



# St. James The Great



ROMAN CATHOLIC (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Web site: [www.stjamesthegreat.org](http://www.stjamesthegreat.org)

Email: [stjames@stjamesthegreat.org](mailto:stjames@stjamesthegreat.org)

Headteacher: MR S.C. BECK MSc. BA. Cert.Ed. FRSA. FCollP. MIMgt.



## NEWSLETTER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

QUALITY ICT IN SCHOOLS

No 10

July 2010

The final term of the academic year moves on apace. Whilst we knew it would be a busy term this has been boosted by a number of exciting events and notable successes. It was great to see both our Football and Netball teams bring home the trophies for the Croydon Catholic Schools' Tournament. This was followed by us winning the Catholic Schools' Athletics Tournament, both overall and for the Infant category. Very well done to all team members; you have set a very high bar for next year. Staff and Governors have also worked on reaccreditation of our Basic Skills Award and our Charter Mark (now Customer Service Excellence) which I am pleased to report were achieved following visits from external assessors. Mrs Lawless very kindly collated our entry for recognition as an Eco (Green Flag) school for which an external assessment is waited. Mr Stewart has been ensuring our participation in an increasingly broad spectrum of events that has seen us bring a further trophy home for Kwik Cricket. These are indeed highly commendable achievements and thanks are due to all concerned. We had very good representation at the Croydon Athletics with a number of pupils making the finals. Congratulations to the whole team and especially to Maria Basilisco, Joshua Berkeley-Agyepong and Rebecca Goulding who came in the top 3 in their categories, with 58 schools competing this is an exceptional result.

I must also mention our two Year 5 Quiz Club Science Teams who participated in an inter-schools competition hosted here at St James the Great. Whilst not winning their heat, they represented the school very well and seemed to enjoy taking part. Well done to Mario Coker-Russo, Louise Fernandes, Sean Goswell, Charlotte Jones, Delisia Marfo-Mensah, Emily Marulanda, Osa Ojo-Osagie and Humaira Prince. We also congratulate the following children who took part in a Quiz Club Mathematics Competition against 12 other schools. Special congratulations to Jasmine De Braganca Jacques D'Monte, Christian Fernandes, Elliott Fernandes, Reuben Jeganathan and Sophia Szymaniak who brought back the winner's trophy for us and to Mario Coker-Russo, Louise Fernandes, Sean Goswell, Samuel Moody, Osa Ojo-Osagie, Karl Ramos, Henry Barrington, Lisa D'Cruz, Fionn Devaney, Thamara Jeganathan, Michael Madigan and Richard Paul who all gave highly commendable performances. Our very good programme of class day trips has seen children visiting several enjoyable and educational venues. Our two residential visits likewise were successful and children in Years 3 and 4 (for Easter 2011) and Year 5 (next year's Year 6 trip) have been invited to apply to join next year's groups. This term also saw our Anti-Bullying Working Party meet and thanks are due to Miss Jackson for facilitating what, was felt, to be a very productive session.

### SCHOOL MEALS PRICE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 2010

Our school meal price has been held at £1.60 since September 2007, some three years. Schools under the Croydon contract have just been notified of an increase to £2.10. In order to maintain a viable service regrettably our meal price will have to rise to £1.70. Tokens purchased before the end of this term will be sold at the current £1.60 price and will be honoured in the new term. At £8.50 a week this still presents very good value for money and will enable us to maintain standards. As you are aware, the service is dependent on take-up and I would urge you to support school meals as often as possible.



The school holds an Intermediate International Schools Award.  
 WINDSOR ROAD · THORNTON HEATH · SURREY CR7 8HJ  
 TEL: 020 8771 3424 (2 Lines) · FAX: 020 8771 0065



## CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS WILLIAMS

Many of you will have heard that Mrs Williams now has a son, Evan. He was born on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May weighing in at 7lb 11oz. Mother and baby are doing well and we extend our congratulations to her and her husband, Gerard.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

Please note our Uniform Shop will open for the last time this term next **TUESDAY AFTERNOON, 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010 BETWEEN 2 AND 3.30 PM.** Orders can still be placed using the order forms available from the Carousel in Reception or from the school website. The shop will reopen on the first day of term, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September, at 9.30 am.

## SCHOOL SUMMER CONCERTS

We have now completed the annual programme of summer concerts, all of which received good reviews. My thanks to all of those involved and our Friends Association for organising interval refreshments. The charity collections at the end of the performances raised a total of £188 which will be split between The London Air Ambulance and the Confraternity of St James.

## STAFFING ISSUES

I am pleased to be able to announce the allocation of teachers to classes for next year and your child will have a “meet their new teacher” session next week. I am also able to confirm that following interviews the Governors confirmed Mrs Scott Cree, Miss Bekir and Mrs Shoulder in their roles as Phase Co-ordinators. Well done to these staff who now become permanent members of our school’s Senior Leadership Team.

It is with regret that I have to announce that Mr Stewart will be leaving us at the end of this academic year for personal reasons, although he will hopefully remain in touch and may be seen around from time to time. We are very sorry to see him go. He has made a significant impact on the life of the school not least in the area of sport over a short space of time. We certainly wish him and his family well for the future. I am pleased to confirm that Miss Sheree Eaton will be joining the teaching staff in September and she looks forward to taking on the work Mr Stewart has begun in moving on the sporting opportunities available to the children.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Support Staff</b>
Nursery	Miss Pip Skehens	Mrs Sue Tracey (Nursery Nurse) Mrs Geraldine Grabiec (LSA)
R1	Miss Nicola Hudson	Miss Clare Sweeney
R2	Mrs Donna Shoulder	Mrs Pat Chambers
1.1	Mrs Leah Mascarenhas	Mrs Anna Pollock
1.2	Mr Johan Allen	Miss Sarah Church (3 days) Mrs Bridie Willis (2 days)
2.1	Miss Ellen Jackson	Mrs Donna Sullivan
2.2	Mrs Tammy Scott Cree	Mrs Breda Wentworth(Mon, Tues, Wed) Mrs Kathy McGuire (Thur and Fri)
3.1	Miss Maria McGrath	Mrs Cathy Melody
3.2	Miss Laura O’Brien	Mrs Sebastiana Fernandes
4.1	Mr Mark Kenny	Mrs Heidi Leathem
4.2	Miss Tracey O’Connor	
5.1	Miss Sheree Eaton	Mrs Sue Reynolds
5.2	Mrs Debbie Lawless	
6.1	Miss Orla Redmond	Mrs Gill McGowan
6.2	Miss Karima Bekir	

## SCHOOL GOVERNORS

We welcome two new Foundation Governors to the Governor team – Mrs Elizabeth Miles and Mrs Margaret Balsekar. This group likewise experiences ongoing pressures and scrutiny particularly

at times such as Ofsted and accordingly are seeking accreditation under 'Governor Mark' by way of an external validation of their work. Miss Lavinia Spong, our new Deputy, has already commenced collating this submission. Parents will be kept advised.

### **SPORTS DAY**

What a scorcher! We have received numerous compliments for both the day itself and for how the children were managed in every endeavour to ensure they were protected from the negative aspects of the sun. We are aware that a few children did experience difficulties after this event. The Friends Association have advised me that they will look at the issue of possible additional gazebo provision to help on this day. Special thanks are due to all the parents who helped in any way: setting up, clearing up or through the Friends Association and their refreshment provision which was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to the staff and Mr Stewart and Mrs Lawless in particular for supporting a very smoothly run event overall. I can confirm the final results were:-

1 <sup>st</sup> :	Green Team (St Patrick):	811 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Red Team (St George):	737 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Blue Team (St Andrew):	689 points
4 <sup>th</sup> :	Yellow Team (St David):	684 points

### **FRIENDS ASSOCIATION – FAMILY DISCO**

This Newsletter goes out just after the above event. This traditionally has been a popular event and last Saturday was no exception. Very much geared to the children the excellent DJ soon had them up dancing. Surprisingly the football was up on the screen in the hall but few took themselves away from their group of family and friends enjoying a hot summer's evening together. I must say a big thank you to all those who helped set up and clear up, to Chris Jones for manning the bar all night ably supported by a small team of helpers, to Dele Fatoba for being willing to take on any job and to one of our parents, Karim, for stepping in at the last moment to offer high quality freshly prepared food for sale on the evening. Pat Chambers, our current staff representative on the Friends, likewise worked hard throughout the evening. Finally, Bridie Willis who, as our Chair, was present throughout having been extremely busy juggling work commitments and home once again. The effort was certainly worthwhile as the event raised in excess of £500. Well done to all committee members who helped in anyway and apologies to anyone I may have left off the list.

### **THE GIVING MACHINE – [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk)**

Please remember this website notified to you some time ago. It offers chances to make online purchases from a large number of High Street and other stores. There are no extra costs for purchases but each purchase through this route earns commission for the school. Currently 48 people are registered to our school and we have just received a £50 commission cheque which could increase if more people used the site. Please consider registering if you have not already done so and encourage friends and family to do so nominating our school. Thank you.

### **DATE FOR THE DIARY**

#### **MICHAELMAS BALL – BLACK TIE EVENT**

Four years ago our Friends Association ran the above event in a beautiful Marquee in our school grounds. This was a limited number table event and a great evening was had by all. Due to the nature of the event it is more costly but we are giving advance notice (so we can save up!!) and hope people will consider gathering a group of friends together to buy a table of 8 or 10 for the event. We also hold an auction of 10 or 12 excellent prizes which last time included items from signed footballs and Dr Who T-shirt to a holiday apartment and a meal cooked in your home by a Chef. We are looking for auction prizes again and if you, know of anyone or possibly the company you work for who would provide or sponsor an auction prize please let us know. Donations can be acknowledged in the Ball programme. Watch this space for further information.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS:-**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July: Leavers' Mass – St Bartholomew's – 7.30 pm – all welcome  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July: Leavers' Assembly – 10 am  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July: Final Assembly 10 am

**ASSISTANCE NEEDED PLEASE:** From September 2010, assistance needed to 'ferry' two children from home (Dalmeny Ave) to school (St James the Great) and back home again every day. One child will be in Year 2 and the other will be in Reception (so both attend at normal school times from 9.15 am to 3.30 pm). Reasonable rates expected. Please call Anita on 07979 723863. Thank you.

**MILK ORDER REMINDER:** Please ensure you return your Milk Order form by the extended deadline, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July, in order that your child receives milk from the beginning of the new academic year. Any late orders will not be able to be processed until the start of the new term leading to a delay of up to 14 days for the provision of milk.

**RACE FOR LIFE**

This charity is well known by many of you. This year one of our past pupils, Lisa Reynolds, is taking part to raise money in memory of Mr Andrew Brown RIP who sadly passed away over the last Christmas break as a result of cancer. If you can support Lisa it is just a case of logging onto the website address below to pledge a donation.

[www.raceforlifesponsorsome.org/lisareynolds1987](http://www.raceforlifesponsorsome.org/lisareynolds1987)

**CAN YOU HELP?**

We would welcome any heavy duty old curtain material which we plan to make into sacks for Sports Day. We have a seamstress on standby just waiting for the materials. Please send any such curtains you have into the school office. Thank you for any help you can give.

**BOOK FAYRE**

Well done once again to Mrs Anna Pollock and Mrs Donna Sullivan for organising our Summer Term Book Fayre and thanks to the many of you who supported this through your purchases. I am pleased to advise you that we received just under £1,000 commission in books which will go to increasing reading resources across the school. I trust the children will enjoy reading the books they purchased.

**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

Some returns or payments still remain outstanding. Mrs Mowbray is keen to close the books on these and I would be grateful if you could send these back as soon as possible.

**DINNER MONEY**

We would request parents to respond to requests for outstanding dinner monies as a matter of urgency to enable these payments to be cleared before the end of term.

**ATTACHMENTS****SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES**

Please find attached a list of free summer holiday activities sponsored by The NEST (North Extended Schools' Team) of which our school is a member. I know in previous holidays families have taken advantage of this provision about which very positive feedback was received. Please feel free to access any parts of the programme. If you have any comments after the summer holiday about the programme I would be happy to pass these on through the Cluster.

**DATE LIST**

Please find attached the latest holiday date list which goes up to the Summer Term 2012. These dates include all In-Service Training Days and are provided well in advance to ensure family holidays etc. can be organised outside of term time.

**POSTCARDS**

Over recent years Mrs Lawless has very kindly co-ordinated a display of postcards sent into school by the children from places at home and abroad visited during the summer break. Please can we ask you

to do this again by sending cards directly to school addressed to your child's new class number, St James the Great School, Windsor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 8HJ. It also provides an opportunity for children to learn how to use a postcard and the importance of correct addressing.

### **CHRISTMAS ART COMPETITION**

We have received details of a Christmas Design a Light Competition for Croydon. The closing date for entries is mid-day on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2010. The competition is open to all Croydon Primary School children between 4 and 11 years. If your child would like to take part in what would be a useful and enjoyable holiday task, further information and an entry form can be downloaded from [www.croydowntowncentre.com](http://www.croydowntowncentre.com).

**EGG BOXES:** Please can you send into school any small boxes (6's) as we need these for our own chickens' eggs. Many thanks.

### **BOOK TRAIL**

The Librarian recently visited classes to remind them of the annual summer holiday Book Trail that takes place in local libraries. Our school has regularly topped the table for participation in this event. One visit will generate the award of a certificate with more frequent visits enabling children to earn other rewards. The real purpose, however, is to both encourage reading and to maintain children's regular reading over the summer break. Please encourage your child to take part as many times as you are able to manage.

### **FAREWELL YEAR 6**

We, as always, celebrate Year 6's move to secondary school through a Leavers' Mass, Assembly and Barbecue/Disco. We wish them all well as they move on to:-

#### **Bishop Challoner**

Jahmal McPherson  
Brendan O'Donovan

#### **Bishop Thomas Grant**

Luca Boome  
George Box  
Fabio Cataleta  
Fionn Devaney  
Daniele Diliberto  
Sam Egole  
Katherine Hickey  
Jada Kariuki  
Michael Madigan  
Laura Marcinkiewicz  
Freddie Mezzela  
Sophie Michael  
Josiah Oyeyinka  
Robyn Parry  
Richard Paul  
Mark Szymaniak  
Cassian-Diogo Thomas  
Lily Weddell

#### **Coloma Convent**

Shania Beck  
Zgora Boret  
Nicole Duvwiama  
Allison Furtado  
Cecilia Griffin

Thamara Jeganathan  
Armelle Lee  
Georgina Leonidas  
Roisin Lopeman  
Ria Mooney  
Isabella Muniandy

#### **Garratt Park**

Alyssa Santos

#### **Harris Academy**

Hugo Pludowski

#### **Royal Russell**

Mark Houlihan

#### **Sacreteur Maria Gorety**

Casey Tcheukam

#### **St. Andrews**

Thomas Larkin

#### **St Joseph's College**

Sean Raghoo

#### **St Mary's**

Mickela-Jade Hylton

#### **St Philomena's**

Chika Afam  
Alison Appau-Bonsu  
Maria Basilisco  
Lisa D'Cruz

Adriana Gagliano  
Rebecca Lewis-Brathwaite  
Gabriella Morrone  
Ariana Vanbiljon

#### **The John Fisher School**

John De Zoysa  
Eric Dweben  
Andrew Gater  
Matthew Love

#### **The London Oratory**

Henry Barrington  
Jahmal Coppin  
Callum Dias  
Riordan McCready

#### **Thomas More**

Jaydon Gidden

#### **Trinity**

Benjamin Vassallo

#### **Ursuline High School**

Yeeawomah Conteh

#### **Wilson's**

Samuel Dinssa

Thornton Heath Children's Centre & NEST Extended Services are offering a selection of FREE FUN ACTIVITIES for ages up to 11 years.

**Mondays & Tuesdays** at Thornton Heath Children's Centre, Pridham Road, CR7

No need to book - just drop in on the day between 10.00a.m. - 3.00p.m.

Stay & Play for under 5's and their Parents / Carers.

Qualified Staff with enhanced CRB checks. Qualified first-aiders on site.

**Note: Parents / Carers must remain on site at the Thornton Heath Children's Centre with their child(ren) at ALL times**

Fruit & Water provided

Telephone: Sue, Thornton Heath Children's Centre: 07587 024913

or Karlene, NEST Extended Services: 07805 570881

**Week Commencing 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>
Stay and Play for 0-11's <b>10.00 - 3.00</b> <u>Activities for 5-11 yr olds</u> <b>Morning</b> Jewellery Making <b>Afternoon</b> Scrap Booking	Stay and Play for 0-11's <b>10.00 - 3.00</b> <u>Activities</u> Wheelie Day Scooters, skates and toddler trikes welcome. Sorry, NO larger bicycles as we do not have space. Wheelie art and craft!

**Week Commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010**

<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>
Stay and Play for 0-11's <b>10.00 - 3.00</b> <u>Activities for 5-11 yr olds</u> <b>Morning</b> Beads & Baubles <b>Afternoon</b> Multi-Cultural Art	Stay and Play for 0-11's <b>10.00 - 3.00</b> <u>Activities</u> Splash Day Lots of water play - come and splash! Art and craft on a water theme!

**Week Commencing 9<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>
Stay and Play for 0-11's <b>10.00 - 3.00</b> <u>Activities for 5-11 yr olds</u> <b>Morning</b> Jewellery Making <b>Afternoon</b> Creative Creatures	Stay and Play for 0-11's <b>10.00 - 3.00</b> <u>Activities</u> Art and Craft Day Come and try out lots of drawing, cutting, sticking and making! Theme:- Holidays

## Wednesdays & Thursdays at

St. Cyprian's G.O. Primary School (V.A.), Springfield Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 8DZ - Enter via gate on Ingram Road. Telephone: *07805 570881*

Ages 5 to 11

Times: 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

**No need to book - just drop-in on the day between 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.**

Qualified Staff with Enhanced CRB checks.

Qualified First-Aiders on site.

Fruit & Water provided. If children are staying during lunch period, please provide a healthy packed lunch.

### Week Commencing 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>
Enjoy a varied programme of FREE activities including Badminton, Cricket, Football, Greek Dancing, Krollball, Maypole Dancing, Multi-Skills, Rounders and a great selection of craft activities.	Enjoy a varied programme of FREE activities including Badminton, Cricket, Football, Greek Dancing, Maypole Dancing, Multi-Skills, Rounders and a great selection of craft activities.

### Week Commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>
Enjoy a varied programme of FREE activities including Badminton, Cricket, Football, Greek Dancing, Krollball, Maypole Dancing, Multi-Skills, Rounders and a great selection of craft activities.	Enjoy a varied programme of FREE activities including Badminton, Cricket, Football, Greek Dancing, Maypole Dancing, Multi-Skills, Rounders and a great selection of craft activities.

### Week Commencing 9<sup>th</sup> August 2010

Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>
Enjoy a varied programme of FREE activities including Badminton, Cricket, Football, Greek Dancing, Maypole Dancing, Multi-Skills, Rounders and a great selection of craft activities.	Enjoy a varied programme of FREE activities including Badminton, Cricket, Football, Greek Dancing, Maypole Dancing, Multi-Skills, Rounders and a great selection of craft activities.

**ST JAMES THE GREAT SCHOOL, WINDSOR ROAD, THORNTON HEATH**  
**HOLIDAY DATES**

**AUTUMN TERM 2010**

OPEN: Thursday 2 September

OPEN: Monday 1 November

***CLOSED: Wednesday 1 September (Staff In-Service Day)***

CLOSE: Thursday 21 October

***CLOSED: Friday 22 October (Staff In-Service Day)***

CLOSE: Friday 17 December

**SPRING TERM 2011**

OPEN: Wednesday 5 January

OPEN: Monday 28 February

CLOSE: Thursday 17 February

***CLOSED: Friday 18 February (Staff In-Service Day)***

***CLOSED: Monday 21 March (Staff In-Service Day)***

CLOSE: Thursday 21 April

**SUMMER TERM 2011**

OPEN: Monday 9 May

OPEN: Tuesday 7 June

CLOSE: Friday 27 May

***CLOSED: Monday 6 June (Staff In-Service Day)***

CLOSE: Friday 22 July

**AUTUMN TERM 2011**

OPEN: Monday 5 September

OPEN: Monday 31 October

***CLOSED: Thursday 1 and Friday 2 September (Staff In-Service Days)***

CLOSE: Friday 21 October

CLOSE: Friday 16 December

**SPRING TERM 2012**

OPEN: Wednesday 4 January

OPEN: Monday 20 February

***CLOSED: Tuesday 3 January (Staff In-Service Day)***

CLOSE: Friday 10 February

CLOSE: Thursday 5 April

**SUMMER TERM 2012**

OPEN: Monday 23 April

OPEN: Monday 11 June

***CLOSED: Monday 7 May (Public Holiday)***

CLOSE: Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May

***CLOSED: Friday 1 June (Staff In-Service Day)***

CLOSE: Friday 20 July

***CLOSED: Monday 23 July (Staff In-Service Day)***

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**For your information:**

	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>
Good Friday	2 April	22 April	6 April	29 March
Easter Sunday	4 April	24 April	8 April	31 March
Christmas Day	Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday

***FIVE STAFF IN-SERVICE DAYS PER ACADEMIC YEAR HAVE TO BE FIXED  
YOU WILL BE ADVISED OF THOSE NOT INCLUDED ABOVE AS THEY ARE AGREED***

(June 2010)