



Headlines and Reminders:

- As I begin my new role as Headteacher, it has been an absolute pleasure to **welcome** all of our children back to school for the start of a new academic year. The school has been filled with excitement, enthusiasm and smiling faces. I have also been incredibly impressed by how smart the children look in their uniforms. Most importantly, they have returned with a fantastic attitude to learning, showing enthusiasm, resilience, and a determination to do their very best. It has been a wonderful start to the year.
- This year we are really monitoring **attendance** closely. Ensuring that your child attends school every day and on time gives them the best possible opportunity to learn, achieve and thrive. As always, we are here to help and support our families. Please contact us if there is anything we can do to help. We will be continuing with our termly Attendance Awards as well as starting an **Attendance Popcorn Party** each half term for the class with the best attendance.
- As part of a **healthy lifestyle** drive from the DfE, we are asking that children only bring healthy snacks in to eat at playtimes, please. They can, of course, bring a treat in to eat at lunchtimes. Foods high in sugar and fat also negatively affect the children's energy and concentration throughout the day. We thank you in advance for supporting us in this change. As a result, the Tuck Shop will **now operate after school on Fridays** rather than during the school day.
- Yesterday, the **Y6 candidates** all spoke in front of the whole school to explain their reasons for why they would make the perfect role models for our children. Once again, we were incredibly proud of the standard this year and it was clear to see that a lot of preparation had gone into this.

After counting all the votes from each class, we can proudly announce that this year our Head Boy is AJ, our Deputy Head Boy is Leelan, Our Head girl is Serenity and our Deputy Head Girl is Harper.

Ronnie, George, Charlie, Warren, Aoife, Harper-Rose, Iffah and Ella will join our Head and Deputy Boys and Girls to become our new Pupil Leadership Team for 2026-2027!

We know they are all going to be incredible!



Where children shoot for the stars and shine!

Our SRP Stars of the Week

Year 1 - The **WHOLE** Class - for their wonderful behaviour during their school trip to the farm, yesterday. All of their teachers were so incredibly proud



Our KSI Stars of the Week

Year 1 - **Nate** - for walking in EVERY morning with a great big smile on his face. He has shown such a positive attitude towards his learning, already!

Daina - for showing LOTS of enthusiasm in everything that she does. She tries her very best with all of her work. What an amazing start!



Year 2 - **Noah** - for always using his manners and trying hard in every lesson.

Matilda - for actively participating in all lessons and sharing toys in extra play.

Where children shoot for the stars and shine!

Our Lower KS2 Stars of the Week

Year 3 - Bibi - for an **amazing start to year 3**. She has worked so hard and produced some lovely pieces of work. Well done!



Eadie-Rae - for a **great start to year 3**. You have been focused in all of your lessons, listening really carefully and applying what you have learnt to your written work.



Year 4 - Jack - for **being such a superstar this week**. He has really impressed his teachers with his enthusiasm for learning and excellent manners.



Elaina - for already **becoming such a valued member of the class** in her first week at St James! She is kind, caring and tries so hard in every lesson.

Our Upper KS2 Stars of the Week

Year 5 - Billie - for making a fantastic start to Year 5 with your **excellent work ethic, positive attitude** and determination.

Madison - for **being a fantastic role model** and a kind, supportive friend to others. Well done!



Year 6 - Rose - for **rising brilliantly to the expectations of Year 6**, showing excellent manners, a positive attitude and always trying her very best. She sets a wonderful example to others.

Skyla - for **making such a wonderful start to Year 6** and embracing every challenge with enthusiasm and determination. She has impressed with her lovely manners, fantastic attitude and the care she puts into everything she does. She is a pleasure to teach.

Where children shoot for the stars and shine!

Out of School Stars!



Well done to Jaxon and Ollie for their great achievements in football. They are our well-deserved Out of School Stars of the Week.



Our Fantastic Rainbow Readers!



Dear families,

Please encourage your child to read at home or to share a book with you. For every day they read at home, they will earn a mark towards their Rainbow Reader badges.

25 reads	Red Badge
50 reads	Yellow Badge
75 reads	Orange Badge
100 reads	Green Badge
125 reads	Blue Badge
150 reads	Purple Badge
175 reads	Reading Champion

Once your child becomes a Reading Champion, they can choose a book of their choice to take home. They will also earn a bookmark which they can add stickers to, for every 25 reads after that.

Share. Care. Believe. Achieve.

Where children shoot for the stars and shine!

Attendance Update:

As a school, we are aiming for 97%. It is so important that children are here every day and on time.

Reception	92%
Year 1	99%
Year 2	96%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	91%
Year 6	97%

Our winners of the class attendance this week are Year 1 & 4 with an amazing 99%! Well done!

Our overall attendance is 96%

Every day at school really does count and makes a difference.

If your child is absent

If you know your child is going to be absent from school, you should:

- **Ring the school office at the earliest opportunity to let them know why your child is going to be absent or by 9.25am.**

- Send a note to school explaining the reason for the absence. If possible call in advance- for example if your child has a doctor's appointment. We will also need proof of appointments to ensure that we are keeping all children as safe as possible.

- School will contact parents on the morning of the absence if the above has not been carried out. If no message or letter is sent your child's absence will be unauthorised on the computer system which Education Welfare can look at too. Fines will also be issued for holidays taken during school term times

- **No holidays taken in term time will be authorised.**

To celebrate the class with the best attendance for this half term, we will be holding a Popcorn Party in the last week.

Share. Care. Believe. Achieve.



Where children shoot for the stars and shine!

September

Monday 14th September - individual and sibling photographs

Friday 25th September - MacMillan Coffee morning

Monday 28th September - Harvest Food Donation



October - Black History Month

Friday 9th October - Mental Health Day - wear yellow

Thursday 22nd October - Halloween Disco

Friday 23rd October - Popcorn Party for the class with the best attendance

Friday 23rd October - Teddy Bear Collection for Xmas Fayre

Friday 23rd October - GtbG treat day

Friday 23rd October - Break-up at 3.15pm

Friday 23rd October - deadline for secondary school applications

Half Term Week - Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October

November

Monday 2nd November - Den Building Week for all years. (More information to follow).

Friday 6th November - Xmas Fayre donations - cosmetics and toiletries

Thursday 12th November - Parents' Evening and Book Fayre - school shuts at 1:30pm

Friday 13th November - EYFS Poetry performance to families @ 2:30pm

Friday 13th November - Children In Need & Xmas Fayre donations - bottles

Monday 16th November - Anti-bullying week - Odd Socks Day

Friday 20th November - Xmas Fayre donations - chocolate

Monday 23rd November - Assessment Week



December

Friday 4th December - Xmas Fayre and cake donations

Wednesday 9th December - Xmas Family Lunch

Monday 14th December - EYFS & KSI Nativity

Friday 18th December - Xmas Jumper Day & KS2 Carol concert

Friday 18th December - break up at 1.15pm



Share. Care. Believe. Achieve.

Christmas Holidays - Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January

INSET Day - Monday 4th January. Children return on Tuesday 5th January.