



ST JAMES' FAMILY NEWSLETTER

29th September 2026

Dear Parents and Friends of St James,

We are now settled into the term and have had a busy few weeks, with much more to come!

If you came along to our Macmillan Coffee Morning – thank you! We raised a staggering £811 for this worthwhile cause. Thank you so much for your generosity.



Next week, we are asking for your generosity again. On Tuesday 6th October, we have our Harvest Festival in school. As in previous years, we are collecting donations for Three Pillars. If you could send in donations from the list below, we know that Aaron and Three Pillars would be very grateful. Every donation, no matter how small, helps them to provide practical support to some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Our Harvest Festival collection helps to provide meals, food parcels and essential supplies to individuals and families who are struggling. Please donate items from the list below:

Cereal	Pasta sauce	Tinned vegetables	Biscuits	Tinned fish	Tinned fruit
Tinned tomatoes	Tinned spaghetti	Instant mash potato	Long life milk	Tinned fruit	Tea
Pasta	Baked Beans	Pasta 'n' sauce	Sugar	Tinned puddings	Coffee
Rice	Soup	Jams and spreads			

Also on Tuesday 6th October, (please ignore the flyer – it says Monday!!) we have representatives from the Doddridge and the Inclusion, Intervention and Support Team (IIST) visiting for a coffee morning. IIST can help with all enquiries about supporting your child with additional needs and Doddridge can give you information about housing, benefits, food and much, much more. Please come and join us in the Studio from 8:30 – 9:30am. Coffee/tea and biscuits will be available!

We have our Parents' Evenings coming up soon on 14th and 15th October. Please book your appointments for parents evening on Arbor. If you also want to speak to anyone in the SEN or Pastoral Team, please let the office know and we can schedule an appointment. If you have not yet signed up for a meeting, please log in to your Arbor App – you will find the appointments available under "Guardian Consultations". We hope that you bring your child with you – it is always very productive to share the messages with everyone!

We are starting to add dates for Christmas performances and parties – take a look overleaf!

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to any of the adults on the gate at the beginning or end of the day – we are there to help you!

Best Wishes,

Sarah Beach (Headteacher) & Sarah Buettner (Headteacher Designate)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES / COMING UP

Wednesday 30th Sept	Reception & Nursery Parent Workshop on PSED 9:00 – 9:30 in the studio
Wednesday 30th Sept	Sporting Heritage morning @ Saints for Year 6
Thursday 1st October	Reception Open Day (for 2027 intake) 10:00 – 11:00am
Thursday 1st October	Wellbeing Olympics with MHST Team – Year 4
Tuesday 6th October	Parent drop in / coffee morning – from 8:30am with the Doddridge Centre
Tuesday 6th October	Harvest Festival in school – sorry, no parents invited due to space!
Wednesday 7th October	Communion in school – 2:15pm – all welcome
w/b Mon 12th October	BSL Level 101 assessments for Year 4
Wednesday 14th October	PARENTS' EVENING – till 7:30pm
Thursday 15th October	PARENTS' EVENING – till 5:30pm
Monday 19th October	Black History Month Assembly – sorry, not enough space for parents
Wednesday 21st October	Reception Open Day (for 2027 intake) 4:30 -5:30pm
Friday 23rd October	School closes for Half Term
Saturday 31st October	Diwali Parade in Northampton – meeting time tbc Diwali craft workshop – making lanterns for the parade also tbc.
Monday 2nd November	School CLOSED for staff training (INSET)
Tuesday 3rd November	School opens after the Half Term. Gates open at 8:35am
Wednesday 4th Nov	Reception Open Day (for 2027 intake) 10:00 – 11:00am and 2:00 – 3:00pm
Wednesday 11th Nov	Remembrance Service at school (outside) ALL welcome – 10:30am start
Thursday 12th November	Magistrates Visit for 6R
Thursday 12th November	Reception Open Day (for 2027 intake) 4:30 -5:30pm
Friday 13th November	Magistrates Visit for 6L
Friday 13th November	Children in Need Day
Monday 16th November	Odd Socks Day – “Break the Silence” / Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 17th November	School Forum meeting – 1:30 in school
Wednesday 18th Nov	EYFS Reception Parents' Workshop on phonics / 9:00 – 9:30
Wednesday 2nd Dec	Christmas Craft Day – lots of help appreciated in school!
Friday 4th December	Last Celebration Gathering
Wednesday 9th Dec	Communion in school – 2:15pm – all invited
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Lunch in school
Friday 11th December	PANTOMIME (in the morning) leaving school at 9am to the Old Savoy
Monday 14th December	Christmas Carol Concert – outside school – 6pm – ALL WELCOME
Tuesday 15th December	Early Years (Reception & Nursery) Nativity 9:30am
Tuesday 15th December	KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) Nativity 2pm
Wed 16th December	KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) Nativity 9:30am
Wed 16th December	Early Years (Reception & Nursery) Nativity 2pm
Thursday 17th December	Church Service – 10am – all welcome
Thursday 17th December	Christmas parties in school
Friday 18th December	School finishes at 1:30pm for the Christmas break
Monday 4th Jan 2027	School CLOSED for staff training (INSET)
Tuesday 5th Jan 202	School opens after the Christmas Term. Gates open at 8:35am

APPLICATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL MUST BE MADE BY 31ST OCTOBER 2026

APPLICATIONS FOR STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027 MUST BE MADE BY 15TH JANUARY 2027

Remember to follow St James on Instagram: @StJamesNN5
Or on our school website - www.stjamesnn5.org.uk
email: office@stjames.pdet.org.uk / phone: 01604 751475