

St James' C of E Academy

Newsletter



Spring 1 Week 3 2026

www.southamstjames.covmat.org

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

National Year of Reading

This year marks the National Year of Reading, and we are excited to be celebrating a whole year dedicated to the joy and power of reading. We will soon be officially launching the National Year of Reading to our pupils, with lots of exciting activities and events planned—so keep an eye out for more information coming very soon!

In the meantime, we would like to encourage all parents and carers to continue supporting reading at home. Sharing stories, listening to your child read, or simply talking about books can make a huge difference to their confidence, enjoyment, and progress.

Attendance Matters

We know that at this time of year, germs can be difficult to avoid, and sometimes children do need to stay home to recover. Please continue to keep in touch with us—communication really helps us understand how to support you and your child. Our aim is to help every child be in school as much as possible, and we are committed to working with families to overcome any barriers to good attendance. If you need support, guidance, or simply a conversation, we're here to help.

Wishing all our families a happy and restful weekend.

Let Your Light Shine

ATTENDANCE

Reception 100%
Year 1 88.96%
Year 2 98.61%
Year 3 96.49%
Year 4 100%
Year 5 90.17%
Year 6 89.86%

Well done to Year R and 4 who have this week's highest attendance!

USEFUL DATES

28/01/26 - Academy Governance meeting
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 tem 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 - Dorothy for putting in a lot of effort in her writing and Emily for always trying hard in her writing.

Year 1 - Neriah for learning the school expectations and showing this in all her work.

Year 2- Daisy for excellent effort especially in maths.

Year 3- Scarlett for really improving her presentation.

Year 4 - Jasmine for always trying her best when presenting her work.

Year 5 - Jack for his fantastic presentation in his fractions.

Year 6 - Oli for always working hard to present his work.



Congratulations to Sapphire for earning the most team points this week

WEEK ONE

Option One

Plant Balls in Tomato Sauce with Rice

Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread

Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy

NEW Chicken Biryani

Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce

Option Two

Autumn Vegetable Lasagne

Beetroot and Lentil Burger in a Bun with Potato Wedges

Vegetarian Wellington with Roast Potatoes and Gravy

NEW BBQ Sausage Pasta with Garlic Bread

Cheese and Bean Pasty with Chips and Tomato Sauce

Vegetables

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Dessert

Cheese and Crackers

NEW Apple Crumb Cake with Custard

Fruit Medley

Syrup Sponge with custard.

Jelly with mandarins.



LUNCHTIME SUPERSTARS



Reception- Esme for playing nicely.

Year 1- Ivy Rose for being respectful.

Year 2- Eevee for settling in well.

Year 3- Rosie for being polite.

Year 4 Amelia W for trying new food.

Year 5- Imogen for being a good helper in the hall.

Year 6- Zarin for helping to fix the playground.

Well done everyone—we hope that you enjoyed your treat and trip to top table today.

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

Year 2 Layla

Year 6 Henry

Silver

Year 2- Evie, Elsie

Year 6—Ollie, Max, Oliver, Harry, Larry, Kayden

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](#)



The
Children's
Society



Let's come together to **celebrate** **Christingle.**

Christingle is a great way for communities everywhere to get together this Christmas to catch up, make some special memories, and have fun.

Come and join us!

Location: St James Church, Park Lane, Southam

Date: Sun 25th January

Time: 9.45am (to make)

To find out more, contact:

Church Office on 01926 812413 or southamstjames@gmail.com

christingle.org

Scan the
QR code
to find
out more.

