

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

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

No 2

November 2005

With the first half term under our belts we begin to look towards arrangements for Christmas which will be on us before we realise. Whilst one of the busiest half terms of the year it is also very enjoyable as it leads up to family celebrations of Christmas. You have already been advised of Concert dates and I would confirm that **ALL** Reception, Year 1 and 2 children are expected to attend for both evening concert performances and that all Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children will be expected to attend our annual Carol Service which this year is at St Andrew's on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm. School Christmas Dinner Day is on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December and it is anticipated that **ALL** children will take a school dinner on this day in line with tradition and we would ask you to make sure your child has a dinner token on that day. Dietary needs will be catered for.

It is pleasing to report that the planned premises work over the half term went well. The new flooring is now in place in all junior classrooms, the footpath from the pedestrian entrance to the waiting circle has been relaid to remove trip hazards and the external repainting programme is almost completed. We were also able to include the re-carpeting of two offices and new flooring to the Reception classes entrance in these works, all of which go towards maintaining the overall quality of the working environment for children and adults.

Other news includes:-

#### **ST ANDREW'S PARISH MISSION**

The Parish Mission starts this coming Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November and we have attached a copy of the two week programme to which all are welcome. Please note that the following will take place at St James the Great School which again is open to all. The details are as follows:-

1. Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament in The Oratory 1.30-3.30 pm. Years 4, 5 and 6 will be visiting The Oratory during the afternoon for a short service and period of reflection. These are open sessions and the period 3-3.30 pm has been reserved specifically for parents.
2. Tuesday and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November 2.45-3.30 pm in the school hall. Two sessions on prayer for parents led by members of the Sion Community who are conducting the Mission. We hope as many parents as possible will take the opportunity prior to collecting their children to attend one or both of these sessions which we are sure will be very worthwhile.

### **CHESS CLUB**

This Club has been a victim of its own success as we now have 50 children registered as wanting to join. In order to include as many children as possible we would like to seek some support from any parents who may be interested in helping with the running of this group. Only a basic knowledge of Chess is required. If you can help please drop a note to the office for the attention of Miss Berry.

**CYCLE RIDES:** I understand 38 pupils took part in the recent group cycle outing and that the second one planned in half term also went well. I am pleased that Mr and Mrs De Zoysa's initiative has raised the interest in cycling and understand further outings are planned. Yet another dimension to the range of activities on offer. Thank you to all concerned.

### **ORGANIC FRUIT AND VEGETABLES**

Sufficient orders were received to offer a bulk purchase. If you wish to join the scheme at anytime please ask for further details at the office.

### **SALAD BAR**

This has got off to a good start. I would record special thanks to Linda Tomlinson, our Assistant Catering Manageress, for getting this underway. There has been a good response from the children and this will be monitored. We would remind packed lunch children that they can access the Salad Bar by purchasing a 40p token on the days required.

### **TOUR CYCLE COMPETITION**

Congratulations to Oliver Cole on winning a bicycle in this competition and to the large number of St James the Great pupils who gained runner-up prizes.

### **ADVERTISEMENT**

One of our parents is able to offer independent financial advice as a qualified advisor. Should you choose to use this service if you mention St James the Great School the school will receive commission, although parents should note this is an advertisement about which we are unable to make any recommendation. It will be up to individuals to decide if they contact Michelle on 020 240 1145/07956 821502 whether they wish to proceed or not. The company concerned is Mulbury Hamilton who are able to offer advice on mortgages, re-mortgages etc.

### **REMINDER RE. PARKING**

Please keep the zig-zags free to the gates of the school and take special care in regard to cyclists of which we have an increasing number. I was also approached this week by a neighbour whose wife is due to have a baby soon and he was extremely concerned that on a number of occasions his driveway had been blocked by parents parking their cars across his driveway in the morning and evening. In the event of an emergency he would be unable to get his own car out of his driveway. I understand on two occasions vehicles were left across his driveway for more than half an hour. Please be considerate.

### **MONEY**

Parents are asked to recognise the considerable amount of administrative time that is involved in giving change against payments made to school or the Friends Association. We would ask wherever possible to ensure correct money is sent into school in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class and reason for payment. Thank you for your co-operation in regard to this matter.

### **MUFTI DAYS – FRIENDS ASSOCIATION CRAFT FAYRE**

We will be holding two non-uniform days to support the Friends Association Craft Fayre. Children will be permitted to come out of uniform on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November for a donation of a bottle to the bottle stall and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December for a donation of cakes for the cake stall. Please support this if you can and attend on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2005.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

You will have received, or will soon receive, proofs taken of your child/families. We would ask you to get your orders in as quickly as possible to secure delivery before the end of term.

***DON'T FORGET ART EXHIBITION AND CHEESE AND WINE EVENING ON MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER – 5 -8 PM***