

# St James's Jotter

April 2016



## WEAR IT BLUE DAY

On Friday 22 April, we will be holding a 'Wear it Blue' day for Autism NI. We would ask the children to wear something blue and bring in £1 for Autism NI. This is a very worthwhile cause and we look forward to your support.



## ETI INSPECTION

As you are aware, the school was inspected by the Education and Training Inspectorate from Monday 29 February to Wednesday 2 March. The report on the Inspection is now available to view from the ETI website: [www.etini.gov.uk](http://www.etini.gov.uk). On the site, please navigate to Inspection Reports, Primary and choose 'A list of the most recent Inspection reports relating to Primary'.

## RAINBOW ROOM

I would like to thank Mr Paul O'Neill and Mrs Louise O'Neill who have donated sensory equipment to the school. We are developing a sensory room, The Rainbow Room, which will contain the sensory equipment donated by the O'Neill family and which will be used by children who will benefit from the unique sensory experiences that the equipment will provide. We look forward to continuing to develop the sensory room in the future. Many thanks.



## SPORTS DAY

Weather permitting, Sports Day will take place on Friday 27 May. All children will come to school at the normal time. Sports for children in Years 1—4 will begin at 9.15am and end at 10.45am. The children in these classes may go home after their Sports. Sports for children in Years 5—7 will begin at 11.00am and end at 12.30pm. Again, the children may go home after their Sports. If it is wet, a decision as to whether Sports Day will proceed will be taken as soon as possible that morning and will be communicated to parents via Parent Mail.



## WE NEED YOU!

We are trying to improve the school grounds and are looking for volunteers to help us. This is particularly important as judging for the Best Kept School Award will be taking place soon. We would be grateful if you could spare some time on Friday 22 April and/or Friday 29 April to come in to school and help us tidy up outside. On both days, the school will be open until 4.00pm and you can help out at a time that suits you. If you can volunteer, please contact the office or Mrs Dallat so we can have a job ready for you!

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## SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Our Safeguarding team is:

<b>Mrs Dallat</b>	<b>Designated Teacher for Child Protection</b>
<b>Mrs Kelly</b>	<b>Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection</b>
<b>Mrs Heaney</b>	<b>Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Nursery)</b>
<b>Mrs Cunningham</b>	<b>Principal</b>

If you have any concerns about a child in the Primary School, please speak with Mrs Dallat or, in her absence, Mrs Kelly.

If you have any concerns about a child in the Nursery Unit, please speak with Mrs Heaney.

All concerns will be dealt with sensitively.

### CAR PARKING

Please remember that, following advice from the Education Authority, the back car park is for staff parking only. As always, I would appeal to all drivers to please be considerate when parking in King's Walk and Bleach Green. I would also suggest that you could drop your children off on Fernagh Road at the entrance to King's Walk and they could walk the short distance to school. In a recent meeting with DRD, this was also suggested as a way to help address our traffic issues. Please note that residents have been advised to contact the PSNI to report any incidents. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

### TAKE CARE!

It is great to see some of our children coming to school on their bicycles. However, I would like to remind you that, in the interests of your child's safety, when riding a bicycle, they should always wear a helmet. Children should also get off their bicycle at the school gate and walk their bicycle round to the bicycle stands.



### AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Information regarding After School Activities will be sent home in the next few days.

### ERASMUS

This week we welcome Mr Jose Juan Rodriguez Blanco, a regular visitor to our school through the Erasmus project, and his Principal. We hope they have an informative and enjoyable visit to our school and Whitehouse Primary School

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Holy Communion will take place in St Mary's, Star of the Sea, Whitehouse on Saturday 14 May at 11.00am. After Mass, the children and their families are invited to the hall at Whitehouse for refreshments. In order to help with this, I am asking for donations of tray bakes, buns, cakes, biscuits, etc. Any donations should be left into the school office on Friday 13 May. I look forward to your support in making this a very special celebration for our children and their families.

### Deaf Awareness

On 21 April a representative from St Joseph's Centre for the Deaf will be talking to children in Years 4-7.

### SHARED EDUCATION

On Thursday 14 April, we continued our Year 5 Science Nights with Scientific Sue who presented a wonderful 'Potions and Magic' show. The Year Five children and parents all had a great time.

Our Nursery children continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of the outdoors with Brian from the Northern Ireland Forest School Association. I would like to thank all the parent volunteers from St James's and Whitehouse who help at every Forest School session. Without these volunteers, we would be unable to provide our children with such valuable experiences—many thanks.

### ASSESSMENT

Over the next few weeks, the children will be completing different assessments. I would be grateful if you could ensure, as far as possible, that your child is in school every day so as they do not miss an assessment.

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### CONTACT DETAILS

It is vitally important that we have current contact details for all parents/guardians so as you can be contacted in the case of an emergency. Please ensure that if your contact details change, you inform the office immediately.

### PTA

Many thanks to our PTA and teachers who helped with the Movie Night. It was another great success and raised £279.80 The very popular May Fair will take place on Friday 20 May. The PTA would be extremely grateful if you would donate any unopened/unwanted gifts for the May Fair. Such gifts could include chocolates, alcohol, perfume, books, photo frames, CDs, DVDs, candles or toiletries. **UNUSED ITEMS ONLY PLEASE.** If you have any such items, please send them in with your child or leave them in the office. Many thanks in advance.

### Pupil of the Month

The following children were awarded Pupil of the Month for March:

Year One Miss Patterson	Hannah McMillan Ethan Blair
Year One Miss Morrow	Sophie Maguire Joseph Komath
Year 2 Mrs Cross	Charlie Campbell Muireann Burke
Year 2/3 Mrs Cuning	Adam Dudek Dennis Marin
Year 3 Miss Black	Caroline Lee Natan Jankowski
Year 4 Mr Jones	Mia McCullough Toby Sayers
Year 5 Mr Tunney	Scarlett Reid Jovial Vincent Gigiy
Year 6 Mrs Kelly	Aoife McKeown Paul Michael Muckian
Year 6 Mr Nolan	Chloe McKinley Alfie Selestine
Year 7 Mrs Donaghy	Dylan Russell Una Collins
Mrs Dallat	Rebecca McKee Oliwier Wiczling

Congratulations to all the boys and girls.

### YOUNG ENTERPRISE

This term, our Year 7 children are taking part in the Young Enterprise NI Business Beginnings Programme.

We are very fortunate to have a parent volunteer, Mr Stephen Shaw, come in and work with us on the programme.

This enterprise programme will enable pupils to set up and run their own business while learning about key business skills. We look forward to the results!

### ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

In order to continue to raise standards in our school, we are trying to improve punctuality and attendance. If your child is absent for any reason, a written note must be given to the class teacher to explain the absence. You may phone the office to inform us that your child will not be present but we would also ask for a written note to be sent in once your child returns to school. Teachers will be recording reasons for absences and, along with the Senior Leadership Team, will be monitoring children's attendance. Please note that children's poor attendance will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer.

It is also very important that all children are in class at 9.00am and this will also be monitored by the class teacher. Any child who is late three times in one month will receive a letter indicating that they have been late and reminding the parents/guardians of the importance of the child being in class at 9.00am. When a child is late for class, not only does it disrupt the class but the child can feel flustered and upset. Please try to ensure that your child is in class ready to begin their day at 9.00am. Please note that when a child is late for class it is recorded on their attendance record.

### TROCAIRE

Many thanks to all those who donated to our Trocaire Appeal organised by Year 7. The children bought water droplets and raised a magnificent £260. Well done everyone!

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 22 April		Clean Up Day
Fri 29 April		Clean Up Day
Mon 2– Fri 6 May		School closed
Sat 14 May 2016	11.00am	First Holy Communion in St Mary's, Star of the Sea, Whitehouse
16 May-20 May		Walk to School Week
Fri 27 May		Sports Day
Mon 30 May		School closed
Wed 8 June		School closed
Fri 24 June	9.30am	Year Seven Leavers' Assembly

#### Earrings

I would like to remind you that, in the interests of health and safety, children are not permitted to wear earrings in school.

#### WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Walk to School week is Monday 16 May until Friday 20 May and during this time we will be encouraging children to walk to school with our walking bus as we have done in previous years. More information will be sent home nearer the time.

#### Morning Arrangements

I would like to remind parents/guardians that children in Years 2-7 should be left in the children's entrance foyer from where they can make their own way to their classroom. Only parents/guardians of Year One children should accompany their child to the classroom unless an arrangement has been made with Mrs Cunningham. In the interests of Safeguarding and Child Protection, parents should not enter the children's toilets. If a young child needs to use the toilet, please use the toilets at the office.

#### WEBSITE

Please remember to check our website regularly.

[www.stjamesps.co.uk](http://www.stjamesps.co.uk)

#### Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is proving to be increasingly popular and provides a valuable service for our parents/guardians. If your child goes to Breakfast Club and has money that they need to give to the teacher, I would be grateful if you could ensure the money is put in a labelled envelope in the child's bag which they can then give to their teacher. Mrs Brown and Mrs Thompson can no longer accept money other than that for Breakfast Club. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### ACCELERATED READER HOME CONNECT

We are pleased that parents and carers now have the opportunity to use Renaissance Home Connect. This is a means of monitoring children's reading practice by allowing access to Accelerated Reader at home. Renaissance Home Connect provides a snapshot of each child's reading progress including average percentage correct on quizzes, number of points earned and results of the last quiz taken (reading quizzes can only be taken in school). Parents and carers can also see all of the books read by their own child. We are sure that Renaissance Home Connect will prove to be a valuable tool in helping parents to encourage their child to read and in helping to monitor progress towards reaching reading targets. The children in Years 4 to 7 have already been given the website address and their login details. If you have any questions about Home Connect please feel free to ask the class teacher or Mrs Kelly (Coordinator).



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## ACCELERATED READER

The following children reached their target points in March.

Year Four	Year Five	Year Six RK	Year Six TN	Year Seven
Cain Armstrong	Melani Biju	Mebin Babu	Daniel Armstrong	LJ Barit
Emma Brown	Kacper Dabrowski	Jasper Delfinado	Katie Fulton	Zeigan Barrido
Aimee Green	Anna Gordon	Nakita Douglas	Manuel Jacob	Ewan Gracey
Manus Jacob	Ciara Hamilton	Aimee Kerr	Olivia McDermott	Danny Maddalena
Shannon Magee	Grace McKinley	Charlotte McKee	Bailey Nicholson	Declan McAuley
	Johnny Nicholson	Aoife McKeown	Melissa Pauley	Sahar Syeda
	Rory O'Conallain	Jamie-Louise McLaverty	Maria Raju	Ainara Tasker Lynch
	Anna O'Dowd	Ruairi Mulholland	Alfie Selestine	Thomas Tomlinson
	Calum O'Neill	Harry Nicholson	Katie Sloan-Hill	
	Lara Quinn	Amiel Njarakulathu	Jamie Wang	
	Corey Russell	Ciara O'Conallain		
	Liam Tully			
	Jovial Vincent Gigiy			

Congratulations to all the boys and girls on reaching their target.

A special congratulations to Ziegan Barrido and Daniel Armstrong who have joined our Millionaires' Club along with Harry Nicholson, Declan McAuley and Ciara O'Conallain. These avid readers have now read over one million words with some of them having read over two and three million words!



# HALF TERM ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Year One Miss Morrow	Year One Miss McCarthy	Year Two Mrs Cross	Year Two/Three Mrs Cuning	Year Three Miss Black
Daisy Arkins-Flood	Tomisin Bamidele	Muireann Burke	Fritz Baclo	Mateusz Glanowski
Sophie Barit	Ethan Blair	Nathan Burns	Leon Curry	Amelia Grajek
Hubert Dziedziak	Zuzanna Dagiel	Lucy Godefroy	Rasia Dita	Caitlin Grant
Cerys Grant	Tom Dench	Alys Green	Adam Dudek	Krish Gupta
Liam Magill	Elizabeth Hill	Connor Houlahan	Oliver Gordon	Natan Jankowski
Sophie Maguire	Kyle Jankowski	Patryk Kosiarski	Kaelan Greene	Ciaran Lavery
Thomas McAllister	Olivia Lee	Maeve Lennon	Dennis Marin	Nathaniel McCracken
Darcy McCann	Neil McAuley	Leah McClung	Flynn Markey	Aoibheann Mulholland
Rosa McKinley	Hannah McMillen	Courtney McCormick	Michael McCourt	Conor O'Conallain
Luke Quinn	Joshua Montijo	Hollie McMillen	Caleb Molloy	Cate O'Dowd
Alexander Ross	Abiel Njarakulathu	Jacob Montijo	Joshua Montgomery-Allen	Caoimhe Quinn
Alphonsa Sebastian	Eile Quinn	Jack Morton	Caoimhe Murphy	Poppy Reid
	Tara Rahman	Sophia Nugent	Mark Neill	Andres Guerra
	Yumnaa Rasoo	Damian Siwecki	Se Sweetnam	Dylan Semple
	Harvey Snoddy			Michael Teggart
Stuart Snoddy				
Year Four Mr Jones	Year Five Mr Tunney	Year Six Mrs Kelly	Year Six Mr Nolan	Year Seven Mrs Donaghy
Cain Armstrong Quigley	Steven Barnes	Mebin Babu	Daniel Armstrong	LJ Barit
Emma Brown	Tristan Curry	Jasper Delfinado	Keith Calungsod	Jennah Fulton
Lewis Burgess	Marianna Garvin	Aaron Dickson	Jodie Coiley	Ewan Gracey
Nora Campbell	Ciara Green	Aimee Kerr	Katie Fulton	Matthew Green
Chi Chi Chiwaka	Cara Hamilton	Sasha McComb	Joshua Gillespie	Megan Heffron
Anna Ding	Grace McKinley	Aoife McKeown	Manuel Jacob	Sophie Lee
Olivia Dubanowska	Abbie McNamara	Ruairi Mulholland	Chloe McKinley	DJ McCourt
Sasha Gracey	Niamh McWilliams	Harry Nicholson	Jessica McKinley	Ellen McNamara
Aimee Green	Johnny Nicholson	Amiel Njarakulathu	Jay Montijo	Sahar Syeda
Manas Jacob	Rory O'Conallain	Ciara O'Conallain	Callum O'Neill	Ainara Tasker-Lynch
Shera Jaise	Anna O'Dowd	Ann Sweetnam	Melissa Pauley	Owen Todd
Grace Law	Callum O'Neill		Maria Raju	Thomas Tomlinson
Abigail Lawlor	Hannah Quinn		Alfie Selestine	Amy Wilson
Aisling Lennon	Lara Quinn		Jamie Wang	
Kasper Luzynczyk	Scarlett Reid			
Bradley McComb	Diana Saji			
Shannon McCourt	Caitlin Shaw			
Mia McCullough	Olina Sunil			
Justin Patino	Jovial Vincent Gigiy			
Oliver Simpson				
Kosma Siwecki				
Sarah Syeda				
John Tasker-Lynch				

**Full Attendance from September until Easter**

<b>Year One</b> <b>Miss Morrow</b>	<b>Year One</b> <b>Miss McCarthy</b>	<b>Year Two</b> <b>Mrs Cross</b>	<b>Year Two/Three</b> <b>Mrs Cuning</b>	<b>Year Three</b> <b>Miss Black</b>
Daisy Arkins-Flood Hubert Dziedziak Liam Magill Sophie Maguire Thomas McAllister Rosa McKinley Alphonsa Sebastian	Tomisin Bamidele Ethan Blair Elizabeth Hill Kyle Jankowski Hannah McMillen	Hollie McMillen	Michael McCourt	Mateusz Glanowski Caitlin Grant Natan Jankowski Ciaran Lavery Nathaniel McCracken Aoibheann Mulholland Conor O'Conallain Cate O'Dowd Caoimhe Quinn
<b>Year Four</b> <b>Mr Jones</b>	<b>Year Five</b> <b>Mr Tunney</b>	<b>Year Six</b> <b>Mrs Kelly</b>	<b>Year Six</b> <b>Mr Nolan</b>	<b>Year Seven</b> <b>Mrs Donaghy</b>
Cain Armstrong Quigley Lewis Burgess Nora Campbell Manas Jacob Aisling Lennon Kasper Luzynczyk Bradley McComb Shannon McCourt Mia McCullough Oliver Simpson Sarah Syeda	Ciara Green Grace McKinley Abbie McNamara Johnny Nicholson Olina Sunil	Jasper Delfinado Sasha McComb Aoife McKeown Harry Nicholson Ciara O'Conallain Ann Sweetnam	Keith Calungsod Manuel Jacob Jessica McKinley Maria Raju Jamie Wang	LJ Barit Megan Heffron Sophie Lee DJ McCourt Ellen McNamara Sahar Syeda