





# NEWSLETTER


Email: [www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk](http://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 8 Friday 15th November 2024

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

## This week at St James

We've had a fantastic week here at school, filled with exciting activities, special visitors, and memorable moments as we learn, live, and laugh together!

Our week started with a flourish as some children got to test their skills in Fencing Club! This club has been a big hit, and it's easy to see why—children have been learning all about balance, focus, and respect in this fun and energetic activity. The enthusiasm has been contagious, with lots of smiles and laughter all around!

This week, we focused on Anti-Bullying with the theme of "Choose Respect." Each class took time to talk about kindness, respect, and the importance of supporting each other. We had a colourful "Odd Socks Day" to celebrate everyone's uniqueness, and on Wednesday, BTales visited to help us understand these important values through stories and performances. We're proud of our children for showing such care and respect towards each other.

Thank you to all our parents who attended this week's Parents' Evenings We appreciate the chance to share your children's achievements and hear your valuable insights. Working together helps us ensure the best experience for every child.

A huge thank you for supporting our Book Fair! It was fantastic to see so many families exploring new books together. Your contributions go a long way in helping us build a love for reading within our school—we managed to raise over £400!

This morning, we also enjoyed our Opening Worlds Coffee Morning, bringing families together from across our school community to learn more about our curriculum and getting the chance to see it live in action in our classes. Thank you for making it such a warm and welcoming event.

Next week is shaping up to be just as exciting! We're particularly looking forward to Year 3's Class Assembly on Thursday at 9 a.m. We can't wait to see you there!

Thank you for another wonderful week. Here's to many more days of learning, living, and laughing together!

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%**

The class with the highest attendance this week, and the winner of the virtual £5 is Y3

There were 139 pupils with perfect attendance this week. Can we beat this next week?

Weekly Attendance	
Whole School	97%
Reception	94.4%
Year 1	98.6%
Year 2	96%
Year 3	98.7%
Year 4	97.9%
Year 5	93.2%
Year 6	98.5%



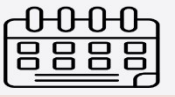

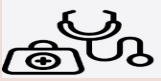






## Parents Role in Attendance

School attendance is a national priority. At St James, we recognise that positive behaviour and good attendance are essential for pupils to get the most of their school experience including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances.

Each week, we provide an attendance update on our newsletter including the class attendance. Below is further information about our attendance approaches at St James in line with updated National Guidance. More detailed information is located within our 'Attendance and Punctuality Policy' which is located on our school website under policies.



Further government guidance on information around potential fines for missing school are provided through the following link: <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/19/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

 <p>Make sure your child attends every day! 97% is our whole school target!</p>	 <p>Notify the school as soon as possible on the first day of absence (by phoning the school office). This will be followed by a phone call if a voicemail is left.</p>	 <p>Try to make all medical appointments (doctors, dentist, and hospital) out of school time.</p>
 <p>Discourage your child from staying overnight with friends during the week. This sometimes leads to them both being late (or not attending at all) the next day.</p>	 <p>Talk positively about going to school. Encourage your child to take responsibility for being on time for school ensuring they have a realistic bedtime and will not be too tired to get up in the morning for school.</p>	 <p>Work with the school and local authority to help them understand their/your barriers to attendance.  Proactively engage with the support offered to prevent the need for more formal support.</p>
 <p>If invited to attend a meeting, come, and speak to us. If your child is on an attendance support plan /attendance contract, ensure they undertake the actions that have been agreed.</p>	 <p>Monitor your child's internet and social media use to ensure they are not experiencing any difficulties that may prevent them from wanting to attend school.</p>	 <p>Leave of absence during term time is not a parental right. If there are special or exceptional circumstances, please contact the Executive Headteacher and complete the correct school documentation and a decision will be made if the absence can be authorised or not.</p>

**Term Dates**  
**2024-2025**

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



Whole School events Autumn 2

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
21/11/24	Year 3 Class Assembly 9.00am
25/11/24	Reception B-Tales Workshop
27/11/24	Christmas Bingo
29/11/24	Own clothes Day - in exchange for gift
4/12/24	Reception and Year 6 Height and Weight checks
5/12/24	Christmas Fair
16/12/24	Christmas Dinner Day
17/12/24	Nativity Performance Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Afternoon
18/12/24	Nativity Performance Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Afternoon
19/12/24	Christmas Party Day and service in church
19/12/24	School Closes for Christmas



# Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



## Safeguarding Tip of the Week

### Emotional Abuse

At St James every child's wellbeing is our top priority. Emotional abuse can harm a child's self-esteem, relationships, and mental health. In line with the *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024* guidelines, we're here to help parents recognize signs and understand our response.

Emotional abuse includes ongoing negative behaviours—like criticism, rejection, or isolation—that harm a child's emotional wellbeing. It can happen at home, online, or in social situations.

Signs to watch for include:

- **Behavioural changes:** Anxiety, nervousness, or withdrawal.
- **Low self-esteem:** Expressions of doubt or sensitivity to criticism.
- **Social difficulties:** Trouble trusting or forming friendships.
- **Aggressive behaviour:** Frequent outbursts or defiance.
- **Physical symptoms:** Unexplained headaches or stomach aches.

Our staff is trained to recognise and respond to emotional abuse. Please reach out if you have concerns or need more information. Working together, we can help safeguard every child's emotional and mental health.



**National  
Online  
Safety**

## Online Safety Tip of the Week

### 10 Top Tips for Cycle Safety.

Cycling can be a fun and healthy way to pass the time for children and young people – encouraging them to go outside and stay active, while also spending quality time with parents, carers or other trusted adults. It's also a useful skill for adult life: teaching youngsters how to use a cheaper, healthier and more eco-friendly method of transportation where possible.

However, the risk of injuries that cycling carries can quickly put young people off the hobby. If a child is being introduced to cycling as an activity, it's essential that they're also taught how to stay safe while out and about. This free guide offers you expert advice on how to practise safe cycling and preserve the wellbeing of children when going out for a ride.



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## TEACHING CYCLE SAFETY

Cycling is an amazing way to spend quality time together as a family, as well as keeping everyone healthy and active – and it's an excellent exercise, whatever the age of your children. Getting started can sometimes be daunting, and there are obvious safety concerns over youngsters who are still getting used to a bike – so follow our top tips to help you ride with confidence.

### 1 CONSIDER CYCLE TRAINING

Courses like Bikeability are extremely useful, and training in general has come a long way since cycling proficiency began; there are Bikeability courses for adults, too. Cycle training teaches invaluable skills (such as good road positioning, signaling and visibility), and can help both parents and children feel more at ease on busy streets.

### 2 USE A SUITABLE BIKE

Find a bike of an appropriate size for its rider and resist the temptation to have children 'grow into' theirs by buying one too large for them. A bigger bike will be heavier and more difficult to control, making accidents more likely and potentially putting youngsters off cycling forever. If your child has any specific physical needs, or has dyspraxia, then try out a trike, handcycle or other adaptive cycle to see what works best.

### 3 TRY A CARGO BIKE

Cargo bikes, particularly the box-bike style, are ideal for transporting small children around. Depending on the type of bike chosen – as well as the size and age of the children – it can be possible to transport up to four little ones in this way, with additional space for other cargo as well.

### 4 INSPECT YOUR CYCLE

It's a good idea to do some routine checks on any bike before going for a ride to make sure everything's working correctly. The 'M check' is particularly useful: assessing the condition and position of the bike's wheels, handlebars, brakes, pedals, chain and saddle, working from front to back. Online tutorial videos can also teach you how to carry out basic repairs if needed. For more complicated fixes, head to your local bike shop.

### 5 BRING SUITABLE GEAR

Ensure whatever you're wearing, and any attachments for your bike, are suitable for the ride. A waterproof jacket will let you cycle safely in almost any weather. Make sure any helmets are fitted correctly. If you're riding after dark, remember to fit your bikes with a white front light, a red rear light and a red rear reflector. These are required by law.

### 6 STICK TO FLAT TERRAIN

Take a smooth, flat route if possible, so it's more suitable for younger cyclists. You might be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there may be in your area. Don't be put off by an indirect but easier path as opposed to a shorter, busier one. Look out for the National Cycle Network, canal towpaths and even parks that you can cut through.

### 7 STAY ALERT AND IN SAFE FORMATIONS

For maximum protection and visibility, ride in a line with children in the middle and adults at either end. If you're the only adult present, take up a position at the rear to ensure all children remain in your sight. Don't be tempted to hug the kerb if cycling on the road – riding approximately a metre out will make you more noticeable to other road users, and you'll also stay clear of any debris in the gutter.

### 8 AVOID PARKED CARS

When riding past parked cars, try to stay at least a metre away, just in case anyone inside opens a door unexpectedly or the vehicle itself starts to move. This precaution will also deter anyone driving behind from trying to squeeze past you when there isn't enough space, so don't be afraid to ride in a prominent position.

### 9 START A 'BIKE BUS'

Cycling to school with other families is a potentially fun experience – one which comes with the added benefit of safety in numbers, in case anything goes wrong along the way. Team up with other parents, carers and educators and pick a day to cycle to school together. Who knows – maybe, in time, you'll have other folks asking to join you?

### 10 HAVE FUN!

Keep in mind that cycling should be fun! A good bike ride can be really enjoyable for adults and children alike, while also being a superb form of exercise. Ease children into the hobby by starting them off with shorter journeys – such as a trip to the park – and build them up to longer, more complicated outings. Some children may get bored on a longer ride, so try to keep a conversation going with them.

## Meet Our Expert

Sophie Gordon is the campaigns manager at Cycling UK, a charity which inspires and enables people to start cycling. She has spent six years campaigning for safer roads and more protected cycle paths, while supporting communities to call for better cycling conditions where they live.

we are cycling UK

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/teaching-cycle-safety>

@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: 13.11.2024



## 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 Battersby's favourite bible verse is:



*'Do unto others as you would have them do  
unto you.'*  
Luke 6:31

Mrs Battersby says:



I believe that how you treat other people says a lot about you as a person and your Christian faith. Sometimes when someone is negative towards you it takes personal strength not to be negative back. Instead, this verse reminds me to be strong and rise above it and that I should always behave in a way that brings honour to God. Also, I am reminded that when people are positive towards you always make sure that you do this in return. Treating others as you would like to be treated yourself is a motto that I personally live by and helps me to be a good Christian.



**Journey Driver Focus:**

**COMPASSION**

Each half term, one child from each class is nominated by their class teacher for 'living out' our value of the half term. The value for this half term is 'Compassion'

<b>RECEPTION</b>	Ruhaan Rasheed
<b>YEAR 1</b>	Isabella Burrows
<b>YEAR 2</b>	Harley-Wade Rigby
<b>YEAR 3</b>	Willow Butler
<b>YEAR 4</b>	Elliot Lee
<b>YEAR 5</b>	Madison Frater-Hassett
<b>YEAR 6</b>	Briella Shaw



THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT

### PE Days

<b>Monday</b>	Year1, Year 2 and Year 3
<b>Tuesday</b>	Reception and Year 4
<b>Wednesday</b>	Reception Year 5 and Year 6
<b>Thursday</b>	Year 3 and Year 4
<b>Friday</b>	Year 1 , Year 2 and Year 5 and Year 6



### Clubs

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

- **Monday (8am)**-Fencing with Coach Phil (see letter sent)
- **Tuesday**-Golf for Y3 and Y4 with Mr Moon and Mr Ratcliffe
- **Wednesday**-Lego Club for Y1, Y2 and Y3 with Miss Hunter
- **Thursday**– Multi skills for Y1 and Y2 with the Sports Coach

If your child is in Y2, you may receive a letter inviting them to attend a Reading Booster

### SWIMMING

Y6 have Swimming Lessons this half term. Their lessons are on Wednesday afternoons.

### **Remember:**

- Full PE kit on PE days.
- PE kits: Black tracksuit/shorts and plain white T.Shirt (logo optional) and black trainers,
- No slogan/branded TShirts or Tracksuits or bright colours.
- Earrings must be taken out or covered with plasters.

THIS IS PART OF SCHOOL UNIFORM AND EXPECTATIONS MUST BE FOLLOWED.



### 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](http://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.**

# INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards  
and we will donate **££s** to schools.

**CASHPOT  
FOR  
SCHOOLS**



With  
**Parentkind**

#### HERE'S HOW:

- 1 Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
- 2 Choose your primary school
- 3 Shop in-store across Asda & George, and scan your Asda Rewards app at the checkout.
- 4 Shopping online? Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
- 5 We'll do the rest! We donate ££s to your chosen school every time you shop, so they can spend it on exactly what they need.



Selected stores. Minimum spend £21. Excludes apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 1st. App & Opt-in required. 50% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1073633. Full T&Cs at [asda.com/cashpotforschools](http://asda.com/cashpotforschools) Rewards T&Cs at [asda.com/rewards/terms](http://asda.com/rewards/terms) since 30/11/24





# Winter Menu 2024/25



## Week 1

w/c 25/11/24 • 16/12/24 • 06/01/25 • 27/01/25 • 17/02/25 • 10/03/25 • 31/03/25

### Monday

Spaghetti Bolognese  
Choice of Sandwich  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Broccoli & Cauliflower  
Pineapple & Ice-cream

### Tuesday

Chicken & Ham Melt  
Sausage Roll  
Choice of Barmcake  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Wedges & Garlic Butter Corn  
Chocolate Brownie

### Wednesday

Roast Chicken  
Sausage  
Choice of Tortilla Wrap  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Roast Potato, Carrot & Swede, Gravy  
Homemade Cookie

### Thursday

Mini Ham Pizzas  
Cheese & Tomato Pasta Bake  
Choice of Sandwich  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Pasta & Carrots  
Sponge Cake & Custard

### Friday

Breaded Fish Star  
Southern Style Chicken Burger / Battered Nuggets  
Choice of Tortilla Wrap  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Chips & Peas  
Chocanana Pot

## Week 2

w/c 02/12/24 • 23/12/24 • 13/01/25 • 03/02/25 • 24/02/25 • 17/03/25

### Monday

Beef & Cheese Filled Flatbread  
Homemade Curry  
Choice of Sandwich  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Rice & Seasonal Vegetables  
Peaches & Custard

### Tuesday

Pork Sausage  
Sausage  
Choice of Barmcake  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Crispy Potatoes & Baked Beans  
Cooks Muffin

### Wednesday

Roast Chicken  
Savoury Mince  
Choice of Tortilla Wrap  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Roast Potato, Carrot & Swede, Gravy  
Chocolate Brownie

### Thursday

Warm Ham & Cheese Roll  
Winter Cheese Pasta Bake  
Choice of Sandwich  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn  
Caramel Apple Tart

### Friday

Battered Fish  
Battered Fish  
Two Cheese Pizza  
Choice of Tortilla Wrap  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn  
Shortbread

## Week 3

w/c 09/12/24 • 30/12/24 • 20/01/25 • 10/02/25 • 03/03/25 • 24/03/25

### Monday

Meatball Sub  
Two Cheese Pizza  
Choice of Sandwich  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Pasta, Peas & Sweetcorn  
Fruit Crumble & Ice-cream

### Tuesday

Chicken (in a Creamy sauce - Swedish Style)  
Sausage  
Choice of Barmcake  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Mashed Potato, Peas & Cream Sauce  
Winter Berry Cheesecake Crumble

### Wednesday

Roast Chicken  
Quorn Fillet  
Choice of Tortilla Wrap  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Roast Potato, Carrot & Swede, Gravy  
Strawberry Mousse

### Thursday

Beef Chilli  
Homemade Curry  
Choice of Sandwich  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Rice & Seasonal Vegetables  
Homemade Cake & Chocolate Custard

### Friday

Fish Fingers / Salmon Bites  
Sausage Roll  
Choice of Tortilla Wrap  
Filled Jacket Potato  
Served with Chips & Beans  
Homemade Flapjack

In addition to the above, White & Brown Bread, Yoghurt and Fruit will be available daily alongside a variety of salad bar items. Choice of Milk, Water & Fruit Juice across the week. Did you know some of our dishes are also Vegan Friendly.  
Changes to published menu - The menu may be subject to change to ensure ingredients are used to the optimum quality or to meet the needs of an individual school.  
Dietary requirements - Alternative dietary specific menus available by request following the Special Diets Procedure. Allergen and carb information also available upon request and via the council's website.



ST HELENS  
COUNCIL




## Christmas Card Competition:

'Liverpool Diocesan School Trust' need you! Please design a Christmas card and bring your design back into school by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> of November. This could be in any form but must be able to be scanned and printed to send widely or electronically.

The winning design will be sent out on behalf of Parish and St James across the Liverpool City region!



**LDST**  
Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust

Learn, Love and Achieve, Together with Jesus

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





AGED 10 – 21?

# LOVE MUSIC?



*Join the Sound! young  
person's group*

- Shape music in your area
- Learn about training and careers in music
- Attend events and more!



Visit [lcrbemore.co.uk](http://lcrbemore.co.uk) for more info