



ST JAMES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEBBURN

March 2023

Dear Families,

We have had an extremely busy half term filled with much fun and hard work. Our children are looking forward to a well-deserved break with their families at this very special time of year.

Thank you

Our families are always willing to get involved and make things really special for our children **AND** children far and wide throughout the UK and the rest of the world. This is something we are really proud of. We have supported our school fund this term by donating Easter Eggs and buying raffle tickets and raised £350. We have supported Comic Relief's Red Nose Day and raised £149 and CAFOD's Big Lent Walk raising over £1200. A big **thank you** to each and every one of you!

After School Clubs

Our Clubs will start again in the second week of the new term. Letters will be issued during the first week for Little Dribblers and Sports Club. Our other clubs, Mini Vinnies, will not change and will run until July. Please make sure that all forms are returned as soon as possible to the Class Teacher to avoid disappointment.

Attendance

As you already know we monitor attendance closely at St James and you will have received a letter showing where your child falls within our traffic light system. We will continue to celebrate our children that achieve 100% attendance during each full term. This is generally celebrated on a yearly basis, but because children do fall ill from time to time we thought it only fair to start afresh each term. We also celebrate our children who have much improved attendance. If your child is going to be absent from school please ring the school at the beginning of **EACH DAY** of their absence to update us.

Music Festivals

Our Year 2 and Year 4 Music Festivals were another huge success. Our children worked tirelessly to give such fantastic performances. Their behaviour and hard work were truly exemplary and everyone who participated in the practices and final shows should be so proud of themselves. Thank you to Mrs Conroy Mrs Hudson, Mrs Scott, Mrs Watson and Miss Robinson and all of the parents and carers who supported this event and our children.

Breakfast Club and Lunches

It is really important that all balances are cleared before the end of every full term. This is so that we can collect and submit figures. Please check your balance at the end of term to make sure it is £0. Thank you so much for your cooperation with this. It really does help with admin.

Please Turn Over

Mrs Francesca Heslop
Headteacher
BSc (Hons) P.G.C.E.

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Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

#WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

The #WakeUpWednesday campaign is viewed as one of the most trusted and reputable learning resources in the UK, providing expert advice on the latest platforms and online risks that parents and carers need to know about through a beautifully engaging and content rich design. A new guide is released every Wednesday. This programme provides support for parents. You can find the guides on our Facebook page or on the website under the **PARENTS – MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING** section. It can be really difficult to navigate the online world with our children. We know you instil kindness within your children at all times but often they just do not have the understanding to know that what we post/say online will leave a direct footprint back to us; this can cause a lot of upset for all involved. They really need parental guidance, support and monitoring whilst online. We hope that you find these guides helpful and can look at them with your child. If you have anything that you would like to speak to us directly about please email us at info@stjameshebburn.co.uk

A message from Chadwick's Kitchen

As you know as a Trust we are committed to keeping our school meal prices as low as we can, however as food costs continue to rise we have made the difficult decision to make a slight increase to our school meal costs for our pupils and staff. The increase will allow us to continue to use the same quality products and ingredients, offer the same number of choices and keep our portion sizes the same. It will also bring our meal costs more in line with those of the Local Authorities. **A Primary School Meal will now be £2.50** This covers the cost of a main meal and a dessert, with water available in all our schools. Don't forget currently all of Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2) pupils are entitled to a Free School Meal. Speak to your school office for more information. Don't forget you may be eligible to access FREE school meals which also unlocks additional funding for school - visit your local council website for details or fill out a form at the school office.

Uniform

A gentle reminder of the school uniform expectation at St James. Hairstyles should be sensible with no patterned, dyed or shaved haircuts and only subtle hair accessories. Shoes should be black, sensible and without heels. Trainers are not permitted unless an exceptional circumstance has been discussed with school. Children should not wear nail varnish. Jewellery is not allowed at all whilst in school and we do not allow earrings at all. Thank you for following our uniform policy.

Upcoming Events

- Two Parents' Evenings have been arranged for Reception to Year 6 children to see your child's teacher on Monday 15th April and Tuesday 16th April 2024, between 3:45pm and 6:00pm at St Joseph's Catholic Academy in the Servedy (Just inside the main entrance). You should have received your appointment times.
- Year 1 and Year 2 will visit Jarrow Hall: Anglo-Saxon Farm Village and Bede Museum on Friday 26th April to take part in an interactive session which will allow the children to explore the farm and village to discover how life and farming have changed over the last 1000 years. Please give permission via your ParentPay account.
- Year 4 will visit the Great North Museum on Friday 19th April to take part in an interactive session which will allow the children to discover what work and life was like in ancient Egypt through object handling and group work. Please give Permission via your ParentPay account.
- A reminder that school will be closed on Monday 8th May for May Bank Holiday. School will open as normal on Tuesday 9th May.

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We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England



- SATS will commence for our Year 6 children on Monday 13th May. It is really vital that all children are in school during this important week. We are sure the children will do their very, very best. **More information will follow.**
- Our Year 5 children will enjoy their two-night retreat to Emmaus Youth Village on Monday 3rd June – Wednesday 5th June. **All information is on our website under ABOUT US – CURRICULUM – OUR CLASSES – YEAR 5 – YEAR 5 YOUTH VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL.** Here you will find and any communication that has gone out so far. **A meeting will be held after the Easter Holiday. More information to follow.**
- Our Year 6 children will enjoy their much-anticipated trip to Robinwood on 1st, 2nd and 3rd July. This is always such a fantastic week for our oldest children! Memories are made at Robinwood that really do last a lifetime. **All information is on our website under ABOUT US – CURRICULUM – OUR CLASSES – YEAR 6 – YEAR 6 ROBINWOOD RESIDENTIAL.** Here you will find the PowerPoint presentation and any communication that has gone out so far.

Happy Easter ♥

And finally... We have shown great togetherness over the last term and it really does show if we stick together there is so much we can accomplish. As long as we've got each other, we can do anything. Please take a look at our Class Blogs which have been updated this week under the **ABOUT US – CURRICULUM – OUR CLASSES** section of the website to see how much we've been up to.

We wish you all a safe and peaceful Easter Holiday filled with fun and special times together. In this season of Easter, may your faith be renewed and your heart made good with the hope Easter brings.

Kind regards and best wishes

Mrs Francesca Heslop
Headteacher

Reminders

- School will close on Thursday 28th March at 1:15pm
- School will reopen on Monday 15th April after the Easter Break

Kind Regards

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Head Teacher

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