

The week ahead @ Saint James

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

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Friday 17th October

Issue 161

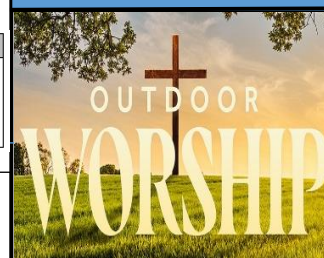
Tues 21 st Oct	Wed 22 nd Oct	Fri 24 th Oct	Fri 31 st Oct	Mon 3 rd Nov	11 th Nov	12 th Nov	13 th Nov
SJSA 'open meeting' at the Master Builder 7pm	Empowerment approach – online seminar 7.30pm	Last day of school before half-term break	Closing date for secondary school applications	First day of school after half-term break	Parents' book look 3.00 – 3.30pm	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7.00pm	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm

A message from the Senior Leadership team

What a week it's been to be outside. We've seen our Year 6 children, on the playground and out on the road, demonstrating their prowess on a bicycle during Bikeability training. We've also enjoyed the use of the outdoors and our grounds for outdoor worship this week, with Collective Worship on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday all taking place outside.

In addition to taking our learning outside this week, we have enjoyed our first SJSA event of this academic year, the Autumn disco and non-uniform day. It was lovely to see the children dancing enthusiastically to their favourite tracks, whilst at the same time raising money for the school. Thank you to everyone who supported us with this event. If you would like to offer your support or input to the SJSA for future events, please feel free to attend the SJSA open meeting at 7pm on 21st October at the Master Builder public house.

Collective Worship



This week's theme:
Outdoor worship

This week's story:

The wise and foolish builders
Matthew 7: 24-27

Wheelie good work from Year 6 as they demonstrate spoke-tacular skills on the road

Just two weeks after they arrived back from their residential, our Year 6 children have been enjoying another challenge of physical endurance by getting on their bike each day and completing Bikeability week. Although abseiling from the top of a climbing tower, building your own raft and paddling it over a body of water and swinging from a great height on a giant swing can all invoke a sense of fear, these are all carefully risk assessed and managed by experienced staff. Although the variables in these activities can all be carefully controlled, the same cannot be guaranteed when cycling on the road. Bikeability training, learning the rules and etiquette of the road and mastering control of a bicycle, is therefore instrumental in preparing children for safe cycling. This is particularly timely, as many children may opt to cycle to school when they begin secondary school next year.

Starting on the playground (so their instructors could assess bike control, awareness and confidence) the children demonstrated how well they could stop and turn, as well as their stability and positional sense. Once confident that they could be safe and competent road users, the children were taken out onto the surrounding roads in small groups. They then learned how to manoeuvre around parked cars and how to negotiate junctions.

With these skills mastered and road confidence increased, we now have some very competent cyclists in Year 6. When children from Saint James attend sporting events or educational visits, we often receive comments about their standard of behaviour and how they model our Christian values of Love, Respect and Courage. However, despite this being the reality for the vast majority of children most of the time, anyone they encounter tends to form this opinion from no more than a couple of hours contact. For our Bikeability instructors to form and maintain this opinion after a week of working with the children, including through some challenging scenarios and skills tests, is testament to our determined Year 6 children.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a big 'thank you' to all of the Bikeability instructors for being so supportive, patient and helpful to our children and helping them to become confident road users. A special mention also needs to be given to Miss Howell who was out on the road, with the children, every day. We are pleased to report that she is also considered to have safe and considerate road manners!



Collective Worship this week has been a breath of fresh *prayer*

How many times have you been disappointed by the postponement of an activity due to poor weather? We'd like to hazard guess that it's been more than once. A picnic in the park? A sporting fixture? A trip to the seaside? All of these could be quite a miserable experience if endured under strong winds, heavy rain, snow or sleet.

We therefore think there may have been some divine intervention with the weather this week. Not only have our Year 6 children been able to head out on their bikes all week without getting drenched, we have also enjoyed a week of Collective Worship outside.

Looking at the amount of leaves and conkers on the playground, despite the best efforts of our site team, it's clear to see the impact of the wind first-hand. It is often easy to think about the negative impact of wind, such as tornadoes, hurricanes and gales, and the devastation these cause. However, our children began by thinking of the positive impact, such as drying laundry, assisting sailors and running windmills.

Ultimately, with exposure over time to news stories from across the world, they were aware of the havoc that can be caused and lives that can be impacted. This proved a nice segue into the parable of the wise and foolish builder. In each class the children created tents made with paper to exemplify the houses made by the two characters in Jesus' story. The wise builder's house remained firm and stable during high winds, whereas the foolish builder's blew away without the firm foundations. Was the problem in the parable the wind that wrecked the foolish builder's house? No, the problem lay with the foolish builder himself and his decision not to lay a strong foundation. The message in Jesus' story was that everyone who hears the word of God and puts them into practise, is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. With the hastily created paper tents, it was easy to see which ones exemplified God's word!

Although children were aware that the theme of their week of outdoor worship was ecology and the weather, they could be excused for thinking it involved cooking if they saw the equipment that Reverend Linda had supplied for one of the days. A nice lemon drizzle cake, homemade lemonade and even lemon pancakes might have sprung to mind when the children saw the lemon juice and bicarbonate of soda! However, any thoughts of a tasty treat were soon dispelled as the children began to think of the effect that might occur when the two ingredients were added.

Obviously it is much more powerful to observe, rather than just talk about it, so a spoonful of bicarbonate of soda was added to the lemon juice. The bubbling that occurred delighted the children, to the extent it nearly made up for the disappointment that lemon drizzle cake was not on the menu! The children learned that, when the lemon juice and the bicarbonate of soda mix together, a chemical reaction happens - one of the results is bubbles!

The children learned that the bubbles were filled with carbon dioxide (CO_2), and that was the reason why cakes are light and airy and why fizzy drinks are bubbly. They learned that, when we inhale, although we get a little bit of CO_2 into us, we mostly take in oxygen. However, when we exhale, our bodies have taken all that oxygen and are sending out what we don't need, lots of CO_2 .

So, when outside surrounded by trees and plants, why were we busy mixing lemon juice and bicarbonate soda to make carbon dioxide? Because trees do the opposite to us, they take in CO_2 but give us oxygen. Although CO_2 is a good thing, like most good things, we can have too much of it! Sweets are good, but if we have too much, they make us ill! When we burn things like coal, oil in car or aeroplane engines, gas or wood, this also creates CO_2 . And because we burn SO many things (there are so many power plants, cars, aeroplanes and factories) there is too much CO_2 in the atmosphere. It is making our planet ill and changing the climate.

This linked well to the verse; 'Do you like honey? Don't eat too much, or it will make you sick!' (Proverbs 25:16 NLT) This verse, is attributed to King Solomon, as a metaphor for self-control and teaches that even good things can become harmful if overindulged.

After a thoroughly enjoyable week of outdoor worship, we would like to say a big 'thank you' to Reverend Linda. An enormous amount of planning and resourcing was required to make the week such as success. As well as providing each class with a pack of resources for the week, she clearly offered a few prayers to guarantee the weather too!



Our Goal-den girls outshine the legends of 1966!

Any longtime fan of the England football team will probably exalt the names of Charlton, Moore and Hurst as the heroes of the 1966 World Cup win, the only English team to ever win the coveted trophy. Scoring 11 goals in the tournament, conceding only 3 and only failing to score in in one game, a 0-0 draw with Uruguay, it was a truly impressive performance. We're sure most would agree that few performances can parallel the England team's performance in that tournament, however we would happily offer one comparison; the Saint James girls' football team! In their tournament of six games, the same as England in 1966, they drew one game 0-0, the same as England, and won five games, the same as England. However, they outscored the England team by one goal, scoring 12, as opposed to England's 11, and conceded no goals at all, compared to the 3 conceded by Gordon Banks in England's goal! Whilst England finished the tournament by lifting the famous Jules Rimet trophy and creating history that has never yet been repeated, you'll need to read on to discover the outcome for the fabulous Saint James team.

After a historic victory last week, against a highly competitive opposition, our girls' football team was in action again – this time in a cluster football tournament against other schools from the local area. Representing the school this week were Ava, Alba, Alice, Scarlett, Charlotte, Francesca, Keira, Mia, Sophia and Amelie.

As you already know from the lofty comparison with England's world cup winning team, they played a total of six games. However, unlike the England team's three-week tournament with 90-minute games (and obviously extra time in the historic final) the girls had a format of seven-minute games. With no time to waste, it resulted in fast and frantic football from minute one. Although we concede that most match reports include a breakdown of all the goals and key incidents, much like the boys' report from the last game, there were too many to mention so highlights and statistics will have to do!

Saint James scored a total of twelve goals in the tournament (which we think is probably a school record!). Impressively there were goals from all areas of the team with the scorers being; Ava x2, Alice, Amelie x4, Sophia, Scarlett, Keira and Charlotte!

The second game, against Freegrounds, saw an excellent corner kick whipped into the box by Ava before being struck home with a thunderous volley from Alice (that's how we saw it from the sidelines anyway)! During the third game, against Shamblehurst, Scarlett scored an excellent solo goal, stealing the ball on the halfway line and running through the entire team to slot home in the bottom corner. However, goal of the game came late on in the final game, against Fair Oak, where some lovely passing football resulted in a low pass across the area from Ava that was slotted home neatly by Amelie.

The enigmatic former manager of Chelsea, José Mourinho popularized the phrase "park the bus" after the defensive tactics employed by a Tottenham team who showed little desire to win but every intention to stop Chelsea scoring. Although our team's miserly defence might have you believe that Mourinho could level that accusation at the Saint James girls, their goal scoring record tells a different story!

However, Alba, who was a debutante goalkeeper only last week, kept a clean sheet in her first ever tournament (the fewest goals conceded by any World cup winning goalkeeper is 2)! After a week of hard work and training, Alba still only saved one shot in the tournament (however, there was only one shot on goal all evening)! The defence of Mia, Fran and Keira were far too good for anyone else on the day, and meant Alba had little need to exhibit her cat-like agility throughout the tournament!

As the final whistle blew on their last game, the girls had achieved a record enviable by even the best of teams; played 6, won 5, drawn 1, lost 0, goals scored 12, goals conceded 0! However, and this seems remarkable to share, our impressive team found themselves in second place overall on goal difference! Currently, this means that they have not qualified for the regional finals! However, please watch this space, the journey might not be over just yet for the girls... we are eagerly awaiting further news.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge 'thank you' to our wonderful parents for their support throughout, as well as providing transport tournament. We can also not let Mr Walsh and Mr Whitlock go unmentioned, for accompanying the team to the tournament and their excellent coaching. With the second round of the Hampshire cup coming soon, we will see if the girls can continue their unbeaten run!

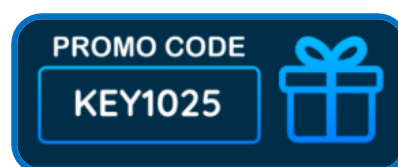
Come and be a chorister at St James church

Does your child or young person love singing? They are warmly invited to come along to our 'Come and be a Chorister' information session on Sunday 2nd November from 4.30pm to 5.30pm at St James Church, West End. They will enjoy singing, refreshments and finding out more about what's involved in being a young chorister at the church. Contact Chris for more information - stjameswe.music@gmail.com.

Young Singers for St James Church Choir - we are starting a weekly rehearsal for young singers age 8+ on Thursdays 6pm to 6.45pm during term time in the church, starting from 6th November. The young singers will have lots of fun receiving voice and musical theory tuition and will work towards Royal School of Church Music awards - and it's free! They will sing at the 9.30am Service on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month and at other times if they wish. Contact Chris for more information - stjameswe.music@gmail.com.

SCHOOL TRENDS
GROWN OUT BEFORE WORN OUT

With the autumnal days becoming colder, thoughts might be turning to purchasing more jumpers, cardigans and warmer clothing. If so, we would like to share with you a 10% discount code for the purchase of new uniform from School Trends. This code is valid until 31st October 2025.



Charity Concert at Saint James

We would like to draw your attention to an exciting, informal and free children's concert that will be taking place on Saturday 18th October, in school. Southampton Grad Band will be performing a selection of recognisable music from children's films in a relaxed format where there is no requirement to remain seated. The idea is to give children the opportunity to hear live music in a familiar setting and to hear a wide range of instruments from flutes to baritone saxophones.

Whilst there is no charge for the concert, there will be a bucket collection in aid of Mountbatten Hospice. Cold drinks and cakes will also be on sale, in exchange for cash donations to the hospice. This promises to be an exciting opportunity for the children to experience live music in a familiar setting.



Leading with love: our Year 6 children step up to be perfect prefects

What have *The Greatest Showman* actor, Hugh Jackman, stand-up comedienne, Maisie Adam, *Elf* actor, Will Ferrell and Kweku Adoboli, the former stock trader who was convicted of illegally trading away 2 billion dollars, got in common? They were all prefects, head pupils or class presidents when they were at school. Other notable former pupils with similar responsibilities include actors Halle Berry, Alec Baldwin and Bruce Willis. We wonder if they considered, when they were fulfilling their role, how successful, famous (or in the case of Kweku Adoboli, notorious) they would become?

We now have a group of children set to fulfil the aforementioned roles for the forthcoming year, at Saint James. We wonder if their futures look set to include a career on stage or screen like the previously named former prefects? They have certainly already undergone an arduous and challenging audition! Beginning by filling out an application form, the children were then shortlisted by Year 6 staff before the successful applicants were interviewed by Mrs Marsh and Mrs Gardiner. A thorough and rigorous audition for what will be an important and influential position in the school.

Those of you that are fans of talent show programmes such as Britain's Got Talent or the X factor, can probably empathise with how difficult it is for auditionees to get through the initial rounds, against lots of hopefuls, to be whittled down to a final group. Most would probably concede that many of the people in this final group could make a claim for being a worthwhile winner. The same is definitely true about the candidates who put themselves forward to be prefects and head boy or head girl. One of the most difficult decisions that Mrs Marsh and Mrs Gardiner have had to make so far this year, every applicant is an excellent model of our values of Love, Respect and Courage and we're sure they would be excellent ambassadors of Saint James Primary School.

However, the difficult decision was finally made and our prefect team has been chosen for next year. Representing our school as prefects for this year will be; Ben A, Phoebe L, Imogen L, Adele S, Jace C and Alfie H. The prestigious positions of Deputy head boy and girl have been awarded to Edward R and Amber H, with Joey P and Molly S accepting the honour of being Head boy and girl for the year.

We would like to offer huge praise to everyone who put themselves forward to be a prefect this year, it was extremely difficult to choose between such worthy applicants.

Harvest donations – a huge 'thank you'

We would like to extend an enormous 'thank you' to all of our families for the generous harvest donations. We were able to fill sixteen large crates of non-perishable goods which have been gratefully received by the Basics Bank at Hedge End. We're sure that many less fortunate families will be benefitting from your generosity. Thank you.

****STOP PRESS** DEADLINES**

Deadline for last Christmas card orders (SJSA) 21/10/2025

Deadline for free delivery back to school for school photographs: 24/10/2025



SJSA events

Thank you to everyone who supported the non-uniform day and disco on Thursday. The children loved the event and, as always DJ Andy picked floor-filling tunes, to keep the children dancing. We will let you know how much was raised by these events, over the next couple of weeks.

After a successful AGM on Thursday 9th October, we are committed to offering a number of exciting and enriching events over the forthcoming year. If you would like to find out more about the planned events or are prepared to volunteer some of your time to support at any of the events over the year, please join us for our EGM (Exceptional General Meeting) at 7pm on Tuesday 21st October at the Master Builder Public House on Swaythling Road, West End.

Please remember, if you shop at Tesco Bursledon, please look out for the blue tokens that are given to shoppers so they can donate to their favourite charity. For the immediate future, Saint James Primary School is one of the nominated charities. We are pleased that Tesco have agreed to support us through this scheme and we are hoping to raise some much-needed funds via customers' donations.



Empowerment Approach – free online seminar

We are pleased to invite you to a **free online training session** led by **Kit Messenger, the author of Curious Not Furious**, on **Wednesday 22nd October at 7:30 PM via Zoom**.

Kit will be introducing **The Empowerment Approach**—a compassionate, neuroscience-informed framework that helps adults support children's emotional regulation, behaviour, and learning. This approach focuses on understanding the reasons behind behaviour, building strong relationships, and empowering children to develop the skills they need to thrive.

We have been implementing the Empowerment Approach across our school, and it is already having a positive impact on how we support children both in and out of the classroom. This session will give you insight into the principles we are using and offer practical strategies you can use at home to reinforce the same supportive and empowering environment.

Who is it for?

This session will be particularly helpful for:

- Parents and carers of children who experience emotional or behavioural challenges
- Those looking for positive, practical strategies to support their child's development
- Anyone interested in understanding more about how we approach behaviour and wellbeing in school
- Families who want to build stronger, more connected relationships with their children

Session Details:

- **Date:** Wednesday 22nd October
- **Time:** 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Zoom: Changing Chances is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81432142898?pwd=qKYWXMyhL9Yer9bIIWSIGYRKooB55A.1>

Meeting ID: 814 3214 2898

Passcode: Empower101



Southampton Arts and Humanities Festival

6th – 15th November 2025

Online and in-person activities and events.



Visit

www.southamptonartshumfest.co.uk

Instagram Facebook Twitter X #UoSArtsHumFest



University of
Southampton

EXPLORE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

Arts and Humanities Day

Saturday 8th November 2025

→ 10:30 – 16:30

→ Southampton Cultural Quarter

Free activities, workshops,
exhibitions and talks.



Book your tickets

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Instagram Facebook Twitter X #UoSArtsHumFest



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

St. James Church

Come and join the Choir

We are starting a weekly rehearsal for young singers 8+



When: Thursdays (from 6 Nov.) from 6pm to 6.45pm

Where: St. James Church (during term time)

The young singers 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: Sunday 2 Nov. from 4.30pm to 5.30pm

Where: St. James Church

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

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

October 2025



2nd October, 10-12pm: Fleet Get Together- Fleet Town Football Club, Crookham Road, Fleet Hampshire GU51 5FA -

8th October, 10-12pm : Basingstoke Get Together - The Viables Craft Centre, 19 The Harrow Way, Basingstoke RG22 4BJ ****SENDIASS ATTENDING to offer 1:1 support****

14th October, 10-12pm: Havant Get Together - Horizon Havant, Civic Centre Road, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 2AY

21st October, 10-12pm: Eastleigh Get Together - St Francis Hall, Nightingale Avenue SO50 9JH

22nd October, 8-9pm: online Evening Get Together - - Meeting ID: 890 6612 2644 Passcode: GT

- Connect with other parent carers
- Relax over a cuppa in a friendly, non-judgemental space
- Share experiences & local issues
- Give feedback on services supporting your children & young people

This month Hampshire SENDIASS will be attending the **Basingstoke** session. They will be available to offer 1:1 time to discuss your personal journey and will offer in the moment guidance to help your young person 0-25.

Hampshire SENDIASS

For more information please contact: participation@hpcn.org.uk



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.



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

