



# St. James The Great



ROMAN CATHOLIC (VA) PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

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## NEWSLETTER



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

No 9

April 2011



### Wishing you every blessing for Easter

**W**e move towards the Easter break at the end of a long term due to the lateness of Easter this year and our decision to work through into Holy Week. We are able to reflect on our preparations through Lent for Easter and also mark some very positive events that have made this term special in many ways.

**LENTEN TUESDAY MASSES** – thank you to all who made the effort to come together at 8.30 am on Tuesday mornings be it once or every week. These have been well attended and have provided a quiet reflective time during the Lenten period in what are busy days for us all. My sincere thanks to the priests from St Andrew’s who have celebrated these Masses for us. I would record a special note of thanks to Mrs Mascarenhas who has taken on all the preparatory work to ensure everything ran smoothly; to Les also for setting up the Music Room each week.

**PENITENTIAL WEEK W/B 11/04.2011** – Again the priests from both our parishes have kindly given of their time to offer the opportunity to all our Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**DANCE AND MUSIC FESTIVALS** – These annual Festivals took place at the Fairfield Halls and thanks to the children’s hard work and the dedication of several members of staff, teaching and support, our dancers and choir both did us proud. Thank you to all concerned especially Mrs Shoulder, Mrs Willis, Miss Sweeney, Mrs Williams, Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Leathem. Parental support for these events makes our participation possible and gives the children a great experience, thank you.



The school holds an Intermediate International Schools Award.  
WINDSOR ROAD · THORNTON HEATH · SURREY CR7 8HJ



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**JUNIOR ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS** – We have a group of children who have quietly taken on this role helping to raise awareness by all children of the dangers around and being alert as a pedestrian or cyclist. They are to be congratulated on winning a Road Safety Poem competition entered by a large number of schools. Well done to Nile Dotting (Year 6), Aoife Courtney (Year 5), Lily Channon (Year 4) and Sarah Vella (Year 3) who received their certificates at a recent Mayoral presentation. See poems reproduced at the end of the Newsletter.

**GET SET PROGRAMME 2012 OLYMPICS** – Our school is registered for the above programme and the children have access to resources, opportunities and our school Olympics blog. I hope they will make use of this and can do so by logging on to:-

<http://getset.london2012.com/join-us/register/pupil-registration>

They will then need to use the following student invitation code:-

66949-Beck

Please encourage them to register and see what is available.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM** – We are currently encouraging children to take care of their uniform particularly in the cloakroom areas following a spate of damaged bag clips and coat zips. We would ask parents to also stress to their children the need to look after their clothes and items brought into school.

Please note, taking account of the later than usual Easter, it is expected that all children will be in summer uniform after the Easter break.

There has been a recent spate of parents having to be contacted due to their child's haircut/style breaching the school's dress code. It is sometimes better to arrange for children to visit the barbers at the start of a holiday break if a shorter than usual hairstyle is desired as this will enable it to grow and meet the requirements on the child's return to school. For school purposes a cut should not be below level 3 and we would ask you to ensure that girls having extensions put in their hair for the holiday period have these removed before their return.

#### **SCHOOL CHICKENS**

**EGGS** – We are now at the end of the list of requests for 4 of our free range eggs – which I can vouch are very tasty. If you would like to receive another batch or some for the first time please send in £1 to school in an envelope marked "Eggs" and your child's name and class and you will be sent 4 eggs in order of receipt of names. The funds raised help support the cost of keeping the chickens which provide both a learning experience and enjoyment for many of our children. Small egg boxes needed again please.

**HOLIDAY CARE** – We are looking for some families to offer to have the chickens over the Easter break and future half and full term breaks to give them a holiday. If you have a garden and are interested please advise the school office. All the equipment is provided for their care and carers have the bonus of keeping all eggs laid during the holiday period. Over longer holidays it may be possible to link the care between families. Again just send in a note to school for the attention of Mrs Lawless without any obligation and we will contact you regarding your availability for a future break period.

**PRE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS** - No pre or after school clubs will be running next week. Film and Drama clubs also cancelled first week back due to SATs. Breakfast Club and Mrs Shakespeare's after school club are both running as normal.

**ADVANCE NOTICE – SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS** - Class and school team photographs will be taken on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May.

**DINNER TOKENS** – We would ask you to make sure that when your child is staying for a school dinner they bring a token on that day as we are currently seeing an increasing number of children booking a dinner with no token and this is taking up a significant amount of administrative time chasing the token. Thank you for your co-operation.

**THANK YOU** for responding to the request in the last Newsletter to keep the Reception area as clear as possible first thing in the mornings and again at the end of the day. Things are much better. I can confirm, however, that during inclement weather it is fine to wait in the Reception area pending the main hall becoming available.

**ARE YOU FEELING ENERGETIC???** - We are looking for some volunteer parents to give us a couple of hours to help weed our environmental area. Can you help? Are you willing? If so either see Mrs Lawless directly or send a note into school.

**LENTEN BOXES** – If the boxes for this annual collection can be returned to school no later than the end of our first week back this would be appreciated.

**THANK YOU** – Trisha Batchelor would like to thank the very generous sponsorship she received from family, friends and a significant number of members of our school community who supported her recent sponsored cycle ride to raise funds for the hospice which cared for her sister, Isabella. A total of £919 was raised and your generosity was much appreciated.

**ORANGE WEDNESDAY** - This Newsletter was compiled just prior to the Year 4 and 5 group setting off on their residential week to Liddington near Swindon. They return the day after the end of term. We wish them an enjoyable week along with good weather and look forward to hearing about the trip on their return. Many thanks to Mrs Lawless, Miss O'Connor, Mrs Grabiec, Mrs Marchant, Mrs McGuire, Miss Sweeney, Miss Berry and to Joe, who is with the group for the week, for making this trip possible. Thanks also to those parents and friends who have supplied an "Orange Wednesday" code for the group's cinema visit. Mrs Spinks is collating these so please email [stjames@stjamesthegreat.org](mailto:stjames@stjamesthegreat.org) or send in any codes obtained before Wednesday next.

As I am on the Year 4 and 5 residential trip, I take the opportunity to wish you and your families every blessing for Easter.

**PLEASE DO NOT FORGET: SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2 PM ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL (PLEASE COLLECT YOUR CHILDREN PROMPTLY).**

**NURSERY CLOSSES ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL (NO NURSERY SESSIONS ON THURSDAY)**

**SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY (YEAR 6 PUPILS ARE REMINDED THAT THIS IS SATS WEEK AND FULL ATTENDANCE IS THEREFORE VERY IMPORTANT –ALL CHILDREN SHOULD RETURN IN SUMMER UNIFORM (GIRLS – NAVY BLUE CHECK DRESSES, BOYS – SHORT TROUSERS)**

#### **ROAD SAFETY BY NILE (YEAR 6)**

Road safety is important.

It can stop you from getting into situations of torment.

Zebra crossings, cars and traffic lights.

On your bike have something bright.

When crossing the road never run.

Because getting knocked over just isn't fun.

Always remember look, listen, think.

Or else you're knocked over in a blink.

Road safety, safety comes first!

#### **CROSSING THE ROAD BY LILY CHANNON (YEAR 4)**

Can you cross the road?  
Remember the green cross code,  
our cars should be able to see you  
some drivers see you with bright clothes on.  
Stop, look and listen!  
If you follow this poem, you will be safe.  
Never cross the road without an adult.  
Green, red and yellow are the key colours.

Take one look left and one look right.  
Help other people cross the road especially at night.  
Everyone should walk not run.

Road safety is very important.  
Other people get hurt while crossing the road.  
And people may not get hurt anymore if they:  
Do what these rules say.

#### **SARAH VELLA (YEAR 3)**

Take responsibility of yourself.  
Hearing traffic coming is important.  
Everyone wear bright clothes.

Go carefully near roads.  
Remember to look left and right.  
Everybody stop, look, listen and think.  
Everyone should think 'when is the best time to cross'.  
Never get distracted when crossing a road.

Codes are important about crossing roads.  
Roads are dangerous so do not play near them.  
Over the years there have been lots of accidents  
Stop hesitating start thinking.  
Stop just before you get to the kerb.

Cross the road with care.  
On the road don't try to run.  
Do not cross until there is a safe gap in the traffic.  
Everyone stay safe.

#### **ROAD SAFETY ADVICE BY AOIFE COURTNEY (YEAR 5)**

Remember the Green Cross Code;  
it'll help you cross the road.

Always wear something bright  
if there is no light.

Don't play games by the road;  
you might get hit by a truck with a load.

Always cross by a crossing  
or the result would be shocking.

Look left and right  
so you don't get a fright.

Do not run;  
it would not be fun.

