

The week ahead @ Saint James

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

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Friday 27th June

Issue 151

Fri 4 th July	Tues 15 th July	Thurs 17 th July	Fri 18 th July	
‘The Big Move’, raffle and tombola 3pm-4.00pm	Year 6 Leavers’ Disco 5pm – 6pm	Year 6 Photo Booth in school	Year 6 Leavers’ service 12.15pm	Last day of term school closes between 1.30 – 1.45pm

A message from the Senior Leadership team

With a transition morning, the Year 6 play and the publication of results from the National Multiplication testing, we have had another exciting week in school. The children enjoyed time in their new classes and we were pleased to welcome our new cohort of Year R children for the morning. We are thrilled and honoured that they have chosen to spend the first seven years of their education at Saint James Primary School.

Thank you to everyone who has bought raffle tickets and sponsored their children for ‘The Big Move’. We look forward to welcoming many of you to our Summer event, after school, next Friday.

Collective Worship



This week's theme:

Forgiveness

This week's bible verse:

Seventy times Seven

Matthew 18:21-35

Our Year 6 children impress during their Leavers' service at Winchester Cathedral

It probably comes as no surprise that it can often be hard to write prose that does justice to our children's fantastic achievements. Therefore, to introduce this recount of our Year 6 children's visit to Winchester Cathedral, as part of their programme of leavers' events, we thought we would share with you the written word of a member of the public who encountered our children during the day:

Dear Mrs Marsh and all at St James,

I just wanted to take a moment to say how much your school pupils' good manners and cheery, friendly natures brightened my morning today!

I was walking back from Winchester high street when I came across one of your year groups on a school visit. As I strolled past, a pupil moved aside for me and I thanked her for being so polite.

As a teacher myself, it was so lovely to see such a calm yet characterful group.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs A E

Over the past seven years, we have regularly extolled the many qualities of our current Year 6 cohort. You might then consider it inevitable that we are a little biased when it comes this very special group of children. However, when reading a message like that, completely unprompted and from a member of the public that has taken the trouble to find the name and contact details for the headteacher, it is evident that others recognise it too!

The Leavers' service, at Winchester Cathedral, is an annual event for Year 6 children in every church school in the Winchester diocese. Always an enjoyable and emotive event, it gives our children opportunity to mix with pupils from other schools who are due to make the transition to secondary school.

During the course of the day, the children participated in a number of engaging activities led by cathedral and diocese staff. However, the impressiveness of the building itself was one of the most impactful memories of the visit. As they entered the cathedral, many children were overcome with awe and wonder at the scale of the wonderful old building. This was compounded as the children completed a planned treasure hunt of the cathedral, looking for significant artefacts and locations, whilst learning about its history.

After learning that many pilgrims to this wonderful, historic building knelt as they traversed a set of stone steps within the confines of the cathedral, many of our children dropped to their knees to replicate the actions of pilgrims throughout the years. It was certainly an impromptu and very special moment.



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In addition to a treasure-hunt activity, the children took part in several other engaging activities such as a topical quiz and Ouisi games (the opportunity to connect and share creative moments with their friends).

Before the Leavers' event each year, there is always an art project for the children across the diocese to complete, so it can be displayed prominently in the cathedral ready for the service. Previously it has included compositions as diverse as decorating a chair and a sheep! Although this year was perhaps less obscure, it was certainly just as impactful. The project, entitled 'TriWonder', saw hundreds of beautifully illustrated animals, birds and insects attached to long lengths of string and suspended from the ceiling.

The project, named 'TriWonder' due to the amalgamation of two words; trinity and wonder was designed to help our children understand themselves as individuals and members of communities. It also aimed to capture the fact that we are part of three significant elements : Sea, Land and Sky. Furthermore, Tri is significant in terms of distance. In the UK, regardless of whether we live in a rural, urban or city setting, we are never more than three metres away from animals, birds or insects.

The idea of Wonder is something we routinely promote, and give opportunity for, through Collective Worship: sensing awe and beauty, and pondering beyond our immediate experience and knowledge. TriWonder is therefore a mixture of both.

We've included some photos to accompany this text, so you can see how impress the installation was, when all the schools' contributions were placed together.

With a recent visit to Paulton's Park, the play, the visit to the cathedral and still leavers' events to go, our wonderful Year 6 children are definitely leaving Saint James on a high, with memories to cherish.



After three 'outstanding' performances; the curtain falls on 'An Inspector Calls'.

We've often said that the best acting you'll find is not in London's West End and theatre district but rather Hampshire's West End and Saint James Primary School. Never could this statement be more true than over the past few days, as the Year 6 children have indulged us in their performance of 'An Inspector Calls'. Those who turned up expecting to see the morality play of the same name, written by J.B. Priestley and often part of the GCSE syllabus, were certainly in for a pleasant surprise. Instead, they were given a glimpse into, what appeared to be, a mockumentary set at Saint James Primary School at the time of an OFSTED inspection!

We think that it is an appropriate time to share the disclaimer that; 'Names, characters, places and incidents are entirely fictitious and any resemblance to actual events or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental!' Now we feel more comfortable with providing a synopsis of the events and the actions of familiar-named characters, in the one-hour spectacular!

Beginning in the confines of the staffroom at Saint James Primary School, the teachers are summoned to an emergency staff meeting. Although fears that the impromptu meeting is to discuss the recent Year 2 trip to a chocolate factory, when all 'freebies' were eaten on the bus home leading to multiple, violent bouts of travel-sickness, the reality was much worse! An impending OFSTED inspection!

Mrs Marsh, uncharacteristically flustered, delivers the news that, although it is the last week of the Summer term and lots of end-of-year activities have been planned, the school is to receive a visit from the inspectors....tomorrow!

Anyone familiar with working in a school, will probably recognise the reality of taking down displays in the final week of the year, in preparation of a 'deep' clean over the Summer holidays. They will therefore empathise with the panicked teachers who delegate repurposing an old display in the hall to a group of less-than-enthusiastic pupils! As they sift through the tatty, torn and smudged pictures and pieces of writing that once made up a display entitled 'The Ancient Greeks', the children wonder how they can re-use it all to make something presentable. And does it actually matter that the 'R' is missing from the selection of letters forming the topic title?

The next day, with the children gathered in the hall for Collective Worship, Mrs Marsh tries to bring some calm to the room. However, as the anxiety reaches crescendo, the three inspectors enter! When the pupils and staff finally fall silent, the lead inspector, Mr Sourbottom, introduces himself and his two colleagues. They give shallow, insincere assurances that their visit is 'nothing to worry about' before beginning their inspection. Though anxious, everyone in school is determined that nothing will go wrong over the next two days and that the inspectors will see Saint James Primary school at its best!

Whilst the impressive OFSTED inspection of last May was truly something to be proud of, we concede that the fictitious events of 'An Inspector Calls', lend themselves more to an



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entertaining dramatic performance. Therefore, somewhat inevitably, things start to go wrong.

In the first lesson observed, an English lesson taught by Miss Elliott, the unfortunate teacher decides to try and impress the inspectors with her teaching by recycling a successful lesson from last term! Her dangerous assumption that her class will answer the questions with confidence and produce work of a high standard is fateful, as the class can't remember anything they've done before! (cue the song 'In One Ear, Out The Other')

The annual staff versus children rounders match, usually a good-natured event, also proves to be the cause of some concern for the inspectors. Their suspicions are raised when it appears that one member of staff seems to be doing all he can to ensure his team loses the game! Then there's the Summer fete; the culmination of tireless efforts by the SJSA to bring the school community together! Not even large quantities of candy floss can distract the inspectors from the fact that there seems to be quite a long queue at the St John's Ambulance tent!

Unlike 2024's real inspection, as their visit draws to an end, in the light of these 'incidents', it seems the inspectors' impression of Saint James Primary School might not be a positive one. However, the discovery of a mysterious envelope and its contents soon convinces Mr Sourbottom and his team that there are much more important things on which to judge a school, (finally, a touch of reality to the eminently enjoyable play)! The contents include a plethora of memories spanning the children's time at the school and the sight of our fabulous Year 6 pupils, passing images of these from person to person as they sang the performance's most emotive song, brought tears to many eyes.

After such a polished performance, it would be nearly impossible to draw-up a list for best actor and supporting actor. However, we would not be surprised to see some of our talented young performers accepting an Oscar, BAFTA or Golden Globe in the not-too-distant future.

Although we have stressed that the events of the play and characters' actions are purely fictitious, we imagine that many of the teachers must have been instrumental in the casting. A lot of the choices of actors must have been as popular with the Saint James staff, as when the casting director told the real-life Erin Brockovich she was going to be played by Julia Roberts!

There are many so-called-reality TV shows where (allegedly) the producers don't let the truth get in the way of an entertaining story. On this occasion, we would like to reassure you that our Year 6 play firmly fits into this category. However the key, underlying, message is definitely pertinent: during their time at Saint James, the children have formed some delightful, long-lasting memories and wonderful friendships that will stay with them for a very long time.



Terrific Times tables success

It seems appropriate, in a week where we've looked at the bible story '*Seventy times Seven*' during Collective Worship, that we have received the results of our Year 4 National Multiplication Check! A few weeks ago, we told you how proud we were of our Year 4 pupils who showed resilience and determination when approaching the National Multiplication Check. We wanted to extend our congratulations at the time, and clarify that our admiration was of their effort and not the score they obtained. However, historically, Saint James have always performed well in the test, which is completed by all Year 4 pupils across the country.

Whilst many of us might think that we are good at times tables, when the expectation is that we answer 25 questions, with only six seconds to respond to each one, in a completely random order, it then becomes a bit trickier. Couple that with the expectation of typing and submitting your answer on a laptop or tablet and the pressure becomes even more. Therefore, we were thrilled to discover that an amazing 40% of our Year 4 pupils managed to get every question correct. Amazingly, that is double the result achieved nationally last year! When we consider the amount of children who scored either 23, 24 or 25 marks, that percentage rises to 56%. We are extremely proud of the efforts of our Year 4 pupils and staff!

Help needed from Global Citizens

At Saint James Primary School, we were proud to achieve our Global Neighbours accreditation and feel a duty to empower our children to be courageous advocates for justice. To do this effectively, we need to garner a greater insight into the issues that impact upon people in these countries. We also think that it's important that we view ourselves as part of the global community, respecting the differences of others regardless of race, religion or belief.

As you are undoubtedly aware, our classes are all named after different countries with each year group's classes grouped together as specific continents or regions of the world. During the first week of the Autumn term, we would like to give the children the opportunity to immerse themselves in the richness of their class country; learning about key things that make the country unique through enriching experiences. Although we can provide the children with basic facts and information about their country, there are many countries that staff haven't visited or experienced the culture and traditions.

If you originate from, have lived in, have families living in or have extensive experience of one of our class countries and would be willing to share some of your experiences with the children from that class during the first week of term in September, please email a.boyden@st-james-westend.hants.sch.uk. We will ensure your contact details are forwarded to the relevant class teacher, for next year.

To prevent anxieties we take the position, of keeping a secret our morning of transition

Walking into school on Thursday morning, many of our children could not have imagined the morning they had ahead of them! As soon as registration had finished, the children were guided to their new classes and class teacher for next year!

Excitedly, the children moved their way down the corridors to see who would be greeting them, when they arrived at their destination. The school could have been lit up with smiles, as so many of the children realised where they would be spending the next year of their education and who they would be with. These smiles only seemed to grow as the morning continued and participated in many exciting tasks, 'getting to know you' exercises and team building activities, as they got to know their new teacher and member of support staff.

Concurrently, our Year 6 pupils, who will be joining either Wildern or Deer Park in September, enjoyed their day visiting their new schools, preparing themselves for their next big step in their journey in education. There was much excitement throughout the school for the rest of the day, and this morning upon the Year 6's return, and we're sure this will now continue through to the first day back in September!

Many of you may have realised, having heard the classes for next year, that there will some movement of staff, although no new teachers joining the school. However, we are pleased that Mrs Cull and Mrs Hibberd will be returning to us from maternity leave and that Mrs Carter (who spent her first few weeks with us as Miss Leahy, until she got married at half-term!) will be staying with us. It is with a very fond farewell that we will be saying 'goodbye' to three much-loved members of our Saint James 'family'. Mrs Schools and Mrs Ife have amassed an impressive 65 years of service to Saint James Primary School between them and Mrs Moody being adored by many in her four years with us. We will definitely miss them and share a more exhaustive 'goodbye' nearer to the end of term.

There will be opportunity to meet your child's new class teacher upon the return to school in September. On Tuesday 9th September, there will be sessions to meet the teacher in your child's new classroom at 4pm, 4.30pm and 5pm.



Thank you to all of you who have supported us by purchasing raffle tickets and sponsoring your children, for the event next Friday. Thank you for your continued support.

The raffle and tombola will be taking place on the field after school on Friday 4th July, between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. All children can be collected from 3pm on this day. This is certain to be a fun event with the opportunity to purchase ice creams from the two ice cream vans present as well as the doughnuts that are being sold.

With the end of term rapidly approaching and thoughts turning to the purchasing of new uniform, we would like to remind you that we receive commission for any name labels bought via *Stikins* and *MyNameTags*. Please follow the links below to purchase any new name labels.

STIKINS



Stikins
Code:
19758
www.stikins.co.uk

My
NameTags
Code: 33714
www.mynametags.com

End of term arrangements

Please note: There has been a change to the start time of the Leavers' service for Year 6 parents. It is now at 12.15pm.

12:15pm	Leavers' service in the hall for parents
1:15pm	Year 6 pupils leave
13:30-13:45	All other year groups leave (staggered end time)
13:45	School is closed for children

Run for fun, at the park (in the sun?)

On Sunday 13th July, we would like to invite you to join us at Dowds Farm Junior Parkrun. Junior Parkrun is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). It starts at 9am. Miss Howell and Mr Jones will be present from 8:45, if you would like to join us. Please note: this is a public event and not an educational visit. You will therefore need to remain present and supervise your children. Further information is included below:

What does it cost to join in?

Nothing - it's free! but please register before you first come along. Only ever register with parkrun once and don't forget to bring a scannable copy of your barcode (request a reminder). If you forget it, you won't get a time.

How fast do I have to be?

The aim is to have fun. Please come along and join in whatever your pace!

Getting there by road

Postcode for Sat Nav **SO30 2LE**. Adjacent to Wellstead School, Hedge End.

Come and visit our Great Exhibition

Attracting over six million visitors, the Great Exhibition of 1851 showcased cultural achievements of nations around the world. Housed in the iconic Crystal Palace and organised by Prince Albert, the five-month-long exhibition was hailed a massive success and has achieved legendary status.

Whilst Saint James Primary School would undoubtedly struggle to accommodate six million visitors, we've no doubt our exhibition for Climate Unity, in our Outdoor Cathedral, will be equally as impressive! After seeing the fantastic artwork that our children produced for the Climate Unity Project, it would have been remiss of us not to share it.

The natural globes, that have not been sent to form part of the exhibition at Winchester Gallery, have been suspended from trees in our outdoor 'cathedral' to form our own Saint James Primary School gallery.

Whilst famous dignitaries at the time visited the Great Exhibition, including Charles Darwin, Karl Marx, Charlotte Brontë and Charles Dickens, we are privileged to be welcoming Sue Bowen, from the Winchester diocese to the opening of our own exhibition. However, drawing another parallel with the famous exhibition of 1851, you don't need to be a 'celebrity' to be invited. Anyone is welcome to view our fantastic artwork on Wednesday 2nd July between 2.30pm and 3.30pm in our environmental area (situated opposite the door to the Camino building).

We would like to say an enormous 'thank you' to Mrs Callard for leading the Climate Unity Art Project and organising the exhibition, as well as persuading her son, a registered tree surgeon, to hang the installations in position.

We look forward to seeing as many of you, as possible at our exhibition next Wednesday. If you have a smartphone with you, you will be able to read about our artwork via QR codes that will be displayed close by.



We're bubbling up against a lack of basic toiletry needs. Can you help us burst Hygiene Poverty?

Our School is collecting Shower Gel, Bubble Bath, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Deodorant, etc.

Eastleigh basics bank
A church led community fed project



Please bring your donations into school during the week of the 30th June to 4th July.

Reaching out the hand of friendship to those in need.

www.eastleighbasicsbank.co.uk
Charity No. 1158825

8 - 12 September 2025

Mental Health Focus Week

A week of training days for Parent/Carers and Professionals provided by Hampshire CAMHS on a variety of subjects.

- 8th Eating Disorders and Difficulties
- 9th Anxiety - understanding and strategies to support young people
- 10th Trauma - The profound impact on young people
- 11th Understanding ADHD
- 12th Embracing Autism

All sessions 9.30am - 3.30pm

All training days are £20

Mental Health bite size sessions

All bite size sessions are £5

We are also running a whole week of bitesized workshops to run alongside these days. The sessions all last one hour and cover topics including: Introduction to mental health, anxiety, low mood, sleep hygiene, trauma and much more.

8 - 12 September 2025

United Reform Church Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RZ

For more information scan the QR codes or visit:

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



Fraser Portraits

This week, you should have received a proof of your child's class photo. Although you can still order after the date, the deadline for free delivery to school is Tuesday 1st July. Any photos ordered after this date will be charged for postage.

HAF SUMMER SCHEMES

Children from Reception to Year 11 receiving benefits-related free school meals can access schemes across Hampshire during the summer holidays at no cost!

Schemes are now open for bookings - scan the QR below to check if you're eligible, find HAF schemes running near you, and book your child(ren)'s place:



<https://fish.hants.gov.uk>

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HAF SUMMER SCHEMES

360 Degrees Sports Coaching

The Crescent Primary School (SO50 9DH)
Knightwood Leisure Centre (SO53 4SJ)

4Wards Multi-Activity

Wellstead Primary School (SO30 2LE)

Active For All

Stoneham Park Academy (SO50 9SB)

Active Future

Wildern Leisure Centre (SO30 4EJ)

ActiveMe 360

Barton Peveril College (SO50 5ZA)
Toynbee School (SO53 2PL)

Creative Kidz

Hamble Primary School (SO31 4ND)

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HAF SUMMER SCHEMES

Computer Xplorers

Nightingale Primary School (SO50 9JW)

GCS Connect4Families

Fair Oak Infant School (SO50 7AN)
The Pavilion On The Park (SO50 9LH)

Globe Fit

Bursledon Infant School (SO31 8BZ)
Saint James Primary School (SO30 3EG)

JG Tennis Coaching

Boorley Green Community Centre (SO32 2RQ)

Personal Best Education

Norwood Primary School (SO50 5JL)
Wildern School (SO30 4EJ)
Wyvern College (SO50 7AN)

Please keep an eye on the FISH website as it will be regularly updated with available HAF schemes.

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Hampshire
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SJSA
The PTA for Saint James School

**Prizes to be drawn
Friday 4th July**

Summer Raffle

1st Prize: £250 cash
2nd Prize: Nintendo Switch
3rd Prize: Overnight stay at The Holiday Inn

Country Road Festival Tickets	Red Funnel Vehicle Crossing
ICON Sports Holiday Camp Session	14 Day Family Pass at David Lloyd
Play Shack Entry	Amazon Echo Dot
Owtons Butchers Voucher	Dinner Date Dining Treat Box
Gel Manicure/Builder & 15% off next appointment	Rock Up!
	Longdown Dairy Farm Entry
	FirstSight Pregnancy Scan Voucher
	Hair Salon Voucher - Cut & Blowdry

& MORE!!!

Sponsored by **Stanford**