



# St. James The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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

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## NEWSLETTER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

QUALITY ICT IN SCHOOLS

No 9

July 2008

**A**s the academic year draws to a close we reflect on how fast it has passed. It has been another eventful year, with both the programmed events and the unexpected giving us another year to remember. Newsletters through the year have recorded numerous events and this, the final one of the year, very much provides a summing up. I would, therefore, like to note:-

### SUMMER PRODUCTION - OLIVER

Our Years 4 and 5 children did us proud with four excellent performances. This was a great team effort by staff and I would like to express sincere thanks to Mr Brown for his piano magic, Mrs Williams for her great musical finesse, Miss Jackson for her dramatic panache, Mrs Scott Cree for her artistic acumen with the set and our lighting expert, Mrs Spinks. Support from other teaching and non-teaching staff enabled a smooth production and thanks are due to them all. I will make special mention of Mrs Mowbray who manages the somewhat poisoned chalice of ticket allocations for the sterling work she does in ensuring capacity in the hall is not exceeded. Parental support in getting the children here on time for the production is much appreciated and I feel your very generous support for the charity collection which raised £275 for the Hearing Research Department of Guys' and St Thomas' Hospital is a mark of how much the production was enjoyed. Thanks to everyone.

### POSTCARDS PLEASE

We would like once again to produce a display of postcards of places (local, home and abroad) visited by the children during the summer break. If you are willing please get your child to send at least one postcard addressed to their new class as follows:

Class: \_\_\_\_\_, St James the Great School, Windsor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 8HJ

The children enjoy sharing these on their return in addition to giving us a good early display.

### YEAR 6 LEAVERS' MASS, ASSEMBLY AND BARBECUE/DISCO

These three events are always both moving and enjoyable. They serve to provide a reflection on the children's time at St James the Great and mark the many enjoyable occasions that have been experienced. We thank them all for the contributions they have made to the life of the school and for the book donations they have made to mark their time with us. As they go off to the following secondary schools we wish them every success for the future and look forward to hearing about how they progress in the years ahead. I would propose a vote of thanks to those who organised the barbecue and disco event for Year 6. All enjoyed the event and I would give special thanks to Francis Berkeley-Agyepong and Louis Boret for their work cooking and to the other parents who assisted with the serving of food etc.



A Voluntary Aided School in the Trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Southwark.  
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WINDSOR ROAD · THORNTON HEATH · SURREY CR7 8HJ  
TEL: 020 8771 3424 (2 Lines) · FAX: 020 8771 006

**Bishop Thomas Grant**

Joshua Akpani  
 Matthew Asomaning-Bimpong  
 Andre Bingham  
 Samuel Boret  
 Arun Butler-Kowlessar  
 Harry Cotzias  
 Ryan D'Souza  
 Jordan Desa  
 Marcus Fisher  
 Jordan Green  
 Ellen Hickey  
 Jake Jasper  
 Eva Lamerton  
 Shannon Lawlor  
 Calum Lopeman  
 Ryan Mendes  
 Anthony Menezes  
 Osaretin Osagie  
 Mamus Otuguor  
 Joshua Pentycross  
 Lewis-John Robinson  
 Jordan Rudland  
 Tricia Tarbie  
 Stefano Trombetta  
 Joseph Troy  
 Cormac Willis

**Wimbledon College**

Munda Conteh

**Coloma Convent**

Jessica Agyei-Asante  
 Felicianna Fernandes  
 Simone Fernandes  
 Rachel Gibbons  
 Adanna Ike  
 Esther Ivens  
 Rosa Lanzalaco  
 Sophia Leonidas  
 Rebecca Mendes  
 Cheyrinne Udeagbala  
 Samari Wilmot

**The London Oratory**

William Barrington  
 Olamide Fayankinnu

**St Joseph's College**

Aron Awofadeju  
 Daniel Power  
 Joseph Quartey-Cofie

**Wallington**

Samuel Marshall

**Wilson's**

Michael Dolan  
 Anthony Mikhaeel

**Croydon High**

Nana Asafu-Adjaye

**St Philomena's**

Rochelle Allen  
 Aniela Bernatek  
 Obi Ezenwoye  
 Loredana Gagliano  
 Margaret Gallagher  
 Lauren Lehane  
 Demi-Lee Simpson  
 Tiaylor-Anne Thorpe

**The John Fisher School**

Jacob Berkeley-Agyepong  
 Conor Daly  
 Louis De Zoysa  
 Emile John  
 Navin Muniandy  
 Jake Parfitt  
 Daniel Smith

**Whitgift**

Daniel Anand Rajmohan

**Virgo Fidelis**

Christina Lemince

**MR RYAN STAPLETON** has now completed his teacher training with us and moves on to take up his first teaching post in the Leatherhead area. We have greatly enjoyed having him at St James the Great and thank him for the numerous contributions he has made. He will be greatly missed, not least for his sense of humour and we wish him every success in the future.

**FRIENDS ASSOCIATION**

The saying "you never appreciate what you have until it is not there" is often very true. The realisation that Bridie Willis, our Friends Association Chair, may soon step down as her youngest child moves on to secondary school presents us with a challenge. Her term of office has seen significant improvements to many aspects of the school environment and resources and I thank her for all that she has achieved particularly over the last year. The Committee are a great team and I hope when the AGM comes around you may consider undertaking a term of office on the Committee. Please give it some thought. 2009 will be a Fete year.

**FAMILY SUMMER DISCO**

Once again a great evening enjoyed by a large number of people. Thank you for supporting this event which was only briefly interrupted by two short showers. Well done to the Friends Association.

**DATE FOR DIARY – FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

Our Friends Association are organising a special first time Wine and Cheese tasting evening hosted by the Wine and Spirits Trust (WSET) with a no obligation opportunity to purchase wines. Please put the date in your diary. A flyer to book tickets, which will be limited, will be issued at the start of next term.

## **ST ANDREW'S AND ST JAMES THE GREAT FAMILY PRAYER BOOK**

We will revisit in the new school year the request for contributions to this book which we are currently compiling in conjunction with St Andrew's Church but request any contributions you can get in this term asap. See the last Newsletter for further details.

## **SCHOOL WEBSITE [www.stjamesthegreat.org](http://www.stjamesthegreat.org)**

If you have not visited our site recently do look us up as the Newsletter referred to above can be accessed on the site and I draw your attention to the recently revised Friends Association section which is well worth a visit.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO** Craig Belgrave and Helen on the birth of their daughter, Brooke. Craig will be known to most for the football coaching he does and we wish the proud parents best wishes for the future.

## **SPORTS DAY**

Congratulations to Green Team on their win, only the second time they have claimed the cup.

The results were as follows:-

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Green Team: 796 points | 2. Yellow Team: 729 points |
| 3. Red Team: 720 points   | 4. Blue Team: 617 points   |

The annual team points trophy this year went to the Yellow team, with the final results being:-

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Yellow: 6123 | 2. Green: 6114 |
| 3. Red: 5902    | 4. Blue: 5631  |

## **CATHOLIC SPORTS RESULTS**

1. St Joseph's: 108 points
2. Regina Coeli: 82 points
3. Thomas Becket: 78 points
4. St Mary's: 74 points
5. St James the Great: 73 points
6. St Chad's: 67 points
7. Good Shepherd: 60 points
8. Margaret Roper: 53 points
9. St Cyprian's: 48 points
10. St Aidan's: 46 points

The small schools handicap trophy went to:-

1. Good Shepherd
2. Margaret Roper
3. St Aidan's

## **SCHOOL MEALS**

Our catering team headed by our Catering Manageress, Sheila Williams, does a great job. Meal prices for next year will be held at £1.60 well below the Croydon Contract rate of £1.90. This represents very good value for money but is only sustainable if the take up remains high so please give every consideration to allowing your children to take school meals as often as possible. The Menu is a good one that has been nutritionally approved. Comments and suggestions regarding our catering provision are always welcome.

## **SATURDAY MORNING FOOTBALL**

The group of parents who organise the Saturday morning training sessions do so tirelessly. I wish to record my sincere appreciation for all that they do and assure them that it is a valued part of our extra-curricular provision. The recent 'Football Festival' organised by the group was a great success and a day that was enjoyed by a large number of people. Thanks to them all.

## **ICE CREAM SALES**

Thank you to the team of sellers who have maintained our Friends Association Ice Cream sales this term. It is planned to continue these subject to weather conditions until the October half term.

Thanks to those who resisted the Ice Cream Van to support our Friends Association's highly competitive sales.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU** to Helen Rudland who makes all this possible by giving up her time to keep the freezer stocked up with supplies.

#### **AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE**

Well done to the children who have recently completed this term's sessions and were praised for their strong participation and commitment. Details of the next series will be issued at the start of next term.

#### **MID-DAY SUPERVISORS**

**URGENTLY NEEDED.** If you are available lunchtimes and would be willing to put your name forward for employment in this capacity please drop a note to Mrs Mowbray via the school office. Further details can be obtained via the same route.

#### **SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT ASSISTANTS**

We like to maintain a register of parents who would like to be considered for employment in this capacity. Hours are available depending upon the number of children being supported at any one time. Please drop a note to Mrs Pillay via the school office if you would like to be considered for this type of employment.

#### **GARDENING CLUB**

A very big thank you to Edith Mbawala and Chimunya Brown for their help with the Gardening Club with a special note of thanks to Angela Largie.

**BABYSITTING CIRCLE;** A group of Mums from St Andrew's and St Bartholomew's parish run a well established 'Babysitting Circle'. It operates on a 'token' basis so no money is exchanged and members meet together socially as well as to book 'sits'. Sometimes members move away or have less need for babysitting as their children get older so we always welcome new members. If you are interested in joining and/or want more details please telephone Anna-Marie Goswell (0208 239 7261), Ursula Madine (0208 764 8025) or Lesley Brennan (0208 665 7947).

**WANTED:** Registered Childminder required from 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008 to take a child to and from morning Nursery (Monday to Wednesday only). Also for him to be cared for until his mother returns from work (Mondays 5.30-6 pm). If you are able to help please contact Alison Fleming on 020 8653 0169 or 07870 792434.

**LAST DAY OF TERM WILL BE THURSDAY FOR ALL NURSERY PUPILS AND SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2 PM ON FRIDAY FOR ALL OTHER PUPILS. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILDREN ARE COLLECTED PROMPTLY.**

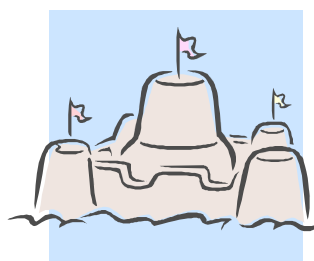
#### **FIRST DAY OF TERM**

The new term starts on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September for Years 1 to 6 and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September for Reception. Nursery children have been advised separately regarding their start dates.

#### **LAST BUT NOT LEAST**

Our school is fortunate to have such a great staff team and I would wish to express my personal appreciation to them all for their work over the year and, more recently, during the period of our Ofsted inspection. The team achieved a well deserved very good report which has now been published. They deserve a well earned summer break and I look forward to welcoming back those rejoining us in September while extending every good wish to those moving on. We also look forward to welcoming the new staff already advised to you and to another good year ahead.

*Thank you for the many positive comments received on the children's reports.*



*Best wishes to everyone for an enjoyable summer break. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us.*