



St James' Church of England Junior School

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"With exploring minds, and faith; we grow and learn together."

St. James' Church of England Junior School - Governors Annual Statement February 2020

Welcome to the Spring term at St. James' and we hope all of you have had an enjoyable start to the year; we wish you all well for 2020 and the new decade beyond.

As always 2019 was a busy year at St. James' and we are sure 2020 will be just as industrious. Prior to looking forward, it is good to reflect upon and celebrate some of those high points. A lot of work has gone on behind the scenes to develop and extend our extra-curricular activities for children, enrich the curriculum across the board, and retain for the second year running the Gold School Games Mark. The physical environment of the school has changed with the addition of the street art mural, the prayer space which lends itself to so many different teaching and learning activities and table games space which is well used by the children for Lego and board games play during lunchtimes.

Links with St. James' Church continue to be a key element of the school, as our Christian values underpin all that we do. Reverend Jackson leads Collective Worship in Church on alternate weeks and hosts wonderfully attended special services in church held jointly with the Infants. The Church has also provided Prayer Stations and Easter Experience. Reverend Jackson has also led the Sing Squad and been 'Coach' on the Basketball court and Hockey pitch.

As you are no doubt aware there have been well received changes to the structure of lunch times and to the school's behaviour policy, with the introduction of the St. James's Way - be kind, be respectful and give your all, which was developed by the School Council and embraced whole heartedly by the children. Finally, the PTA has gone from strength to strength since starting up, with so many of you volunteering time for the recent Christmas Disco and many other events throughout the year.

In 2020, we as Governors are looking forward to the coming months, with more Learning Walks to embark upon, which keep us in touch with school developments and Health & Safety audits to complete, to name but a few duties and the usual round of meetings to ensure we maximise budgets we receive, to make the very best of our funding to prioritise our children's learning and welfare. The coming year will allow some of the more recent changes to 'bed-in' and settle becoming more part of the regular school routine.

The Governing Body feel fortunate to work alongside such a committed group of staff and obviously very proactive and caring parents. Our 90% participation level in extra curricular activities demonstrates this well.



SCHOOL
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In the coming year there will be new areas of focus and challenges and the strengths above will stand St. James' in good stead. The scope of the curriculum is widening and there are new initiatives for our school and others to take on board, such as initiatives to create greater awareness of the mental health and well being of our children, particularly against the back drop of this digital age. The Governing Body are looking forward to another successful year at St. James', wish to thank all staff and parents for their commitment throughout 2019 and once again wish everyone connected with St. James a happy and healthy 2020.

Yours sincerely,

Chair of Governors

For & On behalf of St. James' Junior Governing Body

