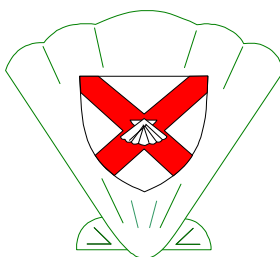


ST. JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Executive Headteacher: **John Tutt**
Head of School: **Debbie Johnson** Deputy Headteacher: **Lucy Hayward**

8th March 2019

Newsletter 12 2019

A message from the Head of School

I don't know about you, but March seems to have snuck up on me. There are definite signs that spring is in the air despite it still being chilly on the gate in the mornings. It is hard to believe that we are only finishing the second week of term but have already packed so much in!

The infant school was surprised to find some strange eggs and rubbish on the playground – they think they were alien eggs and have been doing some fantastic work predicting what might be in the egg and thinking about where they might have come from. I have been shown some outstanding writing that has been inspired by this exciting adventure.

Year 3 had a fabulous day, on Wednesday, at the Museum of Kent Life where they learned more about the life of people in the Stone Age. The children's behaviour was wonderful and they were a credit to you and the school.



Yesterday was World Book Day. Thank you so much for supporting your children and enabling them to dress up as their favourite book. We do appreciate that it is hard work each year but the children really enjoy it and they look amazing! In the morning, the junior children worked in their classes creating and looking at books across a range of authors and genres.

The infants had an exciting story about 'The Three Little Aliens and the Space Wolf' – (sounds familiar!) so they spent the morning making rockets out of different materials. In the afternoon, the two schools joined together for some shared reading. It was lovely to see the older children reading to the younger ones and to hear the conversations as they talked about books they enjoyed.



We are looking forward to lots more exciting learning as the term goes on. We really appreciate the support you give to your children's learning – if you feel there is something specific to our topics that you can support (maybe because of your career) please contact your class teacher. Wishing you all a great weekend,

Debbie Johnson
Head of School



Comic Relief Friday 15th March 2019

Red Noses are on sale in both schools and cost £1.25. However, they have been very popular (more so than we envisaged) so we can only apologise if your child has been disappointed. They are still available in Sainsbury's stores for the same price. Children can wear them to school next Friday. Alternatively (or in addition), they can wear something red (maybe a hairband, a scarf, a t-shirt) and bring a donation of your choice. This is not an 'own clothes day' as such but wearing something red shows our support.

STOP PRESS: These have now sold out at the junior school and we have asked that children keep red noses at home until next Friday to avoid them getting lost or broken.

Mr Hodges' Sports Report

Last week the annual Swimming Gala took place with St James hoping to win for the third year running. Our team swam incredibly well, winning 7 of the individual races. Jasmine J. and Aayan T. both dived impeccably and won the individual diving trophies. Two good results in the relays and victory (by 0.4 of a second!) in the mixed medley meant we had successfully retained our swimming title. We were all immensely proud of our swimmers and returned with a total of 4 trophies; our greatest haul for several years. Huge congratulations to everyone involved.

Onto football where the B team faced Southborough last week in a very tight match. An excellent goal from debutant Joe M. led to a 1-0 victory for the team.

On Monday, the Year 3/4 Hockey team played a tournament at TWGGS. Despite only losing one game, they lost out on goal difference and unfortunately didn't make it through the initial group stage. They played a further 3 games and established themselves as 'the best of the rest' finishing in 9th out of 16 teams. All the children played extremely well in tough, cold conditions and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

School Uniform

We have noticed that there are quite a few children wearing fashion boots in school. Please could you ensure that your child has black shoes (lace up, velcro, buckle) as that is the requirements for our school uniform. We understand that in the inclement weather children need wellington boots but they need school shoes for indoor. Thank you for your cooperation.

International Day – Thursday 14th March 2019

Mrs Featherstone has been working hard with her team of volunteers to organise an International Day next week. The purpose of this is to celebrate the diverse community in which we live and help children to understand more about the language and cultures of some of their peers. During the day the children will be taking part in a wide range of activities, including listening to stories in another language and learning some phrases. If you feel that you could contribute to the day please contact your class teacher or Mrs Featherstone.

Our Driveway

Please, please, please do not pull into the bottom of the driveway to drop off or turn round in the morning. There are hundreds of children walking across there in the morning and they cannot always be seen when you are reversing. There were two very near misses last week with a Range Rover and a Ford reversing into the path of children walking. Please consider our pupils' safety and find a safer place to turn round or drop off.

Dates for your diary – Please note new dates or changes in bold

W/C 11/03/2019	British Science Week
14/03/2019	International Day
15/03/2019	Red Nose Day - Wear a red nose or something red for a donation
15/03/2019	PTA meeting at 2pm in Infants - Parents welcome
19/03/2019	Parent Consultations – 3.30 to 6.30pm
20/03/2019	Parent Consultations – 3.30 to 6.30pm
22/03/2019	3P Class Assembly at 9.10am – Parents invited
29/03/2019	6S Class Assembly at 9.10am – Parents invited
29/03/2019	Own Clothes Day in exchange for Easter Egg
29/03/2019	PTA's Easter Egg Bingo at 7pm
02/04/2019	Easter Service at St. James' Church with Infants - Children only
05/04/2019	Last day of term 4
05/04/2019	DanceFest - TW & Area Schools' dance competition at Assembly Hall
23/04/2019	First day of term 5