



# ST JAMES THE GREAT

@STJGREAT

14/12/18 Issue 13

One more week of term to go...it feels like it has been a long one! We have had a great couple of weeks, with fabulous performances in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Nursery. Thank you to all of the staff who have worked so hard to enable the children to shine!

Year 6 have been busy collecting for Shelter and we have a huge amount to give to the charity, it will really make a significant difference to people who have found themselves in the difficult position of being homeless. Thank you so much to everyone who has donated, as ever, the community of St James the Great rises to the challenge when trying to help those less fortunate than themselves.

Year 3 had a great time at the Wimbledon Pantomime...the minibus I drove back was full of excited chatter about the costumes, the fun and the 3D effects! This was followed up by the Globe Players coming in and putting on a panto for all of the children.

Year 2 went to London Zoo and saw the Living Nativity with real camels and even some Kings!

Next week is just as busy with the Key Stage 2 Carol service at St Andrew's church on Tuesday at 6pm. Please note that the Carol Service is compulsory for all Junior pupils and they must be in attendance. All are welcome—please just be mindful if young children start making very loud noise. I would also ask that parents do not drop off children then leave—it is a service for the school pupils, staff, parents and parish members, it is an opportunity for us all to share time of reflection, prayer and song, preparing as a community during Advent for the celebration of Christmas.

Some of you will have noticed that the new minibus has had an accident, it was not the driver's fault, but all the children on board were safe and well. It has gone away to be fixed and should be back with us for the new term in January.

The Autumn Governors' newsletter will be coming out next week to appraise you of their meetings and work. There will be an opportunity in the new year to have coffee and a chat with some of the Governors for you to find out what it entails and what they do on the school community's behalf.

Reminder: We will be charging £1 per child for Sibling Club from January—this will purely cover the staffing costs and resources. Should you have more than one child or have a problem with meeting this cost, please, as ever come and talk to me.

## Dates

### December

Carols 3pm

18th Junior Carol

Concert 6pm at

St Andrew's church

19th Christmas Lunch

Day

20th Class Parties

**21st Break up 2pm**

### Back to school

### 7th January

7th Multifaith week

11th Display of work in

Hall 3.30pm

14th Meeting for Year 5

parents—supporting

your child workshop

8.45am

### February

5th Coffee morning

with Governors for

parents.

**If you wish us to administer medicine to your child at any point, please call into the office and complete one of the forms.**

**Thank you.**

With regard to the School Fund that some parents and ex parents kindly pay into every month, I have made a conscious decision not to send out letters etc. asking parents to pay into this as I know how hard it is economically at the moment for many families. I also understand a reluctance to pay into some mysterious fund that no one ever seems to know how it is used, so I proposed to Governors that I share this with you.

Last year we used the fund to support many families who struggled to pay for trips, clubs or lessons of different kinds but did not qualify for what is termed Pupil Premium funding. We also used it to repair the electrics in the school to avoid recurring powercuts. This year we have managed to secure an excellent deal on new computers using a range of cashback schemes and vouchers for new equipment as we trade in old kit. This has meant that we have taken delivery of new pcs for the ICT suite, one for each classroom and two for the staff to do their planning on in the staffroom, this has been necessary for quite some time, but we have not been able to budget for it. The original cost would have been in the region of £28,000 but due to the deals we have arranged and negotiated, we have purchased them for approximately £9000 and will have them installed for the new year. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the School Fund at some point or continues to do so.

**Please remember that the school closes for Christmas on Friday at 2.00pm. Please collect your children promptly.**

