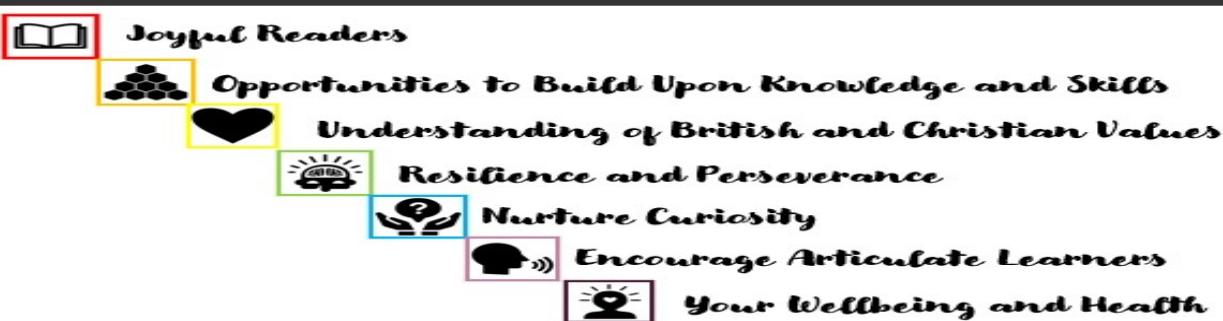




NEWSLETTER

Email: www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk Twitter: @StJamesCEsth

Learn, Laugh and Live with the Love of God



2023-2024 Issue Number 1 8th September 2023

OUR VALUE THIS HALF TERM IS: THANKFULNESS



Mrs Young's Message ...

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a first week we have had! It's been truly fantastic to rejoin together a school family and hear about the adventures the children (and staff!) have had and the memories that have been made.



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As always, we have lots to look forward to across this year and I do encourage you to check out the diary dates that are on the newsletter.

This year we will be working hard to support families with school attendance - this is a National priority and a St Helens wide priority too. Senior Leaders, alongside Mrs Fowler our EWO, will be working closely with pupils and families this year to provide help and guidance where-ever needed. If you do receive a letter inviting you to an informal meeting in the next few weeks, I do encourage you do attend. These meetings are intended to offer support and advice only - many parents report that they feel much more informed and able to make small but important changes after the meetings.

Next week is Democracy Day (Friday 15th September) and on this day children will be voting for which pupil leadership team they would like to be in and for Vision Ambassador members from each class (this is our new name for the school council!). Any Y6 pupils who would like to put themselves forward for Head Boy or Head Girl should prepare a 'manifesto' to present in our Democracy Day assembly next week. More information will be sent home today for you to share with your child.

It's due to be an absolute scorcher this weekend and I hope that you all enjoy what could be the last of the summer sunshine with your loved ones,

With Love,

Mrs Young

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance

Whole School	97.3%
Reception	100%
Year 1	95.8%
Year 2	99.6%
Year 3	99.4%
Year 4	98.1%
Year 5	88.8%
Year 6	99.1%



168 pupils with perfect attendance this week.

Can we beat this next week?



Attendance Matters



Attendance Update

We need to try really hard each and every week to make sure every year group is beating our **97% target**—this will help us to succeed!

Our attendance this week is:

97.3%



Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school between **8:40 to 8:50** ready for learning. After 9:00, children will be recorded as late receiving an 'unauthorised absence'. Please note that lessons start straight away in the morning with retrieval time and therefore your child will be missing valuable learning time if they arrive after the time stated.

Attendance

Please ensure that your child achieves a good attendance record (our school target is 97% ... this still would mean 4 weeks of missed school!) Try to avoid holidays within school time as this may affect your child's progress. Due to a recent change in the law, it is no longer possible for the Headteacher to authorise holidays during term time.

Uniform

Please make every effort to ensure that your child is wearing the correct Uniform and that it is clearly labelled. Children should wear completely black shoes – not trainers. P.E kits should only be worn on specified P.E days, which will change each half-term. Please note that children should not wear any form of jewellery (only stud earrings are allowed) and hairstyles and accessories must conform with school policy. No 'extremes' of hairstyles are allowed.

School Bags and Home School Diaries

We ask that your child only bring the schoolbook bag to school each day. Due to space restrictions in our classrooms, no large rucksacks will be permitted in school. Please ensure that your child also packs their Home/School Diary in their bag each day. These are an essential form of communication and also key to our approach to learning and independent study.

Snack

Children in years 1-6 can bring in their own healthy snack to eat at breaktime. This must not be chocolate, crisps or a sugary cereal bar. Water bottles are permitted but these must only be filled with water.

Weekly Headteacher's Award

Winners

Journey Driver Focus:

Joyful Readers

YEAR 1	Sophia Illes
YEAR 2	John-Paul Hagan
YEAR 3	Elliot Lee
YEAR 4	Amelia-Lily Bell
YEAR 5	Ruby Everall
YEAR 6	Thomas Abbott

Reading at St James

Our approach to reading consists of weekly phonics (YR and KS1) or whole class reading lessons (KS2). In addition to this, we listen to children read whenever possible; have various interventions running throughout the year and have a text based English curriculum which means classes are sharing and enjoying books each and every day. Although we read whenever possible in school, it is still extremely important for parents to listen to their child read too— and to sign/ add comment to their Home/School diary.

A text message will also be sent home for all children reading 3 times per week as a thank you for supporting your child's reading. For those children reading 4 times or more a week for 10 consecutive weeks they will receive a prize.



In every force. In every school. For every child.

Our school is part of Operation Encompass which is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and police forces.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse. (The Operation Encompass information is stored in line with all other confidential safeguarding and child protection information). The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

As a school we have ensured that we have members of our staff, (the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Lead) known as Key Adults, who have been trained in the Operation Encompass procedures allowing them to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care. We are aware that we must do nothing that puts the child/ren or the non-abusing adult at risk .

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved. As a staff we have discussed how we can support our children who are experiencing Domestic Violence and Abuse on a day-to-day basis and particularly following an Operation Encompass notification. We use the Operation Encompass Key Adult Responsibilities checklist to ensure that all appropriate actions have been taken by the school.

Please be aware that if a child is absent from school after an Operation notification has been received then a home visit will take place.

St James CE Safeguarding Team



St James CE Primary School



Mrs. J Young

Executive Head Teacher

Deputy DSL



Mrs. T Briers

Deputy Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Lead
(DSL)



Mrs. A Conant

Inclusion Manager (SENCO)

Deputy DSL

Mental Health Lead



William Wissell

Chair of Governors
Safeguarding



Miss A Barrett

Learning Support Assistant
Young Carers Champion



Mrs. G Evans

Learning Support Assistant
Young Carers Champion