



## ST JAMES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEBBURN

Newsletter May 2024

Dear Families,

We are nearing the end of the first half of the Summer Term and the sun is beginning to shine. We have had a very busy half term together. ☀

### A Huge Well Done!

Our Year 6 children have successfully completed their SATS this half term. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the great attendance throughout that week. All children were there bright and early, enjoying a breakfast together before completing the papers. The children showed great resilience and stamina during the SATS week and were a credit to the school and their families. Thank you to all of the staff involved for making this week run smoothly and calmly. The children have received their Leavers' Hoodies which is always the symbol of the approaching move.

### After School Clubs

Our After School Clubs will begin again for the last half term on the first week back at school. Letters will be issued for Dom's clubs this week and all other clubs will remain the same. All clubs will finish on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July and there will be **no** clubs during the last week of term.

### New Starters and Fond Farewells

Miss Guthrie will take part in the process of visiting local nurseries with Mrs Watson in preparation for our newest arrivals, who will start Reception Class in September. It is always an exciting time as we begin the process of getting to meet our new families and children. Our Reception New Starters meeting will take place during the first week in July, **with further information to follow after the half term break**

With that comes the hardest of goodbyes as we move into our last half term with our lovely Year 6 children who we will say farewell to in July. We have enjoyed these lovely children since they were so small and watched them grow into delightful young people. They are more than ready for the next step in their educational journey and we are proud that they represent St James. These children are a credit to our school, their families and themselves. They have set a great example to our younger children especially to their special friends.

Mrs Francesca Heslop  
Headteacher  
BSc (Hons) P.G.C.E.

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## CAFOD Live Simply Award

We are truly delighted to receive our award. Despite the fact that our children have been split over three sites we have still come together to demonstrate that we can live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the world's poorest communities. This award celebrates what we have already done and inspires us to do more. It helps us to live not just more simply but more fully. LiveSimply is very much a journey which we hope to continue for many years to come. We were thrilled to see our award celebrated throughout local press and BCCET media. It was so well deserved.

## Reminders

- As the weather gets warmer it is important that sunscreen is applied to all children before they attend school. School have purchased a sun cap for each child which they will always wear on sunny days whilst outside. Please refer to our sunscreen policy which is published on the school website for the do's and don'ts.
- We have noticed a number of holiday requests coming into the office. Going forward we must be clear that we cannot authorise holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. **From September all unauthorised holidays will be referred to the LEA and fines will be issued. We thank you for your support in this matter. A reminder that school MUST follow government guidelines.**
- We are continuing to monitor attendance with our attendance officer at BCCET and will be in touch via letter if we have any concerns about your child's attendance. A reminder that we have an obligation to inform you if your child's attendance falls below 90%. We also want to celebrate improved attendance with our families and are developing strategies as to the best ways to do this. We have seen a big improvement as we move passed the pandemic. Thank you for your support.
- Thank you to everyone who has signed up to the new Arbor portal. Our long-term plan is to move entirely over to Arbor. If you haven't already done so, please sign up as soon as possible. We will update you with further steps.

## Updates to you

Our School Website and Facebook Page are updated weekly. This is a great place to find out about everything that is going on in school all of the time. All correspondence to our families is copied here. A reminder that this service is an information giving service only, if you need to speak to a member of staff please email the school office on [info@stjameshebburn.co.uk](mailto:info@stjameshebburn.co.uk) or call 0191 4832672. We are working hard to make sure St James is the very best in everything that we do and are proud of our website and social media pages.

## Return to School following RAAC closure

We have received nothing but support following our most recent communication to move back into school. Thank you for your understanding with this plan. We are beyond excited to have everyone back together

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We're working  
towards Artsmark  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



again and to move forward after the half term holiday for our final Summer half term. **Lunches will no longer be pre-booked and children will return to the banding system and daily choice.**

### **Office Disruption**

We are reaching out to ask for your patience over the final half term as Mrs Gillis is undergoing an operation which will take a significant recovery period. This will mean a substantial disruption to the school office. Mrs Snaith will cover the office while Mrs Gillis is absent. Please bear with us while we try and manage the school office with a limited staff. We wish Mrs Gillis a speedy recovery and look forward to having her back.

### **BCCET Awards**

We were overwhelmed at being nominated for the BCCET awards. We have been told that many of our staff have been nominated this year which is incredibly kind. Members of St James have been shortlisted for two awards:

Mrs Gillis is a finalist in the category of Staff Member of the Year (Support in School/Central Team)

St James Catholic Primary School as a team are a finalist in the category Team of the Year

Thank you so much for anyone who has taken the time to send in a nomination for our staff. It really does mean a lot and we are very proud.

### **Diary Dates - This list is not exhaustive and you will be informed of any new events that come up**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 6 Road Safety Talk with South Tyneside Council

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** - **Last Day of Summer Term 1**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** - **SCHOOL OPENS**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** - Year 5 Residential to Youth Village (**More info to follow**)

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June Year 3 and 4** - Quadkids Event at Monkton Stadium (**More info to follow**)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June**-Year 4 Multiplication Assessments

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June** - Y6 Puberty Talk (pm) (**More info to follow**)

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June** - First Holy Communion Day

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June** - Year 5 and 6 Quadkids Event at Monkton Stadium (**More info to follow**)

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June** - KS2 Cheerleading Festival at Urban Factory (**Select children/More info to follow**)

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June** - Y6 Final Robinwood meeting (**More info to follow**)

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June** - Y5 Girls Period Talk (pm) (**More info to follow**)

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**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June - St James Sponsored Parade 1:30pm**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Year 5 and 6 Different Voices Music Project (More info to follow)**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Year 6 YMT Festival at the Youth Village (More info to follow)**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby Event (Select children/More info to follow)**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June - Year 3 and 4 Tag Countdown Cricket Event (Select children/More info to follow)**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June- Dance Festival (More info to follow)**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July - Year 5 and 6 Orienteering Competition (Select children/More info to follow)**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July - Year 3 and 4 Different Voices Music Project (More info to follow)**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July - INSET DAY**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July- Sports Day KS1 am and KS2 pm (More info to follow)**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 South Tyneside Catholic Primary School's Leavers Mass at St James Church (More info to follow)**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Moving up day (More info to follow)**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 St Joseph's transition days (More info to follow)**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July - Year 3 at The Great North Museum (More info to follow)**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July – WHOLE SCHOOL END OF SUMMER TRIP TO ADVENTURE VALLEY (More info to follow)**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July - LAST DAY OF TERM**

We are looking forward to sharing a delightful last half term with all of our families and children and have lots to look forward to. We hope all of the children enjoy a safe, happy and well-deserved half-term break together.

Kind Regards

Mrs. Francesca Heslop

Headteacher

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