



## St James's Jotter

September 2023

**Welcome back** A very big welcome to all the children and staff. A particular welcome to the new families and staff members; Miss Cunningham who will be teaching Year 3 with Mrs Donaghy and Mrs Chakraborty is an assistant in the LSC1 class. Welcome back Miss Morrow, Miss Tubridy and Mrs Farrell. Congratulations to them on the birth of little Brody, Iona and Éirinn.

**Safeguarding and Child Protection** Please click [here](#) on the link to access Safeguarding and Child Protection information and [flow chart](#).

**School Closures** The school will be closed on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of September for Staff training.

**School Meals-School Money App** School meals should be booked and paid for using the School Money App. Those entitled to free school means must also book. Bookings are uploaded to the app a week in advance and can be made up to midnight on the day before the meal is required. Mrs Brown, our secretary is happy to help parents/guardians who are having difficulties with the App.

**Coffee Morning** There will be a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 9:00am to 10.30am. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer charity.

**Easy Fundraising** Please remember that St James's Primary School and Nursery Unit - Newtownabbey is registered with easyfundraising. This enables us to continue to raise free funds, at no extra cost to you. When you shop via the easyfundraising website or app, with over 4,100 of your favourite retailers, including eBay, Amazon and many more, you will raise FREE donations for our school. If you are not already registered, please visit our easyfundraising page: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjamesps/>

**Breakfast Club** Breakfast club is available every morning from 8:00am. The cost is £1.50 for breakfast and supervision and £1.00 for supervision. Please book a place using the School Money App. After midterm we hope to welcome our nursery children to breakfast club if needed.

**MR Sports** This is the company that provides a range of After School clubs in our school. If you have any queries, contact Matthew Rooney. Please click [here on](#) the link to see the flyer and contact details.

**Ruby Roo's** Wraparound care continues to operate on our school site. They offer very competitive rates. Contact Matthew Rooney, as above, for more information.

## Out and About

9<sup>th</sup> September-Annual free entry day for National Trust properties as part of the European Heritage Open Day.

9<sup>th</sup> September- Belfast Zoo's Sensory Day see website <https://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/zoo/home>.

**Music Tuition** In school this year we have Violin tuition from Mrs Mc Cartney from the Education Authority for children. She is inviting children in Year 4 to take part in lessons. Mark Rankin teaches guitar to children from Y5-Y7. There are spaces available for both. If your child is interested and for more information, please contact the school office. We are also exploring the idea of traditional music lessons this year. More information to follow.

**Parents' Information Sessions** We are inviting the parents/guardians to meet the class teacher for an information session in the school. The teachers will discuss curriculum, homework and a range of school matters. Please click [here](#) on the link for dates and times.

**Eco-school** Last year our school was awarded the bronze and silver certificates for Environmental Awareness. This year we are striving to be awarded the Green Flag as an official Eco- School. Mrs Bergin and the Eco-club will need our support and they will keep you informed about our progress.

**Healthy eating** With the rise in childhood obesity and the increase in poor dental health, we are making every effort to ensure that the children eat a healthy break. Please support our determined efforts and provide a healthy break for your child every day. See the link for information on what is considered a healthy break and for some new ideas. <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/healthy-breaks-schools-leaflet-english-and> and <http://www.pha.site/healthylunchbox>

**Lateness and Absences** We encourage all children to be in school on time. This avoids anxiety in the child and disruption to teaching and learning. We also appreciate prompt collection of children at home time. If your child is absent, please contact the school office and Mrs Brown will pass the message onto the teacher.

**Cost of Living** Please contact the school and speak with Mrs Clenaghan if the Cost of Living Crisis is affecting your ability to provide for your child in school.

**SEAG registration** Parents/guardians of the Year 7 children who intend to do the SEAG assessment for transfer to post primary school should complete registration before 5:00pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023. Visit the website for more information. [seagni.co.uk](http://seagni.co.uk)

**Menu** Please see our school website for the canteen menu for this month.