



The Shell

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Being Mr. Beck!

How long have you been Head Teacher for?

I've been Head Teacher here for 23 years and in another school for 5 years.

What is your best memory/day out/holiday?

Thorness Bay, Isle of Wight.

What qualities do you look for in a good teacher?

I think a good teacher has to be kind, has to have a sense of humour but be firm, and be good at explaining things if children don't get things right first time.

What school did you go to when you were a child?

Actually, I lived in north London and my first school was St. Mary's and my second school was St. Bernadette's. My secondary school was St Gregory's.

At the Christmas Fayre, did you make the delicious chips yourself?

No, I didn't make

them myself - we bought them at '3663' then I fried them.

Have you enjoyed your time at St. James the Great?

I've loved it.

What's been your favourite school trip?

Going to Euro Disney, that was a great trip.

What made you want to become Head Teacher?

I think when you become a teacher, then you learn that in a way it's good to have a change.

Did you teach any classes?

I did - I taught Year 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. My first class was in year 5 with 50 boys!

What is the best thing about this school?

The pupils are the best thing, closely followed by the teachers.

What is your greatest achievement?

I've been married for over 40 years. I met Mrs Beck at secondary school.

In the next three years what changes do you expect in the school?

A new building for after school club - that will be the next thing.

What do you do for fun after school?

I am actually a lawn bowler so I do lawn bowling.

Were you a teacher before you were Head Teacher?.

Yes, I started teaching in 1972.

If you retire what would you do?

I would do more bowling, and more reading, and I would also travel.

What time do you get home from school?

It changes most days, but I'm usually home by 8 o'clock.

Is it hard being Head Teacher?

Occasionally, but it can be easy too!

*Lauren McLean and
Vienna Apicella*

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Mr Beck enjoying the latest copy of The Shell

ASIMO - robot of the future?



A new humanoid robot has been unveiled that its creators say can practically think for itself.

Asimo is the latest creation by Japanese car makers Honda, and represents years of research in scientific fields such as mathematics, physics, anatomy (how your

body moves) and computing.

Based on a previous model, Asimo has now been improved to be able to run faster, open a bottle and pour a drink. It can balance on uneven surfaces and even hop on one foot!

The robot can also tell the differences between three people all speaking at the same time, using face and sound recognition.

Alessandro MacKinnon-Botti

Tintin Movie



Tintin is definitely a 10 out of 10 rating. I think it is one of the funniest movies I have ever seen! It is about three identical ships that the three sons of a famous Captain named Haddock have hidden. Now only one person is alive and related to the first Captain Haddock, and

he is also known as Captain Haddock. Tintin and Captain Haddock set off on a treasure hunt for a sunken ship commanded by Haddock's ancestor. But someone else is in search of the ship – an evil man wants to get there first...

Some people think it would be a movie for

boys because it is about pirates, adventure, and sunken treasure. I think it is a movie for everybody, because I think it is **brilliant!** My favourite character is the drunken captain because he is very funny, and does lots of silly things.

Elsie Shoulder



Santa is coming to St. James the Great!

Christmas Fayre at St. James the Great

The Christmas Fayre took place on Sunday 4th December and we were all excited about it. It was a great occasion for the school and we hope you enjoyed it too! Santa was at St. James the Great and he gave out

lots of presents.

What did you get?

There were many different games and activities to do, like the Lucky Dip, face painting, and loads of great food to eat.

The money raised will go to help all the children at the school by buying new equipment and things to help us learn.

Iris Dixon

Giant pandas settling in very well at Edinburgh zoo

Edinburgh zoo has said the giant pandas Tian Tian and Yang Guang are settling in "very well".

After their marathon, nine-hour overnight flight from Chengdu, in China, to Edinburgh, they adopted the normal routine for jetsetters, sleeping for several hours at a time and grazing lightly while their body clocks readjusted.

Yang Guang, the male bear was described by his keepers as the more gregarious and outgoing of the pair. He spent his first night "scoffing bamboo like there's no tomorrow", according to the zoo's head of animals, Darren McGarry.

"Tian Tian is a bit of a sweetie. She is much more relaxed. She is a smaller panda. She likes to spend a lot of time away from the

keepers.

"Yang Guang is a big ray of sunshine. He's a huge panda, really impressive. He spent a lot of time eating last night and seemed really happy, as he was scent-marking his enclosure to say: 'This is my territory.'"

Mia Leo-Andoh



Diamond Jubilee

The Queen is next year celebrating her Diamond Jubilee, which means 60 years on the throne. A Silver Jubilee marks 25 years and the Golden Jubilee is 50 years.

2012 will be a very special year. Not only is the Queen celebrating her Jubilee, but England is hosting the Olympics and the England football team have qualified for Euro 2012.

Come on England!

Tyler Smith



Will Andre-Villas Boas be sacked by Chelsea at the end of the season?

Chelsea's boss Andre Villas Boas job might be in danger after back to back defeats to Arsenal and Liverpool at Stamford Bridge.

They lost to Arsenal 5-3 and lost to Liverpool 2-1. Chelsea might not

qualify for the Champions League next year since Tottenham, Arsenal and Liverpool are closing in on the 4th place spot in the league.

If Andre Villas Boas doesn't manage to get Chelsea into the top 4

Chelsea's club owner Roman Abramovich will definitely sack Andre Villas Boas and hire someone else later on.

If you're a Chelsea fan you should be worried...

Jack McLean



Could Andre Villas-Boas be sacked?

The Newspaper Team:

Sky Joseph, Melissa Noel, Mia Leo-Andoh, Angelo Lanzalaco, Iris Dixon, Jack McLean, Tyler Smith, Naomi Ike, Terenzo Lanzalaco, Lauren McLean, Tyreece Thorpe, Elsie Shoulder, Vienna Apicella, Ashton D’Gama, Lily Mezzela, Zarion Brunton, Alexander Ammendola, Ocean Joseph, Gabriel Spennato, Alessandro MacKinnon-Botti, Shay Balsekar, Conor O’Donovan, Calum Menezes Rodrigues, Rebecca Ike, Holly Fernandes, Grace Cobb,, Aracy Charles, Noel Brown



Nature

Nature is a beautiful thing to look at. There are lovely creatures that people can hold. Some creatures are very delicate like butterflies, because if you play with them you could break their wings. If you do find a lovely creature you could keep it as a house pet as long as you treat it nicely. Would you keep a creature in your house?

Vienna Apicella



Inside St. James the Great Gym Club

St. James the Great Gym Club has been running for many years now, and the children have lots of chances to get fit, learn new skills, and take part in different competitions and activities.

At the moment, the Gym Club are planning some fundraising activities so that we can buy more equipment.

I had a short interview with Alysia who is one of the Gym Club members. She said she enjoys gymnastics and even though the conditioning is hard it pays off, and most important she would to see more kids join to the gym club.

Last of all we are looking for a few more parents to help coach. Could it be you?

Sky Joseph



Members of St. James the Great Gym Club representing Croydon.

St. James the Great Wordsearch

V	B	O	N	E	S	X	O	F	H	L	W
L	P	Q	G	C	R	S	H	E	L	L	O
E	I	S	T	J	A	M	E	S	I	K	R
S	S	A	B	E	Y	S	H	C	G	L	S
S	C	N	L	S	J	P	L	H	G	I	H
E	I	T	A	U	K	A	N	O	L	O	I
R	P	I	Z	S	Z	I	J	O	H	N	P
A	L	A	E	Y	W	N	G	L	D	A	K
Z	E	G	R	E	A	T	C	H	S	Q	B
A	S	O	F	Z	E	B	I	D	E	E	Z

WORDS TO FIND

- SANTIAGO WORSHIP ST JAMES LESSER
- JESUS SHELL SCHOOL SPAIN
- ZEBEDEE DISCIPLES JOHN BONES
- GREAT

Some information about St. James the Great

Our school is named after one of Jesus’ twelve Apostles. He was the son of Zebedee and the brother of John. There was another follower of Jesus called James the Lesser.

Each year thousand of people walk to the city of Santiago in Spain to worship at the place where all the James’s bones are kept . They carry with them a shell like the one that we have on our uniform.

Grace Cobb