





NEWSLETTER


Email: www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk


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Journeying Together to Learn, Live, and Laugh with the Love of God


 **Joyful Readers**


 **Opportunities to Build Upon Knowledge and Skills**

 **Understanding of British and Christian Values**

 **Resilience and Perseverance**

 **Nurture Curiosity**

 **Encourage Articulate Learners**

 **Your Wellbeing and Health**

2023-2024 Issue Number 35 Friday 28th 2024

**OUR VALUE THIS
HALF TERM IS:
TRUTHFULNESS**

A message from Mrs Young

ST JAMES

Dear Parents and Carers,



We have finished June off with a lovely week in school this week.

We continue our focus on our Christian Value of Truthfulness and we have had some lovely discussions in worship and in class about the importance of telling the truth. Maybe ask your child about this at home?

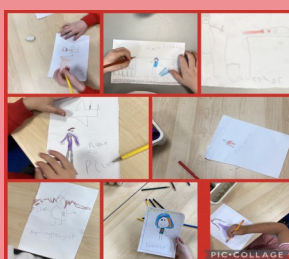
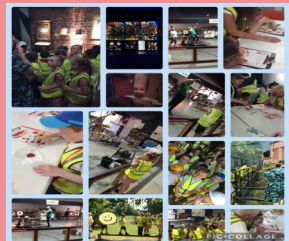
Reception have been working with 'Hands' a British Sign Language educational service over the past 10 weeks and on Thursday they proudly were able to sing and sign nursery rhymes to their parents and carers - just brilliant!

Well done also to the 5 members of the Ethos Team who represented St James' so beautifully at the LDST Ethos Day on Thursday held at Halewood CE in Liverpool. You were a credit to us all!

Next week is both transition week and STEM week. Children are to wear their PE kits all week, apart from on Wednesday when for a minimum £1 donation, we ask children to come into school dressed in the colours of the Ugandan flag (red, black, yellow) as we look to raise as much money as possible for our partner school New Hope in Uganda. All LDST schools will be raising money for New Hope on this day. St James sponsors a pupil at New Hope called Rashidah- we do hope the money we raise benefits her and her friends greatly. We are also asking for donations of cakes on this day too (home made or shop bought ... MUST BE NUT FREE!) so we can sell cakes across the day. We will put our 'healthy school' agenda to one side on this occasion!!! Thanks in advance for your support with this.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Young



School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance	
Whole School	92.9%
Reception	93%
Year 1	92.3%
Year 2	94.7%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	94.1%
Year 5	87.8%
Year 6	92%



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:

94.3%

133 pupils with perfect attendance this week.

Can we beat this next week?



Summer Attendance Competition

At St James we place huge importance on regular school attendance—the research speaks for itself and proves that those with the highest levels of attendance achieve great things!

We therefore now invite you to take part in our Summer 2 Attendance Challenge.

What do you need to do?



How can you win?

Come to school every day, and most importantly on time, between

Monday 3rd June and Friday 12th July

What can you win?

A mystery box of toys, games and arts and crafts to keep you busy over the Summer Holidays.

New Attendance Guidance

We are making parents aware of new Government guidance regarding unauthorised absences which comes into effect from 19th August 2024.

From this date, if your child has 5 school days (10 sessions) of unauthorised absence within a 10 week rolling period, it is likely that you will be issued with a fixed penalty notice.

If your child then has a 2nd period of unauthorised absence within 3 years and triggers another fixed penalty notice, this fine will increase. If your child has a 3rd period, this will likely result in a prosecution. We will be sending you official guidance from St Helens as soon as we receive it.



Journey Driver Focus:

RECEPTION	Isabella Burronws
YEAR 1	Myla Hart
YEAR 2	Eleanor Kenton
YEAR 3	James Hunter
YEAR 4	Brook Cooper
YEAR 5	Dulagee Dias
YEAR 6	Charlie Topping-Smith



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT



Whole School events Summer 2

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
17/06/24	Refugee Week
18/06/24	Reception School Trip - Manchester Airport
20/06/24	Year 4 Trip - Liverpool Museum and Ferry Ride
21/06/24	World Music Day
26/06/24	Year 2 Trip - World of Glass
01/07/24	Outwood Academy Induction Day
02/07/24	Outlook Academy Induction Day
02/07/24	Reception vision Test
03/07/24	New Hope Charity Day
09/07/24	Sports Day - Times to be confirmed
12/07/24	Reception Assembly 9.00am
16/07/24	Reserve Sports Day
17/07/24	Year4 Swimming - Last Finishes
18/07/24	Year 6 Leavers Service - St James' Church 9.30am
19/07/24	Close Closes for Summer 2pm

**MOVIE
NIGHT**

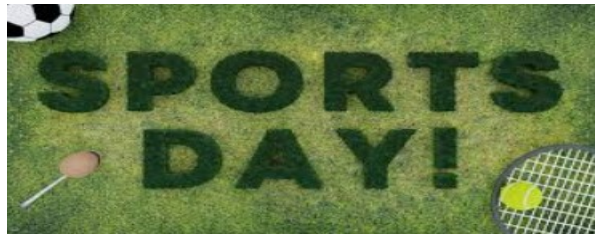
TUESDAY 2nd July 4.30 - 7pm

ST JAMES SCHOOL HALL

**MOVIE SHOWING
THE MITCHELLS VS THE MACHINES**

**HOT DOGS, POPCORN, SWEETS, DRINKS
AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THE NIGHT**

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT



Sports day will take place on the school field, (weather permitting), on Tuesday 9th July.

The times are as follows:

- Reception, Year 1 and 2 - 9.30am
- Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 - 1.30pm

Parents are most welcome to attend. Please enter via the bottom car park. All children are to wear their PE kit on sports day.

A reserve sports day has been pencilled in for Tuesday 16th July should we have to cancel due to the weather.



LDST Fundraising Day 2024 New Hope School and Orphanage

On 3rd July, all LDST schools will be taking part in a 'Charity Day' to raise money for New Hope. This year we are hoping collectively to help raise money to provide some solar power facilities, to improve water supplies and to buy new furniture and resources. Every penny we raise helps so much!

With this in mind, on 3rd July, children are encouraged to come into school dressed in red, black or yellow (the colours of the Ugandan flag) for a minimum £1 donation. This can be paid via school money (£1 minimum up to a **maximum of your choice!**).

Thanks for your support - we hope to make a real difference to the children's lives!



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Transition Week/STEM Week Arrangements:

The beginning of next week, Monday the 1st of July to Wednesday 3rd of July, is our whole school transition week where your child will spend time with their new class teacher (stated on last week's newsletter). This year, this will be a STEM week focussed upon the theme of 'Conservation'.

Staffing arrangements for next year were explained by Mrs Young on a previous newsletter and can also be found below.

Current Year Group	New Year Group in September	New Teacher
Reception	Year 1	Mrs Lister
Year 1	Year 2	Mrs Bond
Year 2	Year 3	Mrs Battersby
Year 3	Year 4	Miss Bleese//Mrs Atherton (when she returns from maternity leave.)
Year 4	Year 5	Miss McDonald
Year 5	Year 6	Mr Moon

Please note that there will be no change to drop off and pick up time or the location of pick up on these days.

With this in mind, please also consider the following:

Please send your child in their P.E kit all week, (as they will be completing lots of outdoor learning). A reminder that Wednesday is our New Hope for Africa charity day.

Children can wear something red, yellow or black, the colours of the Uganda flag for a £1 donation on School Money. Children who have not donated are to come to school in their PE kit on this day.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for potentially warm weather (including sun cream and a hat) and also has a jacket/coat in case of rain.

Book bags will not be needed from Monday through to Wednesday.

Finally, home learning tasks will be sent home. It would be great if your child could participate in these across the week.

We hope this will be a fantastic week with lots of wonderful activities taking place. If there is anything you are unsure of, please check with the school office

Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Social Media

This week our safeguarding focus is on social media. Children and young people use many different social media apps and sites. The most popular are Facebook and Instagram, and there are many others such as Snapchat, TikTok and Twitter.

Whilst there are many benefits to pupils having access to the online world, it also comes with many risks, especially if use is unsupervised. Studies have found that excessive use of social media increases a young person's susceptibility to depression, anxiety, poor body image and self worth. It can also impact a child's sleep routine, which in turn can affect their ability to concentrate and thrive in school.

Please ensure that you follow the age restrictions for different social media apps available. Most of the apps have age restrictions starting at 13 years old. These are in place to protect the children.



National Online Safety Tip of the Week

Gambling

A 2023 report from the Gambling Commission found that 40% of 11–to 17-year-olds had some experience of gambling in the preceding 12 months. That's a significant number of children and young people involved in an over 18s activity. Engagement and exposure to gambling can impact one's finances, mental health and wellbeing. It is crucial we are all aware of the risks and know how to protect and support our children.

It is quite challenging to protect our children against exposure to gambling at any time, but especially around major sport events like Euro 2024 . This week's Wake up Wednesday guide tackles the most prominent risks that gambling poses to young people, and explains how best to protect against them.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GAMBLING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Gambling can be defined as betting or risking money or something of value on the outcome of a situation involving chance. Under current regulations, gambling is legal for adults in the UK. Its potential impacts on the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities are well documented – emphasising the importance of safeguarding children and young people against these hazards.

MANIPULATIVE ADVERTISING

FREE BET!

Adverts for online bookmakers and betting exchanges can raise concerns about targeting vulnerable groups, fostering addiction, promoting misleading expectations, impacting mental health, affecting social norms, posing regulatory challenges, influencing minors and other ethical issues. Effective regulation, responsible advertising practices and public education are essential to mitigate these concerns and address the potential harms associated with excessive exposure to manipulative advertisements.

ADDICTIVE FEATURES

All gambling products carry safety concerns, but some can be even riskier and more addictive. The frequency with which people can place bets can encourage them to do so often – with rapid spins and multiple betting options, for example. Betting on sports events, especially with live in-play betting options, can be highly engaging and habit forming. The 24/7 availability of online platforms can also increase the risk of excessive gambling, particularly among young people.

PEER PRESSURE

Exposure to gambling through friends, influencers or social circles can normalise risky behaviour and create unrealistic expectations about the chances of winning. Addressing peer influence requires support services, responsible advertising practices and effective education on the subject to minimise the impact on children and promote healthier choices.

IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH

Gambling can exacerbate mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, and stress – especially if it leads to financial loss. Individuals with existing mental health conditions may use gambling as a coping mechanism – but the cycle of gambling can worsen their symptoms, creating a detrimental impact on overall wellbeing. Integrated support services and treatment options are crucial to address these interconnected challenges effectively.

GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS

Certain features of other products – such as video games that offer in-game purchases – can lead to gambling among young people. These mechanisms can sometimes be designed to exploit psychological vulnerabilities, encouraging repeated spending to acquire virtual items or advantages. Such practices can normalise the associated risks and desensitise young people to putting their or their family's money in danger.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

The most common impacts of online betting come in the form of financial losses and debt. This, in turn, can lead to distorted perceptions of money, deterioration of relationships, social isolation, and poor academic and career outcomes. Regular gambling can even exacerbate other risky behaviour by making it seem less significant – potentially leading to a cascade of health impacts and financial loss.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Sporting events can be a good opening for conversations about gambling, as some sponsorships may reference and even glamourise it. Talk to children about how these promotions make them feel and encourage frequent conversations about any concerns they may have. Adverts, influencers and online platforms may also feature gambling products. As a child grows, it's important to encourage their critical thinking skills to help them avoid being manipulated by this type of marketing.

KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

Parents and educators should be vigilant for signs of gambling harm among young people. Look for changes in their behaviour such as increased secrecy, unexplained money issues, mood swings or withdrawal from their usual activities. Open conversations about gambling risks and maintain a supportive, non-judgemental environment. Try to familiarise yourself with resources and helplines for assistance and guidance.

MONITOR SPENDING

In-game purchases can be appealing to children, allowing them to unlock new features or cosmetic items in a fraction of the time it would take to win them by playing. Talk to children about how they spend money online; an interest in what video games they play can encourage the conversation. Consider setting up restrictions on their devices, requiring their parent or carer's permission before making any purchases. Talk about finances regularly and openly.

GET FURTHER SUPPORT

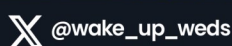
Support and treatment for young people is available via the Young People's Support Service at GamCare, who can be contacted at 0808 8020133. A link to their website has also been included in the sources of this guide, along with links to several other support networks. Your GP and local NHS gambling clinic are also available if you require additional advice. Don't hesitate to reach out for help if you're concerned about a child's gambling behaviour or their financial situation.

Meet Our Expert

Ygam's mission is to prevent children and young people from experiencing gaming and gambling harms through awareness raising, education, and research. The charity was established in 2014 as a result of the lived experience of their founders.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/gambling>



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.06.2024



Wildflower Garden



We are going to be making a 'Wildflower and Memories Garden' on the school field. The idea is that children and staff who have lost someone important to them can write a letter in seeded paper and then we will plant them together. A charity is hopefully providing the supplies we need, so we just need a small patch of turf removing from the field. If you would be willing to help for half an hour to an hour at some point over the next 2 weeks, please let the school office know.

Mental Health Support Team **WELLBEING WEBINARS**



Your MHST is running a series of webinars one Friday a month on a number of topics relating to mental health and wellbeing.

TOPICS AND DATES

- Worry Management - 19 January
- Parenting for Anxiety - 23 February
- Low Mood - 22 March
- Neurodiversity - 26 April
- Parent Skills for Behaviour - 17 May
- LGBTQ+ - 21 June
- Emotional Regulation - 19 July



WHEN

4pm to 4:45pm



WHERE

Zoom

(link will be emailed)



To register please email which webinar you want to attend to events@merseycare.nhs.uk

Webinars will be recorded.
No chat function will be available for safety purposes.



Computer Xplorers

Leading the way in providing tech-based activities that are both inspirational and educational!

Summer

TECH CLUBS

ST HELENS



Rainford High School

Higher Lane, Rainford, W111 8NY

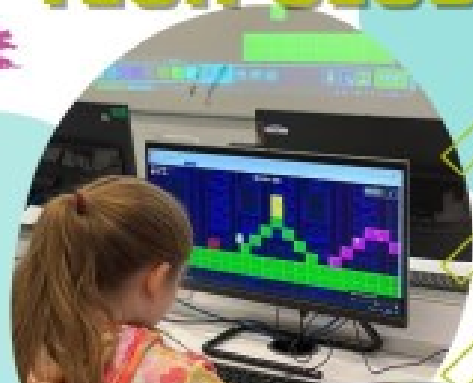


3 weeks from 29th July



9am-3pm/11am-3pm

Paid sessions Funded Sessions



FREE PLACES*

Providing fun, educational activities including coding, robotics, game design and Minecraft Education as part of the HAF Scheme. Both paid and funded places are available to book for kids aged 5-15.



Department for Education



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL

*FREE places available to those eligible for and receiving benefits-related free school meals (FSM), and their families. Children who are in receipt of a support plan via Early Help, Child in Need or Children We Look After, EHCP, or if your child receives additional hours at school.

BOOK!

Visit the link or scan the code -
computerxplorers.co.uk/bolton-wigan/book



@CompXBolton

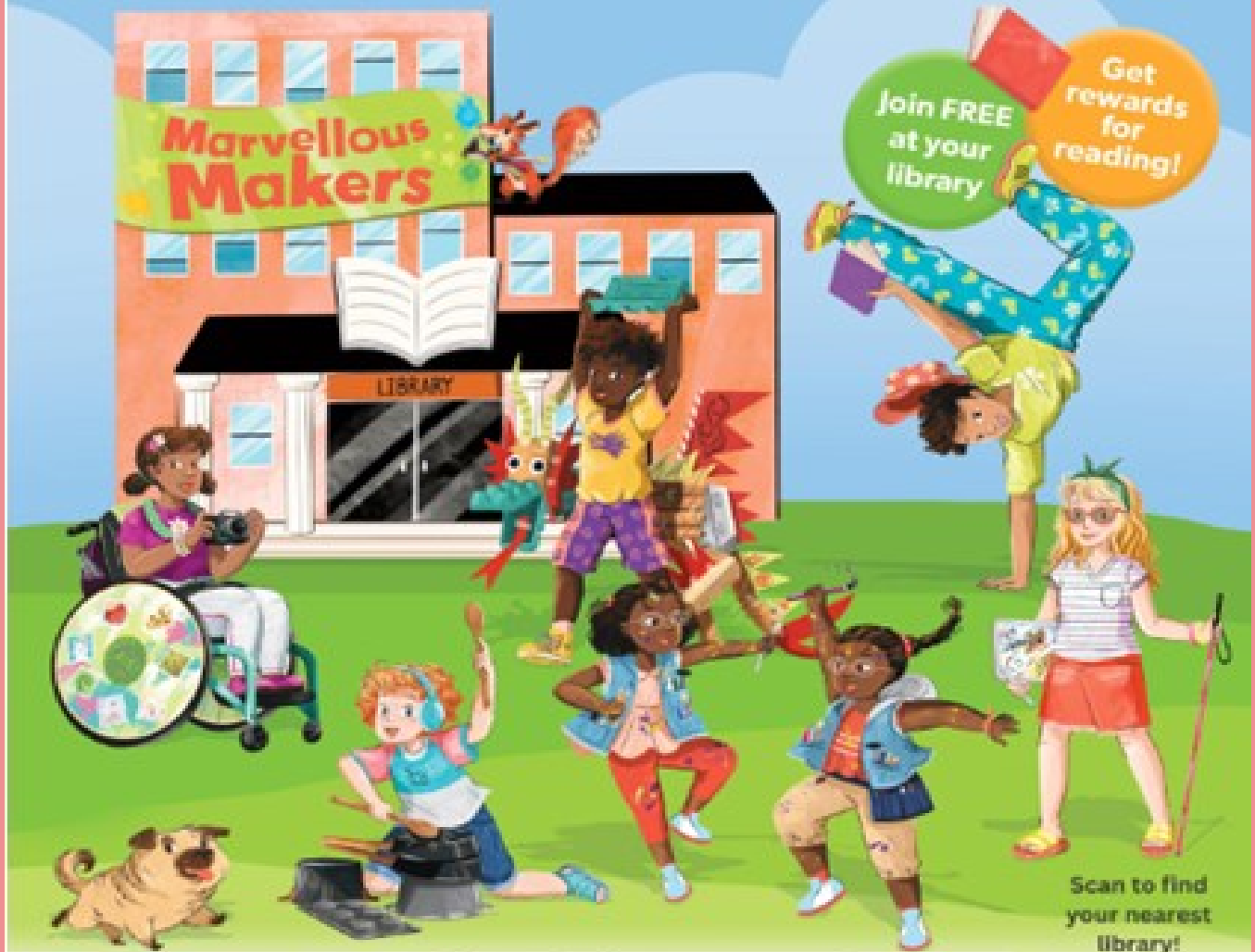


THE
READING
AGENCY

2024

Summer Reading Challenge

Delivered in partnership with libraries



Scan to find
your nearest
library!

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Get creative this summer with St Helens Library Service!
Visit your nearest library from Saturday 6th July 2024 and sign up for the
Summer Reading Challenge. Ends Wednesday 11th September 2024.



SCAN ME



Supporting creative excellence
**ARTS COUNCIL
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THE
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CREATE!