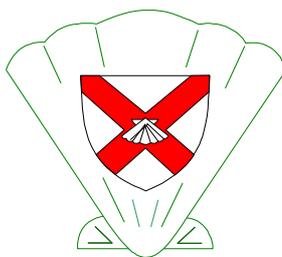


# ST. JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

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

12<sup>th</sup> July 2019

## *Newsletter 19 2019*

### A message from the Executive Headteacher

As we come to the end of term, we have the opportunity to look back on the year behind us, and also to look forward to the year ahead.

We have some "goodbyes" to say to some of our staff. Carol Kemp, who has worked in Chestnut class this year, is leaving us after many many years of service (seventeen) at the infants to enjoy a very well-deserved retirement. Kate Moore, who has worked in Cedar class this year, is also leaving us after 6 years at St James' for a career change. We will miss both of them very much and wish them the very best for the future.

Natalie, who has taught Oak class this year, is also leaving to begin her maternity leave. We wish her well and look forward to meeting the newest member of the Ravenscroft family.

We would also like to say a big "goodbye" and "thank you" to Debbie Johnson, who was seconded to us from Pembury this year to help to lead our two schools. She has been an excellent leader across the schools and we have all benefited from her hard work, wisdom and sense of humour. We wish her well as she returns to Pembury.

My final goodbyes are for the children and families who are leaving the school for pastures new; some families have had children at St James' for many years so this will be a very special end of term for them. We wish the children well in their secondary schools and know that they will continue to thrive and grow as they have here. They have enriched St James' and they move on to enrich many other lucky schools.

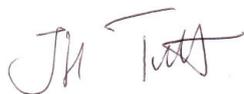
As well as farewells, we also have a couple of "hellos" to say. We welcome a new teacher, Barry Pritchard, to the school. He will be teaching in Year 5 and we look forward to embracing him within the St James' family. We are also delighted that Holly Shortland returns to us from maternity leave, and she will be teaching in Year 1.

I would also like to thank all of the staff at both schools for the hard work, dedication and commitment to the children of St James' that they have shown every day. I would like to thank the children for being their wonderful selves; I would also like to thank all of the parents for their



continuing support. It has been, as ever, a privilege to be the executive headteacher of St James' this year, although I am very relieved that post amalgamation I will reclaim a job title (headteacher) that does not require an explanation to all who hear it.

Have a wonderful summer.



John Tutt  
Executive Headteacher

## A message from the Head of School

This is quite a historic newsletter in that it is the last one that will be sent separately to infant and junior parents. In September, there will be one for the primary school. This is a fantastic development for the schools and the staff have all been working hard together to get everything ready for the new adventure in September.

It has been lovely to see so many parents at consultation evenings this week. There were a lot of happy faces on the way out so I hope you are as proud as we are of your children's achievements this year. I am sure you will join me in thanking the teachers and teaching assistants for all their hard work in and out of the classroom.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children, staff and parents at St James' for making me feel so welcome and for making the year I have spent with you all so enjoyable. It will be a wrench to go back to Pembury in September. All the children will be doing something new in September too and I wish them all good luck in whatever they choose to do, especially those going to new schools. St James' has given you all the tools you need to be a success in the world – it's up to you to make it happen!

I wish you all a peaceful and enjoyable summer. Have fun in the sunshine and remember to stay safe.



Debbie Johnson  
Head of School

### **St James CE (Aided) Primary School**

I am very pleased that in September, your children will be pupils of St James' CE (Aided) primary School. We are currently planning a celebration for the new term, so please keep a lookout in the newsletters for more details. A new school website has been created and is currently being filled with information. Staff will also have new email addresses, although existing ones should continue to work for the first few months of the new school. We will send out more information as soon as we can.

The leadership structure of what will be one of the joint largest schools in Tunbridge Wells will be as follows:

John Tutt	Headteacher
Lucy Hayward	Deputy Headteacher & Upper Phase lead (Years 5 & 6)
Christina Dennett	Assistant Headteacher & Middle Phase lead (Years 2, 3 & 4)
Sarah Greenfield	Assistant Headteacher & Lower Phase lead (Early Years & Year 1)
Penny Wardell	Assistant Headteacher & SENCO

They have all been a highly effective leadership team this year and I look forward to working with them next year in their new roles, as they extend their responsibilities across the new school.

### **Sports Day**

Thank you to all the parents and families for coming to support both schools' Sports Days. There was a lovely atmosphere all day and the children had a great time.

We also need to say a huge thank you to all the staff and volunteers who helped ensure that the day ran smoothly but especially to Mr Hodges and Mrs Russell who coordinated events.

### **Year 3 Hockey**

(from Mrs Dennett – teacher at Bennett Memorial School)

Well done to all the Year 3s for taking part in the Help for Heroes extreme dribbling challenge!

The coaches from Bennett Memorial School and Crowborough Hockey Club were all hugely impressed with the speed the pupils picked up the skills and with their enthusiasm and hard work. Congratulations to Billy, Marie, Ashleigh, Robin and Alfie who managed to beat Eddie in goal – and to Loch, Daniel, William and Lara who forced tricky saves.

There's still time to bring in your £1 for Help for Heroes. The main Hockeython has already raised more than £2,000 (inc gift aid) where you can donate direct at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hockeython>



### **Local Residents**

Over the last couple of weeks we have had complaints from local residents concerning inconsiderate parking and use of the pavements in the surrounding roads. We do appreciate that the roads and paths are very busy in the morning but please be considerate of other road users and pedestrians. Simple things like encouraging your children to walk in single file to let others past show respect to others.

### **St James' Holiday Club**

It's time to sign up for this year's Holiday Club at St. James' church. For all children currently in Reception to Year 6. Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August, 10:00 - 12:30. Based on the digital

game 'Guardians of Ancora'. Find it at [guardiansofancora.com](http://guardiansofancora.com). Activities, games, Bible stories, craft - fun for everyone! If you haven't had an application form at school you can find one at [stjamestw.co.uk](http://stjamestw.co.uk).

### **Photographs and Social Media**

There are a lot of exciting events at this point of the school year and, as parents, we want to capture these memories on our phones and cameras. We always allow parents to take photographs at these events with the request that they are not shared on social media. Some families do not want their child's image on such platforms and some children can be put at risk if their location is publicised. This request extends to after school clubs, matches and concerts too. Please make sure you seek permission from other parents before posting photos of their children.

### **Year 6 Leavers' Service**

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our annual Leavers' Service on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. It commences at 2.00 p.m. and should be over soon after 3.00 p.m.

It is assumed that children will be collected by an adult after the service but if you would prefer your child to be brought back to school for collection at the normal time please let your child's teacher know. Please note that children will NOT be allowed to walk home alone after the church service.

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

16/07/2019	Panto to school at 9.00am
16/07/2019	Year 6 Leavers' Party 6.30pm to 8pm
17/07/2019	Panto to parents at 2.00pm
17/07/2019	Panto to parents at 7.00pm
<b>18/07/2019</b>	<b>Year 3 Greek Day</b>
18/07/2019	Panto to parents at 7.00pm
19/07/2019	5S Class Assembly at 9.10am – Parents invited
22/07/2019	Church Leavers' Service at 2.00pm at St James' Church
23/07/2019	Last day of term 6
02/09/2019	Staff development day
03/09/2019	Staff Development day