

ST JAMES THE GREAT

@STJGREAT

15/3/19 Issue 20

Year 5 have been spending the week at Old Palace Whitgift experiencing a range of activities and have, as usual, represented the school well.

Thank you to all who attended the parent evening sessions, I hope that they were informative and will help you support your child over the next half of the academic year. Thank you also for all of your positive comments about the work that the school staff are doing—I have passed these on to the staff and appreciate them greatly.

Well done to the swimming team who took part in the Croydon Gala. In particular a big congratulations must go to Alexia in Y6 who won the 25m breaststroke and is now in contention for the London Youth Games squad.

Some of our Irish Dancers have been to perform for the community groups at St Bartholomew's today and will go to St Andrew's next Wednesday to commemorate St Patrick's Day. The Yellow team captains held an assembly today to teach the children all about their patron saint.

Next week we will have a visiting author in to run some assemblies and workshops with the children - Ross Montgomery. Information about him can be found [here](#).

Next week the classes will be focusing on some core values...ask them all about who they have been studying at the end of the day on Monday!

Mothers' Day Celebration will be a breakfast this year in order to enable some of the Mums who struggle to make afternoons to attend.

Despite Brexit dominating the headlines, school funding remains a key issue... I had a long conversation with our local MP, Steve Reed, who was very keen to attend the debate in the House of Commons. Unfortunately, it was moved to a smaller chamber, so many MPS who wanted to attend were unable to, including Mr Reed, however he has given his commitment to me to raise key questions in writing to the Department for Education and to pursue fair funding for Croydon Schools. It was a fascinating debate, with MPs from all parties making it very clear that they supported their schools and that the DFE need to address many key questions and issues. Sadly, the School's Minister, Mr Gibb, simply refuses to listen and responds with a simple misleading statistic. This clip on the BBC may be of interest to you. Please watch it. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/education-47507587/schools-minister-nick-gibb-mp-challenged-over-funding-by-bbc-s-charlie-stayt>

Dates

March

13th 5.3 Prayer Service

18th Values Week &
SEN Reviews

19th author Ross Mont-
gomerie visiting

20th 5.1 Assembly
Class 4.2 Prayer Service

27th 1.1 Assembly
5.2 Prayer Service

28th Stations of the
Cross 6 pm at
St Andrew's

29th Mothers' Day
Breakfast

April

5th Break up 2pm

If your child is being
picked up by someone
else, please inform the
teachers or the office.

A reminder that
Irish Dancing Classes
resume on Saturday and Tuesdays
in the Performing Arts Centre.
All boys and girls welcome
(Adult Class is also available)
Contact Bridie Willis