You swap your Year 6 leader hat with your P.E leader hat and hold Sports Day, arriving at 6.30am in the morning to set up the field with a dedicated team of staff helpers! We would like to say huge 'thank you' to all of our Year 6 team, and Miss Howell in particular, for such a monumental effort leading up to and during this week.

As their time at Saint James draws to a close, the children will be experiencing a wealth of highlights such as an educational visit to Paulton's Park to study theme park rides, a day of activities at Winchester Cathedral with other Year 6 children from all over the diocese and the end of year play (to name but a few). However, we now think the enduring memory of togetherness in adversity, when approaching the challenge of SATs week, must now figure highly in the memory!



Year 1's Airport experience saw a *departure* from their usual learning – the idea might really *take-off*!

As you will know, from reading the newsletter each week, we like to immerse children in real-life experiences to enrich and support their learning. In March, the children in Year R were learning about animals, so they visited Manor farm, and the pupils in Year 3 were learning about the Romans and Celts, so they visited Butser Ancient Farm. Also, back in November, the Year 4 children walked to the former site of Moorgreen hospital, which was known as Stoneham workhouse during Victorian times, to help them develop a greater understanding of this period of history. This is often referred to as cultural capital: giving children real-life, engaging experiences to enrich their learning.

But what do you do, when your year group is learning about airports and taking a flight? You create an airport of course! Whilst we are fortunate to have Southampton airport a mere 3.5 miles away, the children in Year 1 had the opportunity to experience a far more exclusive, and less well-known centre for commercial aviation, Saint James Airport!

Although Southampton airport is ranked outside the top 20 (at 21), when listing UK airports by size, it still caters for an average of around 5000 passengers per day. That number is vastly in excess of the elite group of passengers who passed through the 'Saint James' airport last Tuesday! However the calibre of the passengers was second to none.

Our passengers may well have been VIPs but they were not subject to any special treatment; undergoing the same rigorous checks as anyone passing through an international airport. With baggage checked meticulously by Mrs Sparshott and Mrs Rogers (and their unlikely sniffer / sausage dog) the children passed their specially made suitcases through the scanner before passing through the body scanner themselves. It is our impression that there is often something about the demeanour of the personnel on baggage control that can make even the most law-abiding passenger feel guilty. This observation had obviously not gone unnoticed by Mrs Sparshott and Mrs Rogers whose commitment to method-acting did not go unnoticed!

After receiving confirmation that they were not trying to bring contraband onto the plane, the children needed to have their 'passports' checked, to see if their 'photograph' matched the reality of their appearance. There was a general consensus among staff that, even though the 'photos' were hand drawn, they bore a closer resemblance to the passport holder than our own official passport photos! It is no wonder that Mrs Martin allowed the children to pass through unchallenged.

After passing unscathed through these checks, the children barely noticed that their passports were stamped by airport staff bearing an uncanny likeness to their class teachers; Mr Jones, Miss Shotter and Mrs Callard!

The Dallas International Airport is listed as having the longest walk from passport control to the departure gates with a staggering 2.16 miles in between. Therefore, our excited passengers were fortunate to only need to take a short walk down the corridor to board the 'plane' in their classrooms.

After taking their seats, it became clear that the chairs, although comfortable, were far more like their classroom seating than business class on British Airways! However, without making a slight on any airline in particular, the children were pleasantly surprised by the food on offer. Rather than reheated ready meals, the children were blessed with healthy fruit as an onboard snack!

With a fantastic day enjoyed by all, the children's writing has been truly enriched, as their English journey has seen them writing a recount on a journey through the airport. Although inspired by the enjoyable non-fiction text, 'How Airports Work' by Lonely Planet, their experiences from the day have certainly added an extra dimension to their understanding. For those of you planning on a flight abroad this Summer, if your child is in Year 1, you can be safe in the knowledge that you now have an expert at negotiating the challenges of a busy airport! On behalf of all the children in Year 1, we would like to extend a huge 'thank you' to the Year 1 staff team for all the preparation they put into making the day so engaging and enriching.



Our long-standing 'fruitful' relationship with Shergolds – 'thank you' for your kind generosity

The year 2020 is probably indelibly marked on many of our memories, as the year when the world stayed at home. Although it is easy to dwell on the negative impact of Covid, the adversity also brought out the best in so many people with communities rallying together (at a socially distanced two metres) to support those in need. During this time, Saint James Primary School was the recipient of many kind gestures and gifts from families and members of the community. Not least of which was the generosity bequeathed by Shergolds Nursery and Farm Shop. Whilst Key Stage 1 children country-wide have been receiving free fruit each day since 2004, via a government scheme, children in Key Stage 2 have not benefitted from the same provision. Therefore, we were staggered and delighted by the generosity of Shergolds, who agreed to match this arrangement for our Key Stage 2 children, providing enough fruit for each child to enjoy one delicious piece per day.

As a school we were grateful for this kind gift and made no assumptions about the length of time that Shergolds would be prepared to maintain this arrangement. Maybe for a couple of months or the duration of the academic year following 'lockdown'? Never in our wildest dreams, did we imagine that they would still be honouring this selfless arrangement five years later! In addition to this generous gift for all our Key Stage 2 children, Shergolds also created hampers for our ten most vulnerable families during the period of time the country was impacted by Covid restrictions. Each holiday, hampers containing a wide and varied selection of fresh produce and packet goods were delivered to ease the financial worries of numerous families. A vital lifeline, with so many parents having their earnings curtailed by the pandemic.

As well as the weekly fruit delivery, this week we have benefitted from the delivery of a significant amount of eggs, bread and cereal, as a donation to our breakfast club. In addition to that, we were also gifted £1000 cash from Shergolds, to provide further financial assistance!

It is difficult to express in words how grateful we are for these generous and sustained gifts that will directly and positively impact your child in their time at Saint James. If you would like to 'thank' Shergolds personally, please support them by shopping at the nursery or farm shop on Burnetts Lane and offering your verbal gratitude to the team working there.

As you aware, we are tremendously grateful for this unconditional generosity from Shergolds nursery and farm shop. If you work for a company or know anyone who has links to a company or organisation that would be willing to contribute towards supporting the wellbeing of the children at Saint James Primary School, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

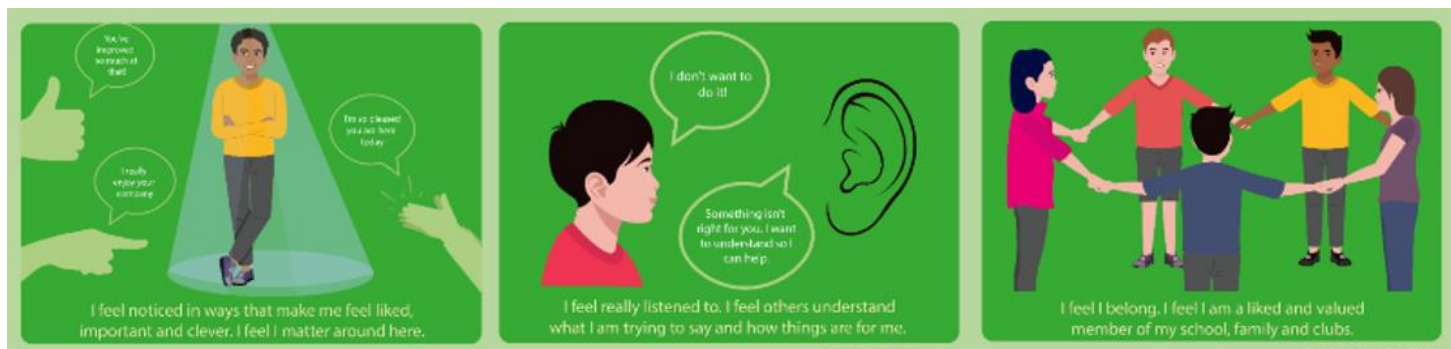


Brain best – feeling we 'count'

Over the past few weeks, we have discussed what children (and adults) need to be successful. This week, we have acknowledged that all of us need to feel that we 'count' and matter. We need to feel that we belong and that we are liked and valued as a member of our school, family and any clubs that we do.

It is important to us that we feel listened to and noticed in ways that we like. Children need to feel liked and respected by people their own age. They need to feel liked and accepted as they are.

At Saint James Primary School, we always aim to ensure that pupils feel that they 'count'. Each and every member of our school community is important and 'counts' in their own way.



Under 9 Girls' Cricket Festival

At Saint James Primary School, we are in the fortunate position of being situated within easy walking distance of the home of Hampshire cricket. With the Utilita bowl hosting Hampshire matches, as well as some internationals, it would be very apt if Saint James had a talented 'field' of cricketers to select from. If your daughter is under 9 and enjoys playing cricket, or would like the opportunity to, there is a girls' cricket festival happening during May half term at Ropley Cricket Club.

Children are able to sign up as a team of friends, or individually, and there is no requirement to bring a knowledgeable coach or trainer – one can be provided on the day. To participate in this exciting, free, cricketing festival, you can book a place for a team or individuals using the link below.

Date: **28th May**

Venue: **Ropley CC**

Times: **9.30-12.30**

Cost: **free**

Booking link: <https://forms.gle/mLiYXrp7TNuptWt9A>

Southampton City Council - Half-term activities

As the May Half-Term is fast approaching, Southampton City Council have announced that they have a wide range of activities for children and their families to keep them entertained. These history and art workshops will cover everything from fun family walking tours to hands on workshops and all day wrap around care. The workshops will be engaging, accessible and designed to promote family learning. More details, including how to book, can be found on the posters below.

WHAT'S ON CLUBS AND CLASSES



See venue websites for further details on events and to book*
seacitymuseum.co.uk | tudorhouseandgarden.com | southamptoncityartgallery.com

SATURDAY ART CLUBS



Mini Monets Art Club (Under 7s)

Saturdays 31 May, 28 June, 26 July
/ 10.30am - 11.30am / Art Gallery /
£7.50 or £20 for three

Join artist **Debra Marsh** to experiment with different art styles and materials in a fun and accessible way.



The Young Ones Art Club (7-13 yrs)

Saturdays 10 May, 14 June, 12 July
/ 10.30am - 12.30pm / Art Gallery /
£12.50 or £30 for all three

Join us to experiment with different art materials and ideas and have some fun! Each monthly session is led by a local artist, who will take their inspiration from the artwork on display. Adults are welcome to drop their child (7+) off or to stay.



All Day Holiday Art Classes and Activities for 6 - 16 year olds

Drop your young people off for the day at one of our artist or historian led full day sessions!



Junior Art School (7 - 13 yrs)

Fridays 10.30am - 3.30pm /
Art Gallery / £26 per day

Fri 30 May: Discover Art in Nature

Fri 25 July: Discover Clay Sculpture

Fri 01 Aug: Discover Printmaking

Fri 08 Aug: Discover Surrealism

Fri 15 Aug: Discover Impressionism

Fri 22 Aug: Discover Pop Art

Fri 29 Aug: Discover Abstract Art

Art School Plus (11-16 yrs)

Mondays 10.30am - 3.30pm /
Art Gallery / £26 per day

Mon 28 July:
Develop Linocut Printmaking

Mon 04 Aug:
Develop Drawing Skills

Mon 11 Aug: Develop Painting with Watercolour

Mon 18 Aug:
Develop Painting with Acrylic

Southampton Culture Club for Kids (Age 6½-12 yrs)

Three days per week 9am - 4pm
(drop off from 8.45am) / SeaCity
Museum / £35 per day /
£90 for all three days

Tues 27, Wed 28, Thurs 29 May:
Theme - Adventure

Mon 28, Tues 29, Wed 30 July
Theme - Imagine

Mon 4, Tues 5, Wed 6 Aug:
Theme - Time Travel

Mon 11, Tues 12, Wed 13 Aug:
Theme - Myths, Legends and Magic

Mon 18, Tues 19, Wed 20 Aug:
Theme - To Infinity and Beyond



Please bring a packed lunch and a water bottle to these day-long workshops.

For full details visit our websites or email us at museums@southampton.gov.uk

*Advance booking is recommended

WHAT'S ON

MAY HALF TERM ACTIVITIES



See venue websites for further details on events and to book*
seacitymuseum.co.uk | tudorhouseandgarden.com | southamptoncityartgallery.com

Hands On History: Stand & Deliver! (6+)

Tues 27 May /
10.30am, 1pm /
Tudor House / £8



Art for All: Green Man Clay Plaques (5+)

Tues 27 May /
10.30am, 12.30pm
or 2.30pm /
Art Gallery / £8



Hands On History: Southampton Through Time (6+)

Wed 28 May /
10.30am /
Tudor House / £8



Tour For All: Old Town Walking Tour

Wed 28 May /
2pm / Tudor House /
£8 or £24 for families



Art for All: Clay Dogs (4+)

Wed 28 May /
10.30am, 12.30pm
or 2.30pm /
Art Gallery / £8



Art for All: Regency Fashion Paper Dolls (6+)

Thurs 29 May /
10.15am, 11.30am, 1.15pm /
Tudor House / £6



Art for All: Draw (and paint!) from Nature (5+)

Thurs 29 May /
10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm /
Art Gallery / £8



Hands On History: Discover Titanic (6+)

Fri 30 May /
10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm /
SeaCity / £8



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Southampton City Art Gallery or
Tudor House and Garden.

Full details and T&C's:
www.southampton.gov.uk/cultureclub

COME PARTY WITH US!

If you've got a Titanic
enthusiast, a history fan or a
child who loves to get creative,
why not throw them a birthday
to remember at one of our
unique venues?

Create a special day for your
child full of hands-on activities
tailored to their interests.

Email museums.education@southampton.gov.uk



*Advance booking is recommended



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

ST JAMES

MONDAY

FOOTBALL

KS1: YEARS R-2

TUESDAY

FOOTBALL

KS2: YEARS 3-6

Club Time 3:30-4:30pm

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

KS2: YEARS R-6

THURSDAY

FOOTBALL

KS1: YEARS R-6

NETBALL

KS2: YEARS 3-6

FRIDAY

DODGEBALL

YEARS R-6

START DATE

WEEK COMMENC 2ND JUNE 2025

All bookings must be made in advance and are for the first half of the term.

**NOW
ACCEPTING
YEAR R
BOOKINGS**



REGISTRATION LINK

learningthroughsport.co.uk/st-james/

**£5.50 PER
SESSION**

