

St James' C of E Academy

Newsletter



Spring 1 Week 5 2026

www.southamstjames.covmat.org

This half term we are focusing on the Christian value of Independence

We've had a very special week at Southam St James! On Monday, we were delighted to welcome Georgia Gould MP, Minister for School Standards, to our school. She was incredibly impressed with the children, especially how confidently they shared their learning and spoke about our vision to *let their light shine*. You can read more about her visit on the back page of this newsletter.

Today, the children have really enjoyed taking part in Number Day. It was wonderful to see so many creative number outfits across the school! Lots of children also got involved in the Times Tables Rock Stars challenge, showing real enthusiasm and determination. Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support with maths and number learning at home—it really makes a difference.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming you all to Parents' Evening. If you haven't yet made an appointment, please book via the MCAS app. If you experience any difficulties, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.

Wishing you all a lovely and relaxing weekend.

Let Your Light Shine

ATTENDANCE

Reception 98.33%

Year 1 97.65%

Year 2 90.42%

Year 3 96.32%

Year 4 97.33%

Year 5 95.38%

Year 6 94.26%

Well done to Year R who have this week's highest attendance!

USEFUL DATES

09/02/26 & 12/02/26 Parents evenings

13/02/26 - PTFA Yes day

23/02/26 - Teacher training day

04/03/26 - AGC meeting

05/03/26 - World Book Day - details TBC

13/03/26 - Mothers day service in church 2:30pm

16/03/26 - Assessment week

26/03/26 - Easter service in church 9:30am

13/04/26 Children return to school

11/05/26 SATs week

13/05/26 Academy Governance meeting 6pm

14/05/2026 PTFA School discos

18/05/2026 Assessment week

25/05/2026 May half term holiday



Presentation Perfectionists

This half term, our Celebration Collective Worship will be spotlighting the importance of presentation across all subjects. Each week, the certificate will go to pupils who take real pride in the way they set out their work. We'll be recognising neat handwriting, careful layout, and attention to detail, as well as the effort put into making learning look its very best. It's about celebrating not just what we learn, but how we show it, encouraging everyone to value clarity, care, and creativity in their work.

Year R - Harry listening to feedback and trying his best.

Year 1 - Ivy for an improvement in her focus, sentence writing and letter formation.

Year 2– Jibril for his effort with his handwriting in English.

Year 3– Louie for his consistently good presentation in all his books.

Year 4 - Thomas for producing lovely neat work and always working hard.

Year 5 - Jack for his lovely neat handwriting across all books.

Year 6 - Tate for vastly improving his presentation throughout the year



Congratulations to Emerald for earning the most team points this week

WEEK THREE	Option One	Macaroni Cheese	NEW Chicken 50% Enchilada Bake with Paprika Wedges	Sausage with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Mild Caribbean Chicken with Golden Rice	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option Two	NEW Chefs Special Lentil Curry with Rice	Tomato Pasta	Vegan Sausage and Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Caribbean Stew with Golden Rice	Red Pepper Frittata with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Oaty Cookie	Pear Crumble with Custard	Fruit Salad	NEW Jamaican Ginger Cake with Custard	Cornflake Tart

LUNCHTIME SUPERSTARS

Reception– Hunter for trying new food.

Year 1— Arlo for improving his use of cutlery and being able to eat his jacket potato.

Year 2– Aoife for improving her use of cutlery when eating her jacket potato.

Year 3– Jack for always having lovely manners.

Year 4 - Edward for using his manners when speaking to the midday supervisors.

Year 5– Tommy for being healthy and eating his vegetables.

Year 6– Henry for being helpful on the playground.

Team Points

Our students earn team points for their academic efforts and achievements across all lessons.

Well done to these children who have earned their Bronze and silver awards.

Bronze

Silver

Year 1 Dylan , Ivy-Rose

Year 2– Eimear, James, Hawa

Gold

Year 2 Isabelle

House teams can see their running total for the year on display in the hall. Keep up the hard work everyone!

INDEPENDENCE

We take ownership of our own learning. We try and complete our learning by ourselves first before we ask for support.

This half term, we are concentrating on our third SHINE value - Independence. We have already begun learning about this in Collective worship this week and pupils have begun to think about the ways in which they can be independent learners in school. We hope that these skills will support children to become more independent at home too.

For more information, our Shine Values posters are on the school website [here](#)

Minister for School Standards visits Southam St James CofE Academy

We were delighted to welcome Georgia Gould MP, the Minister for School Standards, to Southam St James CofE Academy on 5 February.

The Minister was invited by the Department for Education to see the impressive progress the school has made over the past year. During a tour with Miss Richards and Mrs Hothi, she visited classrooms and enjoyed seeing our children fully engaged in their learning.

We were incredibly proud of how the children represented our school. Their excellent learning behaviours, superb manners, and wonderful attitudes to learning were clear throughout the visit. The Minister was especially impressed by the groups of children she chatted to, who confidently shared their learning and spoke with maturity and pride about their experiences at school.

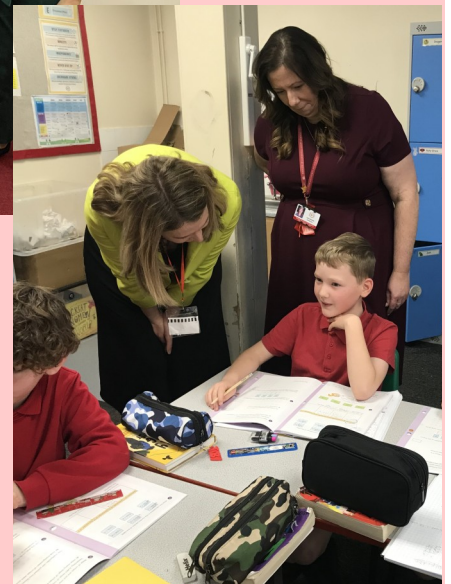
She also heard the children talk about our school vision, *"let your light shine"*, and how it guides the way they learn, behave, and care for one another.

It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the hard work, dedication, and pride of our whole school community. We hope that you will enjoy the photographs attached from this exciting visit.



Let your light shine M

Southam St James CofE Academy Trust
"Together, pursuing life in all its fullness"
John 10:10



Family Fun
Pancake Party

Tuesday 17th Feb

2-4pm

St James Church,
Southam.
CV47 0EA



All Welcome!

**Eat Pancakes,
Play Games,
Do Crafts,
Have Fun!**