

The week ahead @ Saint James

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

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Friday 27th February

Issue 176

Thurs 5 th March	Mon 9 th March	Wed 11 th March	Thur 12 th March	Fri 20 th March	Wed 25 th Mar	Thurs 26 th Mar	Fri 27 th Mar
World Book Day – dress up as a book character day	Parent Book Look 3.00pm - 3.30pm	Parents' Evening 3.30pm – 7.00pm	Parents' Evening 3.30pm – 6.00pm	Comic Relief Non-Uniform Day	Easter Lunch	Easter Service at St James Church Year 5 and 6	Last day of the Spring term

Collective Worship



This week's theme:

The season of Lent

This week's story:

Jesus is tempted

Matthew 4:1-11

A message from the Senior Leadership team

Welcome back – we hope you all had a peaceful and relaxing half-term break. We're sure many of you enjoyed pancakes on Tuesday, to celebrate the day before the 40-day period of Lent. Immediately following on from Shrove Tuesday is Ash Wednesday, an event that we usually observe in school with a special Collective Worship. Whilst we have no power to change the liturgical calendar, we felt it would be disappointing to miss this important event at the start of Lent so we enjoyed a special Ash Wednesday service this week in school!

We appreciate that there are a significant amount of adverts at the end of this week's newsletter. However, these are either from organisations that use our premises, Hampshire County Council, Eastleigh Borough Council or West End Parish Council and organisations affiliated with them. Whilst we have included them as something you might find relevant or want to pursue for your child, we can in no way endorse or vet these events.

In a moment of *ash*-piration, Reverend Linda relents and holds our Ash Wednesday service a week later!

The period of Lent in the church calendar recognises the time when Jesus entered the wilderness for a period of 40 days and nights without food. Whilst Jesus had to endure a period of 40 days waiting before he ate, our children only had a period of 7 days to wait, before they could celebrate the beginning of Lent and the Ash Wednesday service in school. With Ash Wednesday falling during half-term they had to wait a further week before they could participate in an enjoyable service led by Reverend Linda!

During the special worship on Wednesday, the children were asked to imagine what challenges living in a desert for a period of 40 days might bring. Whilst they had a few perceptive ideas, after a little research we've found out that;

- If you were to choose the Atacama desert in Chile, you would struggle to find water, there has been no rainfall for 40 million years! The 1 million people who live there survive on water from aquifers or snow melts.
- If you were to choose the largest desert in the Middle East, the Sahara, you would have to cope with giant sand dunes taller than the Statue of Liberty (over 400 foot). You would also have to contend with temperatures of up to 122 degrees during the day and -4 degrees at night!
- If you were to choose the largest desert in the world, you would need to wrap up warm, it's the Antarctic where it averages around -49 degrees and the lowest temperature ever recorded was -94.7 degrees!
- If you were to choose the Australian desert, you would need to look out for dangerous animals. It is home to the Venomous Inland Taipan, a snake capable of killing 80 men with a single sting and the Redback Spider, an exotic spider responsible for over 10,000 deaths annually!

However, when Jesus entered the Judaeian desert to begin a forty-day period of fasting, he encountered an even more formidable challenge – temptation from the devil. Ably supported by prayers and readings from some of our Year 6 pupils, Reverend Linda explained some of the temptations that the son of God faced during his time in the desert.

continued overleaf



Firstly, hungry from his fast, he was tempted to use his divine power and turn stones into bread to satisfy his hunger. Jesus resisted, quoting *'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God'*. Then Satan took Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple and urged him to throw himself down, claiming that angels would protect him. Jesus responded with Scripture again, citing *'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test'*. Finally, the devil offered Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if he would worship him. Jesus rejected the offer, and proclaimed, *'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve'*. After resisting these temptations, Satan departed and Jesus was tended to by angels.

After recounting Jesus' period of fasting, Reverend Linda shared how it inspired many Christians to give something up for Lent. This is usually something that we consider a luxury, or that can actually be detrimental to our health, such as chocolate, computer games or too much television. Therefore, giving up doing your homework or eating vegetables is not generally considered acceptable, for those of you trying to spot an opportunity!

Reverend Linda also shared that, on Ash Wednesday, Christians are blessed by being marked with the sign of the cross using ash as a symbol for mortality and repentance. The ash is usually created by burning the palm crosses given out on Palm Sunday the previous year. After producing pots of ash, that were generated through this method by Reverend Vicky, the Year 6 prefect team manned each door and provided children with a mark of the cross on their hand, as they left (if they wanted it).

Although it might have been celebrated a week later than the official date in the liturgical calendar, the service was well worth the wait. However, we're not sure the children will be quite as happy to wait a week after Easter Day for their chocolate Easter Eggs!



DISCOVER THE AMAZING

 **SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING DAY**
Saturday 14th March 2026

Free activities, workshops, talks, lab tours
and live shows suitable for all ages

 **Book your FREE tickets**
www.sotsef.co.uk

 #SOTSEF



Saint James staff learn that you can achieve *'Eureka'* through error and *oops-ortunities* can be taken from mistakes, as they enjoy a productive INSET day learning how to plan engaging Science investigations!

Scientific mistakes can often have wonderful consequences. In 1928, scientist Alexander Fleming returned to his laboratory in St Mary's College, London, to discover that one of his petri dishes had been contaminated by a green mould. Rather than dispose of the dish and its contents, he looked closely; the mould had killed the surrounding bacteria! This accidental observation led to the development of the first true antibiotic, revolutionizing medicine and saving an immeasurable amount of lives.

In 1945, Percy Spencer, an American engineer working for Raytheon, made a groundbreaking discovery while developing radar technology. While working with a magnetron, a device that generates microwaves, Spencer noticed that a chocolate bar in his pocket had melted. Intrigued by this phenomenon, he began experimenting further with the heating effects of microwaves on various food items, including popcorn and eggs. This serendipitous event led to the invention of a kitchen appliance that has transformed cooking.

As you hastily shovel cornflakes into your mouth in the morning, with the hope of keeping hunger at bay until lunchtime, you may be surprised to learn that it was an accident that this popular breakfast cereal was created. Brothers John and Will Kellogg, along with John's wife Ella, are credited with discovering and developing this staple of the breakfast table.

After being unexpectedly called out one night, John Kellogg left a batch of wheat-berry dough on the side. Rather than throwing it out the next morning, he sent it through some rollers and was surprised to obtain delicate flakes, which could then be baked. His brother Will was then tasked with figuring out what had happened and recreating the process reliably. Thus, the undisputed most popular breakfast cereal in the world was created.

So, although interesting trivia and worthy of a few points in an obscure pub quiz, what relevance does this have for the education of our children? It is important that they recognise that we can learn from our mistakes and that practical, investigative Science creates a sense of awe and wonder.

Research tells us that gender stereotypes in Science happen from an early age. By the age of six, many children already think that Science is 'for boys'. Conversely, girls are actually outperforming boys across all A-level STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) subjects with 52.2% awarded A or A*. This, however, doesn't translate to the workplace where only 24% of STEM roles are occupied by women. At Saint James Primary School, we don't think this is right. We think all children should be able to see themselves as scientists and not constrained by gender stereotypes. For that reason, whilst our children were enjoying the first day of their half-term break, the teachers at Saint James used their INSET day to increase their understanding of delivering engaging practical Science investigations in school.

Awe, wonder and a smattering of disbelief were evident when staff were encouraged to drop raw eggs on a hard surface and watch them bounce (the vinegar they'd been soaked in for a few days had reacted with the calcium carbonate shell and caused it to dissolve) whereas their engineering prowess was put to the test when towers were created using marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti. Surface tension was observed spectacularly on water, when pepper that had been sprinkled onto the surface, quickly dispersed to the side of the dish. A dab of washing up liquid was added, the soap disrupted the bonds between water molecules, broke the surface tension and scattered the pepper across the surface. All this happened to a tuneful accompaniment from a water xylophone. Identical jars were filled with varying amounts of water in ascending order (with food dye added to give colour to each note). Jars with more water vibrated more slowly, giving a lower pitch whilst those with less water vibrated faster creating a higher pitch. These were just some of the investigations that helped generate equal amounts of fun and inspiration among the assembled staff.

So, surely securing the services of an authority on Science that could provide such meaningful professional development would make significant inroads into the school budget? Thankfully not, we are in the privileged position of having Dr Emma Lofthouse, a Scientist and Research Manager in the Global Health team, as one of our governors. Alongside our Science leader Mr Walsh, she led a thoroughly interesting, engaging and purposeful session. No mean feat on the last day of the half-term!

We would like to say an enormous 'thank you' to Dr Lofthouse and Mr Walsh for a fantastic session of professional development. We look forward to seeing how this translates into exciting Science investigations in the classroom!



Parents' Consultation Evening – March 2026

In only a few weeks' time we would like to welcome you to our second Parents' evening of the year. This is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's development and have the chance to direct any questions to their class teacher.

Parents' evenings will be held on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th March where you will be offered a ten-minute slot to discuss your child's progress. Time slots are booked using your on-line Arbor account (if you are having difficulty with this, please contact the school office). Thank you to everyone who has already made an appointment. The booking system will close at 10pm on Monday 9th March 2026. We look forward to seeing you then.

SCHOOL TRENDS
GROWN OUT BEFORE WORN OUT



20% OFF

EXTENDED!

USE CODE:
HALFTERM20

Must end 01/03/206

THE ROYAL MINT MUSEUM

SHORT STORY COMPETITION

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG WRITERS!

We are asking **7-11-year-olds** to write a story about **GOLD** using no more than **500-words**. The winner will receive a **gold coin, £5,000** for their school or local library, and their **story illustrated** by an artist.

Stories can be submitted between **16 February - 17 April 2026**.



www.royalmintmuseum.org.uk
storycompetition@royalmintmuseum.org.uk

All new sessions for 2026

NHS
Hampshire Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Services

EMBRACING AUTISM

Tickets £20
Tea and
coffee
included

A day that focuses on skills and strategies, for parents, carers and professionals supporting a child with Autism.

Topics include:

- Supporting your autistic child to thrive - adapting to meet the needs of the autistic young person and practical strategies.
- Support for SEN in education & what to do if it's not working.
- Supporting Young People to Make Sense of their Experiences - empowering young people and putting them at the centre of their experience - Jess Garner from The Grove Practice is our guest speaker.

GROVE

Discretionary tickets available to families on request.

4 February 2026

The Pallant Centre,
Havant, Hampshire
PO9 1BE

9 July 2026

Junction Church,
2 Romsey Road,
Eastleigh, SO50 9FE

17 November 2026

Andover Community Church
Charlton Road, Andover
SP10 3JH

For more information scan the QR code or visit:

<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/>



Osborne & Shepherds Down School Outreach Services Parent Workshop:



Tuesday 10th March 2026

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 Elday

(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 PRIMARY
SCHOOL

LEARNING
THROUGH
SPORT

DODGEBALL

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



CLUB TIMETABLE

MONDAY- FOOTBALL YRS R-2

TUESDAY- FOOTBALL YRS 3-6

WEDNESDAY- FOOTBALL YRS R-6

THURSDAY- FOOTBALL YRS R-6

FRIDAY- DODGEBALL YRS 3-6

CLUBS INCLUDE:

FOOTBALL & DODGEBALL

PRICE- £6 PER SESSION

STARTS 23RD FEB

BOOK HERE!

learningthroughsport.co.uk/st-james/

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

All bookings must be made in
advance

SCAN ME



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CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT. ALL CLASSES ARE
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INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF THE STUDENT.

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WICKETZ



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BOYS AND GIRLS
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For more information and details on how
to sign up, scan the QR code or contact our
Wicketz Development Officer, Dani Ransley on
07880724768 or danielle.ransley@utilitabowl.com



Wicketz Southampton @wicketzsouthampton



BIG MOUTH
THEATRE

Join us for our
non-competitive
Saturday theatre
program for
ages 6-16 years!



Feel great about life through
dynamic drama activities led
by our DBS-certified coaches.

Feel proud as you take your group project to the stage
and **perform** in a local theatre!



Saturdays at a location near you!
Scan QR code to find your nearest venue!



PRICE
£3.50*

EASTLEIGH
ACTIVE

GET
MOVING
THIS
EASTER

SPORTS, GAMES,
AND ENERGY-
PACKED FUN

AGES
5-16
YEARS

Tuesday 31 March - Thursday 2 April
Tuesday 7 - Thursday 9 April

AquaRun

Wednesday 8 April
5-16yrs 2.30pm - 3.30pm
Hamble Sports Complex

Badminton

Wednesday 1 April
& Wednesday 8 April
7-10yrs 6pm - 7pm
11-16yrs 7pm - 8pm
Wyvern College

Big Sister Session

Wednesday 8 April
11-15yrs 4.30pm - 5.15pm
Places Leisure Eastleigh

Thursday 9 April
9-11yrs 4.30pm - 5.15pm
Places Leisure Eastleigh

CrossFit

Wednesday 1 April
& Wednesday 8 April
11-16yrs 3pm - 4pm
CrossFit Southampton, Eastleigh

Cricket

Thursday 2 April
5-8yrs 11am - 12pm
9-12yrs 12pm - 1pm
Places Leisure Eastleigh

Thursday 9 April

8-11yrs (girls only) 11am - 12pm
9-12yrs 12pm - 1pm
Places Leisure Eastleigh

Cycles4All

Tuesday 31 March
& Tuesday 7 April
Families 1.30pm - 2.30pm
Pavilion on the Park

Dodgeball

Tuesday 31 March
8-11yrs 2pm - 3pm
Hiltingbury Sports

Fencing

Tuesday 7 April
5-10yrs 3.30pm - 4.30pm
11-16yrs 4.30pm - 5.30pm
Boorley Green Community Centre

Free Swimming

Tuesday - Thursday
5-16yrs 2pm - 3pm
Wildern Leisure Centre

Football

Wednesday 1 April
8-11yrs 10am - 11am
8-14yrs (girls only) 11am - 12pm
Places Leisure Eastleigh

Wednesday 8 April

5-7yrs 10am - 11am
13-16yrs (teens) 11am - 12pm
Places Leisure Eastleigh

Hockey

Wednesday 1 April
& Wednesday 8 April
8-14yrs 6.30pm - 7.30pm
Hamble Hockey Club (Hamble School)

**Inflatable Pool
Session**

Thursday 2 April
8-16yrs 2.30pm - 3.15pm
Places Leisure Eastleigh

Junior Gym

Wednesday 1 April
& Wednesday 8 April
11-16yrs 1pm - 2pm
Wildern Leisure Centre

Laser Tag

Tuesday 31 March
8-11yrs 9.30am - 10.30am
12-16yrs (teens) 10.45am - 11.45am
Pavilion on the Park

Netball

Thursday 2 April
5-10yrs 1pm - 2pm
11-14yrs 2pm - 3pm
Wide Lane Sports Ground

**Street
Basketball**

Wednesday 1 April
8-12yrs 1pm - 2pm
8-14yrs (girls only) 2pm - 3pm
Hiltingbury Basketball Court

Wednesday 8 April

8-12yrs 1pm - 2pm
13-16yrs (teens) 2pm - 3pm
Roy Underdown Court, Hamble

Tennis

Wednesday 1 April
& Wednesday 8 April
5-7yrs 10am - 11am
8-11yrs 11am - 12pm
Wyvern College

**Tuesday 31 March
& Thursday 2 April**

5-10yrs 5pm - 6pm
11-16yrs 5pm - 6pm
Deer Park School

**Tuesday 31 March
Tuesday 7 April**

5-10yrs 3.30pm - 4.30pm
11-16yrs 4.30pm - 5.30pm
Bursledon Recreation Ground

Thursday 2 April

5-10yrs (girls only) 3.30pm - 4.30pm
11-16yrs (girls only) 4.30pm - 5.30pm
The Hub, Eastleigh

Thursday 9 April

5-10yrs 3.30pm - 4.30pm
11-16yrs 4.30pm - 5.30pm
The Hub, Eastleigh



DON'T MISS OUT - BOOK TODAY:
EASTLEIGH.GOV.UK/EASTLEIGHACTIVE

*£1 for those in receipt of qualifying benefits
Activities may be subject to change



EASTLEIGH ACTIVE

GET MOVING THIS EASTER

AGES 5-16 YEARS

Tuesday 31 March - Thursday 2 April
Tuesday 7 - Thursday 9 April

PRICE £3.50*

CRICKET
TENNIS
FENCING
LASER TAG
CYCLES4ALL
HOCKEY
AND MORE

BOOK NOW: EASTLEIGH.GOV.UK/
EASTLEIGHACTIVE

EASTLEIGH ACTIVE

GET MOVING THIS EASTER

AGES 5-16 YEARS

PRICE £3.50*

Tuesday 31 March - Thursday 2 April
Tuesday 7 - Thursday 9 April

FOOTBALL
STREET BASKETBALL
TENNIS
CRICKET
BIG SISTER SESSION

BOOK NOW: EASTLEIGH.GOV.UK/
EASTLEIGHACTIVE



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



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

The school has received the following email from *Hampshire Golf*, inviting all budding young golfers to compete in one of two tournaments;



Dear Young Golfer,

We are delighted to formally invite you to join and compete in the 2026 Future Champions Tour and Future Champions Foundation Tour.

Both Tours are now entering their fourth season and have enjoyed tremendous success. Players of all abilities have benefited — from competing in their very first events, making new friends, enjoying family time at competitions, to earning selection to represent Hampshire in County Squads.

Who Can Take Part?

Both Tours are open to boys and girls aged 6 to 12, with two categories available:

Future Champions Foundation Tour

Designed for golfers aged 6 to 12 without an official handicap:

- 9-hole events played on a shortened course
- Air shots do not count
- Maximum of 10 shots per hole (if exceeded, simply record "10")
- Trophies awarded and presented on the day at each event
- Qualification for the Tour Finals in October, featuring prizes and trophies
- Opportunity to represent the Future Champions Tour Team in a match against Hampshire Squads
- Membership Fee: £30 per year

This includes a registration pack and your very own Adidas County Crested polo shirt, Event Entry Fee: £10 per event

Play in as many events as you wish.

Future Champions Tour

For golfers aged 6 to 12 with an official golf handicap:

- 18-hole qualifying Stableford events
- Played from the most advantageous tees
- Normal rules of golf apply
- Trophies awarded and presented on the day
- Qualification for the Tour Finals in October with prizes and trophies
- Opportunity to represent the Future Champions Tour Team in a match against Hampshire Squads

Membership Fee: £30 per year Includes a registration pack and Adidas County Crested polo shirt.

Event Entry Fee: £20 per event

Play in as many events as you wish.

Trial Days

We also offer trial days for both Tours. Each player may attend one trial event by simply paying the event entry fee, allowing you to experience the Tour before committing to membership.

Once you are a member, if you begin without a handicap and later obtain one, you may compete on both Tours without paying an additional membership fee.

How to Join You can join today by visiting www.hampshiregolf.org.uk, selecting "Junior" from the right-hand menu, followed by "Future Champions Tour". This will provide full details of the season, events, rules, and a direct link to the registration page.

If you or your family have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email at FCT@hampshiregolf.co.uk.



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2 trial classes for the price of 1! booking essential

Fun cooking classes at:

West End Parish Centre,
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All ingredients included!
plus a craft activity & a recipe card to keep

Starting 15th April
Wednesday Class
Children aged 2-11
4.15pm - 5.30pm

Book: <https://www.cookstars.co.uk/cooking-classes/chandlers-ford-to-hedge-end>

Great for Kids Parties too!

Call Siobhan: 07533785348
Email: siobhan.hall@cookstars.co.uk
Book: <https://www.cookstars.co.uk/cooking-classes/chandlers-ford-to-hedge-end>

The logo for Cook Stars, featuring a whisk and a rolling pin inside a circular frame with the text 'Cook Stars' and 'making memories with you' below it.