





NEWSLETTER


Email: www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk


Twitter: @StJamesCEsth


Journeying Together to Live, Learn 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**

2024-2025 Issue Number 4 Friday 4th October 2024

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

This week at St James

This week I've had the pleasure of visiting some of our wonderful Read Write Inc and Opening Worlds lessons. It's always a joy to see our children working hard and speaking so positively about their learning! Some of our older children blew me away with their knowledge and use of vocabulary when talking about rivers and Ancient Egypt.

I met with our School Council to update our Equality Charter. They also helped me during a safeguarding walk around the school, sharing their thoughts on what makes them feel safe at school and offering ideas on how we can make things even better at St James.

The St. James Reception Welcome Service at church was a lovely event, and it was wonderful to officially welcome our youngest children into our church and school community. We look forward to watching them grow as they continue to live, learn, and laugh with the love of God.

On Thursday, next week, we will be wearing yellow to support young people's mental health as part of World Mental Health Day. We invite all children to come to school wearing yellow on this day and kindly ask for a £1 donation via School Money. On this day the Mental Health Support Team will also be hosting a Parents Coffee afternoon in school to provide advice about children's mental health and well-being. We hope that you can make it.

This half term our Christian Value is 'Generosity'. Y5 will be leading school's Harvest Service in church on Tuesday morning. Please remember to send in your harvest donations for the local food bank.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Mrs Briers



School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance Updates

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 Whole School attendance to date is 96.1%

The class with the highest attendance this week, and the winner of the virtual £5 is Reception

There were 100 pupils with perfect attendance this week. Can we beat this next week?

Weekly Attendance	
Whole School	96.1%
Reception	98.7%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	96.4%
Year 3	97.7%
Year 4	98.36%
Year 5	89.6%
Year 6	97%



Term Dates

2024-2025

Autumn Term		Days
Wednesday 4 th September 2024	Friday 18 th October 2024	33
Monday 4 th November 2024	Thursday 19 th December 2024	34
Spring Term		Days
Monday 6 th January 2025	Friday 14 th February 2025	30
Monday 24 th February 2025	Wednesday 9 th April 2025	33
Summer Term		Days
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Friday 23 rd May 2025	23
Monday 2 nd June 2025	Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	37
		190

Attendance Steps to Success:



LDST
Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust

- ★ Ring the school office as soon as possible to explain any absence.
- ★ Be on time! Remember that gates close at 8:50am. Any absence after 9:20am is unauthorised.
- ★ Provide evidence for any medical appointments.
- ★ Speak to a member of the attendance team if you need support with your child's attendance - we are here to help!
- ★ Read any information and letters (including the newsletter) carefully.

HSC Public Health Agency

Do I need to keep my child off school?

Chicken Pox At least 5 days from onset of rash and until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhea & /or Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Respiratory illness (e.g colds & flu) Can return when no longer have a high temperature and well enough	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		
Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off if well enough, but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 hours after commencing antibiotics	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling		German Measles (Rubella) 5 days from onset of rash
Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Scabies Until after first treatment	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis Can return when no longer have a temperature and well enough, school or nursery should be informed		Whooping Cough 48 hours after commencing antibiotics

Use this guide to find out when they should stay off, and when they can go back if they are well enough to do so.

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

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Welcome to our series of safeguarding tips, designed to help keep our children safe and supported.

Welcome to our series of safeguarding tips, designed to help keep our children safe and supported.

At St James, we are committed to keeping every child safe and supported. As part of this, we want to raise awareness about the importance of recognising the signs of abuse, as outlined in *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024*.

Abuse can take many forms—physical, emotional, sexual, or neglect. It may show in various ways, such as unexplained injuries, sudden changes in behaviour, becoming withdrawn, showing signs of fear or anxiety, or poor hygiene. It's crucial for all of us, as a school community, to be aware of these signs and act quickly if we have concerns.

Early recognition and reporting can make a huge difference in a child's life. If you notice anything concerning, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of our safeguarding team. Working together, we can ensure that every child feels safe, protected, and cared for.



Online Safety Tip of the Week

Online Gaming

Online gaming enjoys an apparently ever-increasing level of popularity, and many players are eager to connect with one another as they enjoy a friendly competition or go for the win side by side. Whether it's to strategise and coordinate, or simply have a chat as you indulge in your hobby, the fact remains that plenty of games now offer means for their players to talk to one another, be that in a text or voice format.

Unfortunately, this functionality – which is used to connect with strangers just as often as it is with friends – poses several risks to younger players, and it's vital for parents and educators to understand these safety concerns. This week's guide offers expert advice on the issues that may arise when using in-game chat, and lets you know how to safeguard the children in your care as they make use of this technology.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.10.2024



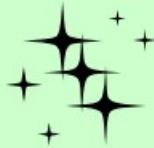
Spirituality Spotlight

As a school community we want to be:

**“Journeying together to Live,
Learn and Laugh with the Love of
God”**

DO
EVERYTHING
in love
1 CORINTHIANS 16:14

Mrs Bond's favourite bible verse is:



'In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16

Mrs Bond says:



This verse inspires me to always be the best version of myself. Although it can be difficult at times if you 'let your light shine' then you will always be a good example to others.



Joyful Readers

"And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete."

[1 John 1:4]

Well done to this weeks Headteacher's award

winners who have lived our Journey driver of being a 'Joyful Reader'.





RECEPTION	Gethin
YEAR 1	Aria Hill-Price
YEAR 2	Sienna Deluce
YEAR 3	Abdul
YEAR 4	David Varga
YEAR 5	Florence Davies
YEAR 6	Zoe

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Home Learning at St James

Home learning is an important part of building positive habits towards learning as well as consolidating and extending learning that has already taken place in school. You have an important role in supporting and encouraging your child to engage in home learning that will allow them to flourish both in and out of school.

Each week, these are the minimum expectations for Home Learning in line with government guidance. Further information can be found in our full Home Learning Policy.

Type	Frequency	Notes	Check
Reading. 	Daily (Up to 15 minutes per day).	There are three types of reading: 1. Your child reading to you. 2. You reading to your child. 3. Your child reading independently. Use a mixture of these strategies. Your child will bring a book home from school that is matched to their reading ability. Please make sure this book is shared and read throughout the week (alongside any other books you may share and enjoy).	Home/School Diary: Record the pages read, a brief sentence and your signature for each day. This can be completed by pupils in Year 5 and Year 6. This will be checked by an adult in school throughout the week with reading rewards in place for reading four or more times each week for ten consecutive weeks.
Times Table Rockstars (TTRS) or Numbots 	3 times a week. (Little and often! A minimum recommended time of 15 minutes each week).	EYF5/Y1 – Use of Numbots supports retention of basic number facts. This is a fun and interactive way to support your child's Maths learning at home with increasing levels of difficulty matched to their progress. Y2-Y6 Rapid recall of times tables improves the power of the brain and makes maths lessons easier. Regular practice will help your child to progress to more difficult times tables and improve their speed.	Online: Teachers will check online accounts to monitor your child's progress. Further support can then be given if necessary and also certificates given out appropriately. Login details can be found in your child's Home/School diary.
Spellings. 	3 times a week. (Again, little and often works best. A minimum recommended time of 15 minutes each week). <i>Top Tip - A good idea may be to alternate this with TTRS or Numbots each day.</i>	Y1 - In Year 1, a small number of common exception words are sent home each week to practice. This should be done in a fun and practical way. Y2 to Y6 - Pupils will learn one new spelling rule per week. A word list will be provided each Friday for testing the following Thursday. In Y2, this assessment is once every two weeks. Children should practise these rules by: 1. Support using the 'Ready Steady Spell' strategies outlined on the weekly word list. 2. The traditional 'look, cover, write and check.' 3. Completing sensory spellings with an adult. 4. Dictation where adults read the word in a sentence and children write the spellings down.	Spelling Tests Children will be tested on the spellings they have learnt each week in class. Halftermly spellings tests will also occur as part of our assessment cycles.
Weekly Set Teacher Tasks 	Sent home each Friday (This should take no longer than 45 minutes dependent on your child's age). Remember that teacher tasks are always retrieval of previous learning that has previously been taught in school.	In all year groups, <u>maths arithmetic questions</u> (that are set at an age appropriate level) are also set as retrieval of previous learning. This is set to be achievable for all children with answers provided at the class teacher's discretion. Staff may choose to set <u>additional reading comprehension</u> that is appropriately matched to children's reading ability. <u>Further tasks</u> may be set to ensure that children 'know more and remember more' across the curriculum. These are set at the class teacher's discretion to support learning within the classroom. These will be set no more than once a halfterm. When this is the case, further information (such as a knowledge organiser or clear instructions) are always provided.	When any Home Learning is completed this should be brought into school and/or recorded in a home/school diary. Children who have completed a range of home learning across the week can be awarded up to three dojos at staff discretion. When home learning is brought into school, staff may also use learning as an assessment tool and will provide individual support upon request.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

PE Days

Monday	Year 3
Tuesday	Year 1 , Year 2 and Year 4
Wednesday	Reception Year 5 and Year 6
Thursday	Year 5 and Year 6
Friday	Year 1 , Year 2 and Year 3

Clubs

We are running the following after school clubs this half term:

- **Tuesday**– FAB Club for Y1 and Y2 with Miss Barratt
- **Wednesday**-FAB Club for Y3 and Y4 with Miss Barratt
- **Thursday**– Basketball for Y5 and Y6 with the Sports Coach

If your child is in Y5, you may receive a letter inviting them to attend a Reading Booster Club.

Whole School events Autumn 1



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
08/10/24	St Jame' Harvest Service lead by Year 5
09/10/24	Debt Awareness Sessions Year 5 and Year 6
10/10/24	Year 6 Assembly 9.00am
11/10/24	Year 3 Football
14/10/24	Safety Week
15/10/24	Year 6 - Bike Right
16/10/24	Year 6 - Bike Right
16/10/24	Fire brigade visit
17/10/24	Year 6 Bike Right
17/10/24	Reception St James' the Great
18/10/24	School Closes for half term 3.20pm

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT



APPLYING FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

If your child turns 4 between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025, he or she will transfer to primary school in September 2025. From Monday 16 September the website www.sthelens.gov.uk/admissions is open for parents who wish to apply online.

You will be notified on 16 April 2025 confirming your child's school place.

The closing date for you to submit your application is 15 January 2025.

APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

If your child turns 11 between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025, he or she will transfer to secondary school in September 2025. From Monday 2 September the website www.sthelens.gov.uk/admissions is open for parents who wish to apply online.

You will be notified on 3 March 2025 confirming your child's school place.

The closing date for you to submit your application is 31 October 2024.

Come Together in Yellow for World Mental Health Day



On 10th October 2024, we have the chance to make a powerful statement. Across the UK, thousands of people will be wearing yellow to support young people's mental health as part of World Mental Health Day. We invite all children to come to school wearing yellow on this day and kindly ask for a £1 donation. Via School Money.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT



Open Days

Reception 2025

St James CE Primary School

Are you a parent or a carer with children starting school in September 2025 and beyond?

If so, come and see St James Church of England Primary School in Haydock, St Helens. We are a distinctly Christian one form entry school offering an excellent curriculum, a nurturing approach and wide ranging activities and opportunities for all of our children. We were judged to be **'GOOD'** in 2023 by Ofsted.

You will have the chance to see our beautiful school environment and meet some of our amazing staff. Please telephone the school office on 01744 678545 or email stjameshaydock@ldst.org.uk to book onto your preferred date.

Also visit our X page @StJamesCEsth and school website:

<https://www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk/>

Dates

**Wednesday 6th November -
4:30pm**

**Thursday 7th November—
4:30pm**



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

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT



St Helens Mental Health Support Team



**COFFEE
AFTERNOON**

**THURSDAY 10TH
OCTOBER 2024
AT 2PM**

**AT ST JAMES C OF E
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**COME ALONG FOR A BISCUIT AND A
BREW AND LEARN MORE ABOUT
ANXIETY AND HOW YOU CAN
SUPPORT YOUR CHILD**



St. Helens Virtual School:

We are reaching out to all our parents and carers to try and establish a link between you and St Helens Virtual School. The VS is here to support, advise, and guide all parents and carers who look after a child or young person who is fostered, adopted, or has an SGO, Kinship carers, or CGO.

We are hoping to create some email groups of parents and carers who we can invite along to training sessions, coffee mornings, events etc... as well as supply information, and guidance, provide online safety tips, and keep us all up to date with the latest developments.

Please provide us with your details below, if you would like to be part of these groups. Please be reassured that any details you provide will not be shared with external agencies unless permission is provided and the email addresses will only be used to disseminate information or offer support.

Please fill in a new form for each child that you look after. Please click here to access the Microsoft Form



We look forward to sharing our collective knowledge

IN OTHER NEWS

FOOTBALL SHARKS 2 DAY HALLOWEEN SOCCER SCHOOL Monday and Tuesday (28th and 29th October)



🕒 09:30 drop off - 14:30 collection 

📍 Sutton leisure centre 3G Astro

⚽ Ages 5 - 13 Boys & Girls welcome

💎 Fully qualified and experienced coaches

🏆 🏅 Medals and certificates on final day



Billy Flynn
07710434186



Football_Sharks_

“At Football Sharks soccer schools, your child isn't just here to kick a football around a pitch and our coaches aren't just here to babysit. Your child will be coached by our top class, highly experienced and well qualified football coaches and I can guarantee they will go away from the soccer school having learned things, gained confidence and had as much fun possible at the same time! Yes we care about your child having fun and keeping active, but we thrive on also helping your child develop as a footballer and also as a person”



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



FOOTBALL CAMP



Steve's October - November football camp is designed for beginners who are just starting out right the way to more experience players who are already in a team. Great way to make new friends.

- Skills & ball techniques
- Confidence building
- Penalty shootout
- Fun games & matches

- Shin pads & water essential
- Packed Lunch required



31ST October

Ages 6 - 9yrs | 10.00am - 1.00pm

1ST November

Ages 10 - 13yrs | 10.30am - 1.30pm

DBS ENHANCED

For more information contact Steve Pagendam on 07492091999 or on Facebook Steven Pagendam

**Thatto Heath
Barn WA95JA**





SPOOKTACULAR!

~~TECH~~ OCTOBER HALF TERM CLUB

Computer Xplorers

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

ST HELENS



Rainford High School

Higher Lane, Rainford, WA11 8NY



30th & 31st October
Wednesday & Thursday



9am-3pm
half days available



Providing fun, educational activities-

Wednesday- Digital Game Design & Minecraft

Thursday- Lego Robotics & Minecraft

BOOK!

Visit the link or scan the code-
bolton.computerexplorers.co.uk



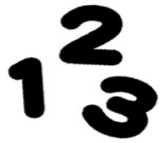
@CompXBolton



Coming Soon!



Love Learning Childcare



We will be offering both Funded and Non Funded places, for children aged 12 Months – 4 Years Old.

Holiday Club!
Children Aged 2 – 11 Years.

Opening Hours

7.30am – 6.00pm



Contact Information:

Lisa.lovelearning79@gmail.com

07749873295

Breakfast with Santa!

£10 Per Child

Price Includes:

- Fun Festive Breakfast!
- Visit to Santa in his Grotto,
- Gift from Santa!

Location:
St James Church,
Haydock,

**Saturday 14th
December
10am – 11.30**

Suitable for Children aged 2-11 Years