Where children shoot for the stars and shine:

Newsletter: 20th November, 2026

Headlines and Reminders:

- Our children enjoyed a truly fantastic Bonfire Experience, packed with fun, laughter and memorable moments. They loved sitting around the campfire, toasting marshmallows, sipping delicious hot chocolate and working together to build their own dens.It was wonderful to see so many happy faces and chocolatey smiles throughout the day as the children embraced every part of the experience. Events like these create special memories that will stay with them for a long time.

  We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Mr Morrison for his support in helping us organise this wonderful event, and to Mrs Hackett for kindly making sure we had enough hot chocolate, marshmallows and wood. It was such a lovely day.






- We are incredibly proud of our Head and Deputy Boys and Girls, Serenity, Ajay, Harper and Leelan, for taking part in the Remembrance Parade in Brownhills. It was also wonderful to have other members of our academy join us on this important occasion.
  They represented St James exceptionally well, demonstrating respect and pride throughout the event. Their thoughtful conduct and commitment to honouring those who have served made our whole school community proud. Well done to everyone involved for being such excellent ambassadors for St James.





Thank you to all that attended our Parents' Evening last week. It was lovely to see so many of you there and there seemed to be lots of smiles, which is always a good sign. Thank you also to all who purchased book from the Book Fair. You helped raise over £200 commission for us. This went towards restocking our library with new, beautiful and engaging books for our children.

Finally, we would like to thank the wonderful Mansoor and Sheena for helping develop our children's love of reading further. Each class was treated to a wonderful tale, based in Sheena's home country of Tanzania. Children and families were then able to treat themselves to such a wide variety of books throughout the day, too. Unfortunately, this is the last time they will be visiting St James, as they are both taking a well-deserved retirement. We wish them every happiness for their next exciting chapter. We are going to miss them greatly.






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Headlines and Reminders:

- It was lovely to attend EYFS' Nursery Rhyme Performances and to see so many families join us, too. The children loved singing their rhymes and I think the families enjoyed it, too. Thank you to Mrs Walker, Miss Stretton, Miss Hayes. Miss Allmark and Miss Worrall for organising this and for singing so beautifully, too.






- This week a selection of our children visited Bescot Stadium to take part in the LHMAT's quiz. It was a great event and it was lovely to see our children working together, across the year groups, trying to answer as many questions as they could. They showed great determination and team spirit and we were incredibly proud of how they represented our school and the positive attitude they showed throughout the morning. Thank you to all o our families that came to support, too!







- As Christmas approaches, we are all getting very busy in preparing for the many events that we host at our academy. This year, we are holding a Carols by Candlelight event for our KS2 children and families. This is taking place on Thursday 17th December at 9:30 am within our school hall. Tickets will be sold at £1.50 and will include a hot drink. More details will be sent out about this next week.



We are so excited to welcome you again to our Christmas Family Lunch. As you can imagine, this does involve some detailed planning. Please can we ask that all orders are made by **Wednesday 25th November**? We will not be able to accept any other bookings after this date. Thank you so much for your understanding with this.

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Attendance Update:

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

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

If your child is absent

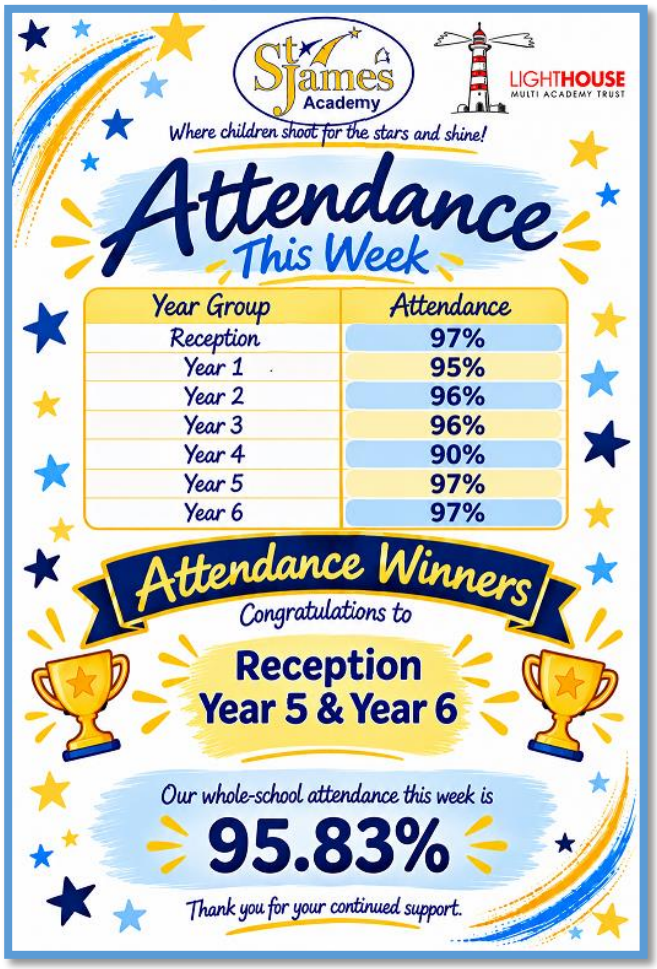
If you know your child is going to be absent from school, you should:

· **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.**





Share. Care. Believe. Achieve.

Be here
Be amazing!

St James Academy

Where children shoot for the stars and shine!

Every day counts!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

SEPTEMBER

- **Monday 14th September** – Individual and sibling photographs
- **Friday 25th September** – MacMillan Coffee morning
- **Monday 28th September** – Harvest Food Donation

OCTOBER

- **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** – Good to be Green Treat Day
- **Friday 23rd October** – Break-up at 3.15pm
- **Friday 31st 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
- **Wednesday 25th November** – Choir Performance at Forest Arts
- **Friday 20th November** – Xmas Fayre donations – chocolate
- **Monday 23rd November** – Assessment Week

DECEMBER

- **Friday 4th December** – Xmas Fayre and cake donations
- **Monday 7th December** – Talent Show auditions
- **Wednesday 9th December** – Xmas Family Lunch
- **Monday 14th December** – EYFS & KS1 Nativity
- **Tuesday 15th December** – Santa's Grotto
- **Thursday 17th December** – Carols by Candlelight @ 9:30 am
- **Friday 18th December** – Xmas Jumper Day
- **Friday 18th December** – Break up at 1.15pm

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January

JANUARY

- **Monday 4th January** – INSET Day
- **Tuesday 5th January** – Children return to school

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