



FRIDAY NEWS

15TH
NOVEMBER
2024

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



TRUST SERVICE

On Thursday, children from St James were joined by others from across the trust for a special service held at Bolton Parish Church to commemorate Remembrance Day. Readings and prayers were performed beautifully by the children before a collection of poppy wreaths was laid before the altar. The service was closed by the joint choirs from across the trust singing songs from Vera Lynn, including 'Bless 'em All', 'The Washing on the Siegfried Line' and 'We'll Meet Again'.

As always, the children did St James proud with their behaviour and singing. Thank you to those who came in costume to help add to the mornings atmosphere.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Class 1 - Jack W

Class 2 - Bleu L

Class 3 - Isabelle S

Class 4 - Raphael F

Class 5 - Tamara B

Class 6 - Elisabeth C

Class 7 - Henry W

Class 8 - Pearl L

Class 9 - Michael Mc

Class 10 - Levi C

Class 11 - Ayoub A

Class 12 - Ahmed A

GOLD SCROLL

Lucas R, Faith Y,
Atlanta C, Dolly-Ann K,
Jean S, Ruby Y,
Lilly-May H, Decan Mc,
Jan Y, Jerry S, Daniel O
Joshua D, Isabella P,
Eshaal M, Moed M,
Zina S, Zahir A,
River-Lea G, Isabelle S,
Nora C, Oluoma N,
Tobi-Jaye B, Peter O

CHRISTIAN VALUES

Our Christian value this half term is **Peace**.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you."

John 14:27

ICYMI

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

OCTAGON WORKSHOP

Classes 4 and 5 took part in a storytelling workshop with the Octagon Theatre based on the story of Hansel & Gretel. The children all enjoyed listening to the story and then acting out the different parts in drama workshops. The children had lots of fun and we have some budding actors in our midst.

CONDUCT AROUND SCHOOL

St James is committed to ensuring a positive experience for all children who attend. If, for whatever reason, an issue arises, please come and speak to us so that we can resolve the problem together. We operate an open-door policy with staff who are more than happy to help. However, to protect our staff members, we do operate a Zero Tolerance Policy. Thank you for ensuring our school remains a safe space for all.

NATIVITY DATES

Reception Nativity

Tuesday 10th December at 9:30 am.

Wednesday 11th December at 2:15 pm.

KS1 Christmas Performance

Tuesday 10th December at 2:15 pm.

Wednesday 11th December at 9:30 am.

Class 11's Christmas Assembly

Friday 13th December at 2:45 pm.

Little Saints & Nursery Pup-Up Nativity

Thursday 19th December at 9 am & 1 pm.

COMING UP SOON

Mon 18th

Swimming begins for Years 4 & 6. Please see further information below.

Monday 25th

Enterprise Week

Wednesday 27th

No Pens Day

Friday 29th

Christmas Fair at 2 pm.
Children to finish school at 2pm.

Monday 2nd December

Swimming begins for Year 3 & 5

Tuesday 3rd December

Little Saints Stay & Learn at 2:15 pm



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



HOLIDAY DATES



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.





Will the swimming pool be heated?

Yes! The swimming pool will be heated to an average of 30.5 degrees Celsius, which is warmer than public swimming pools.

Will the changing rooms be outside?

There are separate changing rooms for boys and girls. The pool complex you have seen has not been finished yet. The pool and changing rooms will be enclosed and heated within the marquee when finished. This is checked regularly throughout the day. The material the marquee is made from is very good at helping to retain the heat. The children will be kept warm.

Does my child have to take part?

Yes – it is a national curriculum requirement for children to be taught swimming and be able to swim 25m by the end of primary. Unfortunately, swimming in just one year group does not provide enough opportunity, and a large percentage of children leave school unable to swim and perform safe self-rescue in water situations. School is now in a position to provide lessons for this life-saving skill for all classes in key stage 2.

SWIMMING FAQS



Will my children need a swimming cap?

Yes – all children are required to wear a swimming cap. These will be provided by school but children can wear their own if they want to.

Can they wear goggles?

No, unless they are instructed to by the swimming instructor.

Do I have to pay for swimming lessons?

Swimming lessons during the school day are paid for by the school. There is no cost to parents for these lessons.

Parents are only required to pay if they would like additional lessons that are available before and after school. These are optional.

Who will be teaching my child?

Children will be taught in small groups of up to 12. They will be taught by a trained swimming instructor and a lifeguard.

They have had lots of experience teaching children of all abilities, including non-swimmers, how to swim. All swimming aides, such as armbands, will be provided.

SWIMMING FAQS

What will they need?

- A plastic bag for wet towels and clothes
- A full swimming costume for girls/swimming trucks or swimming shorts above the knee for boys
- A swimming cap (see above)
- A towel

All jewellery must be removed and not covered.

SWIMMING FAQS