



**St James' Church of England Junior School**  
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*"With exploring minds, and faith, we achieve our challenging goals."*

Newsletter Issue no.32  
w/e 28 May 2021

## Welcome to this week's newsletter

### PUPILS OF THE WEEK

The children have all been working extremely again this week. Here are our Pupils of the Week-

Class 1 - Matthew C & Jack J

Class 2 - Zac M & Jack H

Class 3 - Emme S & Jimi F

Class 4 - Zayne M

Class 5 - Kai S

Class 6 - Jack B & Charlotte B



### Timestable Rockstars

Maths Class 1 - Matthew C

Maths Class 2 - Alfie H

Maths Class 3 - Alisha M

Maths Class 4 - Lilia T

Maths Class 5 - Ellis M

Maths Class 6 - Jules F



### Attendance winners:

**Class 1 & 6 had top attendance this week and will receive an extra MUGA day.**

**Overall school attendance this is week: 96.41%**

Please note all Covid-19 absence is excluded

### Spelling Shed Superstars

Class 1 - Eva M

Class 2 - Olivia A

Class 3 - Olivia C

Class 4 - Erin S

Class 5 - Modana M

Class 6 - Issie A

Each week, all of the children gaining 100% in a reading quiz are placed into a prize draw to win a book of their choice. This weeks winners were Rhys F, Noah L & Ava C



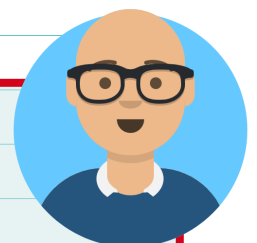
**Spelling Shed** 



Click this icon to email the school office

As ever, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about any aspect of school life.

Mr Beattie



Well half-term is nearly upon us. The main focus for staff this half-term has been to support the children in returning to school and getting back into the usual routines around productive work and safe play. We're still faced with a wide number of restrictions and safety procedures that the children have got used to quickly and have been effective in keeping us stay safe and untouched by Covid. The most pleasing element of the term has been a return to some of the nice activities and clubs that the children gain so much from. My hopes and prayers now focus on next half-term and the continuing enjoyable learning experiences we can offer our students. But for now, the children and staff deserve a well-earned rest and we look forward to catching up with you all again on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.



**Attendance** - I have mentioned on the newsletter before how there are signs that things are starting to feel more normal, and one of these signs is the issue of absence being taken for holidays during school time. Except for exceptional circumstances, we are unable to authorise this type of absence under government guidance. However, in order for us to safeguard children effectively, we strongly encourage parents to inform us of their whereabouts and reasons for absence. We have a dedicated form for this which we will email out to parents if they request a term-time absence.

Although I appreciate the pressures we have all faced as families over the past 15 months I wish to openly discourage children being taken out of school during term time. As a school, we are working tirelessly to make up for 2 academic years of disruption and recognise the importance of children being in school each day to allow them to make academic progress.

To make clear, our procedure under covid restrictions will be for you to call school to request a term time absence. We will email you our form that should include as much detail as possible. In some circumstances we will be able to authorise the absence. Any known absences where the children have been on holiday and the school has not been informed correctly will automatically go down as an unauthorised absence. School attendance is again a high-priority of our local authority with schools once again being scrutinised by how they manage attendance in school. We pride ourselves on the significant improvement we have made in boosting attendance over the past 4 years and wish to maintain this standard in a crucial period of your child's education. It is worth noting that the Local Authority have powers to sanction poor attendance habits and high levels of term time holidays taken.



**'SATS Breakfast Club'**— Not quite the same as in previous years but it was quite nice to re-ignite the tradition of a SATs Breakfast club, even if it were for only 1 day. As you will see from the photos, it was a glorious morning for it, with the children enjoying a sausage butty, a glass of juice and a nice chat with each other in the morning sunshine. Special thanks to Mrs Raby for coming in early to prepare the breakfast for the students. See the pictures [here!](#)

**School trips** — The Lower bubble ventured down to The Beacon Museum as an end-of-topic treat. The children have really enjoyed studying about the Vikings and it was great for the children to head to the museum to speak to experts, explore artefacts and showcase their learning and understanding. Special thanks to Alan at the Beacon for accommodating our visit and putting on such engaging activities. Links to the galleries on the next page.....

**Schoolmoney**—The new schoolmoney system has opened up this week and we can already see dinner and EBASC bookings being made—Thank you for your patience during this process. Just to confirm—

- No further payments should be made into either ParentMail or SchoolGrid (other than the direct debits scheduled for 1st June)
- All debit and credit balances will be transferred for dinner money and EBASC by the first week back
- Everyone should have received a link (1 per child) - Please get logged into the system as soon as you can to ensure you can access the system. If you require an additional account per child, i.e. for both parents let the office know.
- In addition to payment through the app, we will now be able to accept card payments in the office if this is your preferred payment method
- Handy Hint—When making bookings always ensure you 'CheckOut' or 'Reserve' to complete the action!

Can we please gently remind parents to be mindful of residents living in the streets around the school. We have had complaints that they are struggling to find parking places around their homes at busy school times and would be grateful if parents could park as conscientiously as possible to maximise availability of parking spaces.



Here are links to some activities which have been happening in school this week -



- [Class 4](#) & [Class 5](#) at the Beacon (I'm sure Class 6 will get added shortly too after their visit on Friday!)
- [Class 6](#) have been testing different surfaces
- [Mr C's sunny sports group](#) from this week with the girls from the Upper Bubble

Check out some of the other [galleries](#) showing the children learning and exploring a range of different topics. Check out your child's [class page](#) here.



### Coming up at St James' (new and changes in red)-

- 31st May – Friday 4th June—Half term
- Fridays; 11th June 18th June, 25th June 2nd July & 9th July—PE Coaching with Emma M
- Thursday 17th June—Class Photographs
- Friday 18th June - Year 5/6 Boys Football Competition – Carlisle
- Friday 25th June - Year 5/6 Girls Football Competition – Carlisle
- **Monday 28th June**—Pupil Progress & Welfare Governors Meeting
- Monday 28th – Wednesday 30th June – Yr 6 Residential to Robinwood (**Payments can now be made on SchoolMoney**)
- Thursday 1st July—Sports Day
- Friday 2nd July – Year 3/4 Mixed Football Competition - Carlisle
- Monday 5th July – Friday 9th July – Year 6 Cyclewise – Cycling Proficiency
- Wed 7th July – Moving Up: Year 2 visit SJJ, Year 6 attending St Benedict's and The Whitehaven Academy
- Monday 12th July - School Reports going out & Full Governors Meeting

### Weekly Clubs & Activities

- Monday – Mr C's Sports Group (3:30pm – 4:30pm) - **NEW ROTA 7th June - Year 6 boys (14th - Yr 5&6 Girls and 21st - Yr 5 Boys)**
- Tuesday—Lower Bubble Cookery Club (3:15pm – 4:10pm) - By Invitation
- Wednesday – Zumba Club - **9th June** (3:15pm – 4:00pm) - **Lower Bubble**
- Wednesday—Year 5 Adventure Club at Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project (collect directly from WHYP Swingpump Lane)
- Thursday - Mr C's Year 6 Drama Group (3:30pm – 4:15pm)
- Friday— Lower Bubble Football Club (**Class 6—11th June**) (3:15pm – 4:15pm)