



Dear St James' Families,

A is for attendance

Our whole school target = 97% This week's attendance is xxx% and our lates are a disappointing 46. Well done to Violet class who managed 96.9%. One of the most important ways in which you can support your children and us in 2023 (and beyond) is to ensure that your children attend school every day and is punctual.

Attendance in school is of paramount importance - any absence can have a profoundly negative impact on your child's learning as important aspects of a sequence of work can be missed.

Please see the following extract taken from a Department for Education document "Working Together to Improve School Attendance" This (100% attendance) is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment. At KS2, pupils not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7%, compared to 3.5% among those meeting the expected standard. Moreover, the overall absence rate of pupils not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).

As you can see, for the educational success of your children, it is exceptionally important to attend school as much as possible. The school will continue to focus on attendance and I would appreciate the support of all Parents/Carers. All of our children should have equal access to success, and we wish to remove any barriers contributing to poor attendance. **Reminder the gates open at 8:40 - 8:55 am and at 3:15 -3:30 pm.**

Have a lovely weekend

Message from Mrs Boland-Bourne Headteacher

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance Week of 27 th	
Ivy	93.9%
Sunflower	93.8%
Lily	96.4%
Iris	94.2%
Daisy	93.9%
Poppy	93.9%
Clover	93.6%
Violet	94.2%

VALUE: Happiness

Explore emotions and feelings to build emotional intelligence:

Discuss feelings with your child. When your child has been overwhelmed with emotions, discuss how they felt and explain what is happening in their brain.

When your child is calm, focused, and happy or enjoying a quiet moment with you, explore and discuss their emotions and feelings linked to these experiences. This also helps to extend their emotional vocabulary.

Bring emotional understanding alive through books/reading together:

Use opportunities when you are reading books together to consider how characters might be feeling, what emotions they are experiencing. Also, discuss what part of the character's brain might be in control in different parts of the story. Consider the choices that they make. How they might reflect on those choices, make changes to situations etc.

Some tips for Parents/Carers

Less melt downs- more connection

Here is a list of ways to help you connect more with your child, decrease drama, and melt downs at home.

1. Put “special time” aside with your child everyday- even if just for 10mins!
2. Be present and put your phone aside when you are with your child
3. Pause and take a deep breath whenever you feel the urge to yell
4. Move and play together- let your child take the lead on a game and get them laughing every day!
5. Choose empathy first: set limits to behaviours and allow them to have their emotion
6. Choose empathy to help your child feel understood
7. Find the YES behind the NO: tell them what they CAN do instead
8. Look after yourself and make sure your cup is full
9. Give yourself a break: good enough really is enough and most ruptures can be repaired

Ask for support when things feel hard: from a partner, from other parents, or from a professional if necessary

Reminders:

During the week of Parent’ Evening there will be no after school clubs on Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child is collected promptly at 3.15pm.

No Parents’ evening appointments before 4 pm. This is to allow the teachers to prepare for the meetings and to have a well needed break.

Late Collection of Children:

A small number of children are collected late on a daily basis. School finishes at 3.15pm (unless your child has an after-school activity - 4:30). Please ensure that your child is collected promptly at 3.15pm. If you are running late, please call the school office on 020 8534 4030.

After school clubs:

We still have a number of spaces available in **multisport club**, which is on Tuesday for year 3 & 4

Dress to Express:

Children’s Mental Health Week

We are organizing a non-uniform day on Friday, 10th February 2023. You could wear your favourite colour or a unique outfit to express how you are feeling. It can be as simple or elaborate as you like! Express is an opportunity for self-expression and celebrating a diverse range of emotions. We are asking for a donation of £1

St James vs St Antony’s football match

Score 8 (St James) 3 (St Anthony)

Squad: Yusuf AH Jayden, King, IbrahimP, Giovanni, Sayeer, Aiden, Nino, Nafiz, Rashaine, Thashan, Enzo , and Lamin

It was a solid well deserved victory for the boys.

They played so well as a team.



Young voices:

Last week our school choir performed at the Young Voices Choir Concert at the O2 Arena. The children had to learn a variety of songs and dances at school before attending a rehearsal at the O2 Arena with all of the other schools. The children then performed to a full house audience in the evening. We are so proud of our choir for performing with such confidence and commitment! Well done!

TTRockstars: So far this term it has been great to see a number of children beginning to gain certificates by showing commitment to learning and solidifying their understanding of their times tables through their use of Times Tables rockstar. Winners

Week of 16 th January 2023	
Class with the most points	Top TTRockstar achiever
1 st	1 st
2 nd	2 nd
3 rd	3 rd

Week of 23 rd January 2023	
Class with the most points	Top TTRockstar achiever
1 st	1 st
2 nd	2 nd
3 rd	3 rd

Spring Term Dates

Half Term Holiday: Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February 2023