



St James' Church of England Junior School
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"With exploring minds, and faith, we achieve our challenging goals."

Newsletter Issue no.7
w/e 23rd Oct 2020

Welcome to this week's newsletter

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

The children have all been working extremely hard again this week. Here are our Pupils of the Week-

Class 1 - Rihanna W

Class 2 - Wyatt A

Class 3 - Jimi F & Emme S

Class 4 - Luke C & Lewis G

Class 5 - Jessica T

Class 6 - Lucas C-F, Charlotte J & Joseph M



Spelling Shed Superstars

Class 1 - Sophia L

Class 2 - Isla M

Class 3 - Maisie H

Class 4 - Jeremiah I

Class 5 - Ethan H

Class 6 - Ethan W



Spelling Shed 

Each week, all of the children gaining 100% in a reading quiz are placed into a prize draw to win a book of their choice.

This weeks winners were Ava L & Isabelle A

Timestable Rockstars

Class 1 - Abby A

Class 2 - Libby M

Class 3 - Marcie S

Class 4 - Evan C

Class 5 - Jasmine T

Class 6 - Freya M



Attendance winners:

Class 4 have top attendance this week and will receive an extra playtime.

Overall school attendance this is week:

98.81%



[Click this icon to email the school office](#)

As ever, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about any aspect of school life.

Mr Beattie

A reflection on the Autumn half-term return...

Well our Autumn half-term was certainly a challenging one. The hurdles we have overcome are unprecedented in my time in teaching, and their certainly appears to be further challenges ahead. Upon reflection however, there are so many things to celebrate....

Firstly, we were able to open our doors wide to all of the children on Thursday 3rd September and have continued to remain open throughout. Our whole-school attendance currently stands at 98.4%. This figure is well up from the same time last year and bucks a local and national trend with other school facing lengthy absences. This is something to truly celebrate as it indicates the safe manner in which the children have returned and the faith shown in the schools safety measures by parents and pupils alike. A huge well done to all involved.

Secondly, the kids continue to thrive and enthuse in their learning. Despite a world of bubbles, hand sanitiser and social distance, they have shown resilience beyond their years and have slotted so well in to their classrooms. I am lucky enough to still get involved with the weekly celebrations via zoom and it's great to see how much they have improved in such a short period of time since September.

With all of this in mind, my hope for our next half-term is for continued strong attendance and excellent progress. To give us our best chance in achieving this, I would like to point out a small number of tweaks we have planned:

Entrance Procedures:

We will continue with Lower Bubble coming in at 8:40am

We will ask that Upper Bubble stick to their new time of 8:50am (unless they have siblings meaning they have to come at 8:40am)

At every point in the day we are keeping our bubbles clear of each other, and I'm concerned that there are a growing number of upper children coming in earlier and breaching the bubbles outside of the school gate.

Exit Procedures:

Lower Bubble is working well. They will continue to exit at the same times Mrs Pickering/Morgan @3pm, Mr Tyson @ 3:05pm, Mrs Foye @3:10pm.

The upper Bubble 'walkers' will be let away from site at 3:15pm shortly followed by all of the remaining children from upper bubble shortly after 3:15pm. We would ask parents from upper bubble to come on site and queue together when picking the children up from Class 1, 2, 3 and then join our one-way system out of school.

The principles behind our staggered entrance/exits are:

1. to reduce footfall around the gates at the same time,
2. to encourage social distancing around these times
3. to keep bubbles separated in the same way we do inside the building,
4. to allow calm entrance/exit.

[I would like to remind all parents of these principles and thank you all for your continued support. By keeping to these rules, it allows us to define and share 'close contact lists' with Local Authority, in the confidence that contact hasn't been breached and in turn reduce the risk of mass forced absences in the event of a positive case in school. By sticking to these rules, it offers the best chance to keep school open for all of us next term.](#)

Ventilation/Room Temperatures—Again another procedure, that will have supported our strong attendance is our policy of having windows and doors open in school. This has caused obvious challenges to teachers in delivering their lessons, with increased outside noise, wind and cold temperatures. Again, I am certain that this has helped our attendance and ability to remain open, however it is clear that our temperatures will drop as we continue through winter. We will be monitoring classroom temperatures regularly and ensuring classrooms do not drop below 18°C. We would ask you to encourage children to wear suitable uniform for the cold weather. We feel that allowing coats and hats in class would be disruptive to learning and instead will boost heating in the rooms to keep them maintained above 18°C.

Zoom Judo—We have been contacted by Janice of Judo Knight who is now offering online Judo lessons for children. About the sessions:

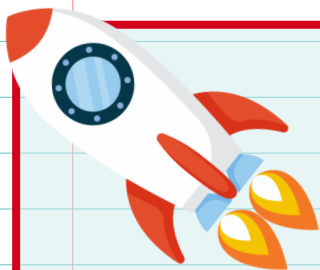
- Done in the safety of your own home
- 2 x 30 minute sessions a week. (Monday and Wednesday 18:00)
- 7 week course
- Dates: Monday 2nd November—Wednesday 17th December 2020
- Access to JudoKnight YouTube videos relating to the sessions
- Cost £15 per pupil.



Our popular in-school Judo club had to be put on hold and we feel that some members (and potentially new members) would really benefit from this.

Contact Details : JudoKnight, 07828 116752, judoknight.janice@gmail.com, www.judoknight.co.uk

Poppy Appeal—We will again be supporting The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Poppies will be sold on site from Monday 2nd November. We have kindly asked for two boxes of products and containers so that donations can be sold in the two separate bubbles. We have a number of children who have created poems and prayers for upcoming services in school and will circulate information out shortly.



Space Day—Well what a tonic it was, seeing upper bubble children coming in dressed up in their space outfits. The children have really enjoyed this topic and rounded off the topic with some rocket launching, artwork. The kitchen even got involved with some NASA space biscuits on the menu!!

Gallery [Photos](#) & [Videos](#)

Zoom Music Tuition—Cumbria Music Service has confirmed that they can offer music tuition to pupils via Zoom, we are waiting for confirmation of timings and pricings but please contact Mrs Maiden if this might be something you would like to arrange.

That leaves me to wish you all a restful half-term and we look forward to seeing all children fit and well on Monday 2nd November, Mr Beattie

Coming up at St James' (new entries in red):

- Wednesday 4th November—Nasal Flu Immunisations

