

St James' C of E Academy

Newsletter



Spring 1 Week 1 2026

www.southamstjames.covmat.org

This half term we will be focusing on the Christian value of Independence

We hope you all had a wonderful break and wish everyone a very Happy New Year! It's been fantastic to welcome pupils back for the new term, and we are delighted to see such a settled and focused start to the year.

A huge thank you to parents and carers for your continued support in ensuring pupils arrive on time, equipped for learning, and wearing the correct uniform—it really makes a big difference.

We are excited to share that from next week we will be implementing My Happy Mind, a programme designed to support children's mental health and wellbeing. We can't wait to see the positive impact this will have across the school. Please see the post on Clasdojo for more information about this.

Finally, a friendly reminder that our Family Support Worker drop-in will take place next Wednesday from 2pm in the staff room. There's no need to book—just come to the front door and the office will let you through.

Wishing you all a great weekend!

Let Your Light Shine

ATTENDANCE

Reception	92.86%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	99.25%
Year 4	98.86%
Year 5	95.65%
Year 6	95.65%

Well done to Year 1 and 2 who have this week's highest attendance!

USEFUL DATES

- 12/1/26 R and Year 6 height and weight checks
- 14/01/26 Coffee and chat with family support worker in school.
- 21/01/26 - 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
- 20/03/26 - PTFA Easter cake break
- 26/03/26 - Easter service in church 9:30am
- 13/04/26 Children return to school
- 11/05/26 SATs week



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 - Porsha for her brilliant handwriting.

Year 1 - Alice for improving her handwriting.

Year 2— Oscar for taking great care in his learning presentation.

Year 3— Tayte for effort to improve the presentation in his work.

Year 4 - Millie for putting effort in to the presentation of her work.

Year 5 - Ben for consistently neat layout of work.

Year 6 - Jessica for consistently neat presentation in all her work.



Congratulations to Ruby & Sapphire for earning the most team points this week

K TWO 01/26 /26	Option One	Classic Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Wedges	Spaghetti Bolognese	CHICKEN SHACK BBQ Chicken or Quorn with Seasoned Potatoes and Sweetcorn Salsa	Census day menu	Breaded Fish and Fishfingers with Chilli Tomato Sauce
	Option Two	Mild Mexican Chilli with Rice	Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese	Vegetables of the Day	Hot Dogs	Cheese Whirl with Chilli and Tomato Sauce
	Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	With chips and beans	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	NEW Gingerbread Cookie	Chocolate and Beetroot Brownie with Chocolate	Fruit Salad	Syrup sponge with custard	Vanilla Shortbread



LUNCHTIME SUPERSTARS



Reception— Emily for trying her veggies!

Year 1—Flo for playing sensibly and sharing

Year 2— Hawa for trying a school meal

Year 3— Eliza for always being polite

Year 4 Amelia S for always being kind and gentle

Year 5— Harry for being helpful on the playground

Year 6— Kiki for her lovely manners

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

Jibril, Lucy, Florence, Clara, James, Leo, Lacey-Mae, Aoife, Summer, Daisy, Hawa, Eimear

Silver

Year 1— Vinnie

Year 2—Oscar , Isabelle

Year 3— Jack Cripps

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 will be concentrating on our second 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](#)