



St James' Church of England Junior School

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

March 2024

We are now almost at the end of the Spring term at St James' and look forward to the upcoming Easter fair and the holidays that follow.

During the last year, students have worked hard and had lots of fun, learning from the engaging and enriching curriculum that the staff provide at St James'. This has included engaging learning inside the classroom and, also many extra-curricular activities and trips outside school. Whether this has been sporting competitions with other schools in the area, residential or extra-curricular music tuition, students have been provided with lots of opportunities to have fun while learning. Our Stix percussion club will be opening the Easter fair with a performance demonstrating their learning. In addition, some students have had a wonderful opportunity to attend Forest School, participating in outdoor learning activities as part of St James' commitment to student well being. Our year 4's have also recently returned from a residential at Robinwood activity centre, where it would appear they did so many exciting activities they didn't have time to even think about missing home!

As governors, we have met regularly to ensure that policies and procedures are followed and that we are maintaining high expectations in teaching and learning across the school. Similarly, expectations about student behaviour have been reinforced. It has been wonderful to see how staff have taken on board feedback from our last excellent Ofsted and SIAMS reports and worked to tackle the suggestions made. It is equally wonderful to see how prompt and imaginative staff have been in embracing these challenges. It is clear to see how caring and professional the staff at St James' really are.

Over Christmas, it was wonderful to be in Church for the Nativity and to see the building filled with our families. The children and the staff had obviously worked incredibly hard to perform so wonderfully and it was a fantastic celebration. It was heartwarming to see the enjoyment on the children's faces and the smiles of many proud parents (including my own!). In addition, many of us were introduced to the Reverend Alison Dobell who we have welcomed into the school community as the new Reverend of St James' Church. The staff and children have enjoyed getting to know her over the last few months and we look forward to embracing her influence on the Christian life of our school.

Finally, the governing body would like to extend its gratitude to students, parents, carers and staff for their continued efforts to support the school and the well being of our children. It really is a fabulous place and provides the best education possible for our children. We look forward to another successful and exciting year at St James'.

Yours sincerely
Annette Mckee

