

THE SCOOP

EXTRA



December 2024



Reception Special #2

Reception Diary Dates - please see Diary dates for 2024-25 for all whole school events

January - Mon 6th Start of Term 3, back to school for all pupils

Wed 15th Rec-Y2 Values Worship with Rev Ruth - IN SCHOOL

Fri 17th Curriculum Maps to parents

February - Mon 3rd Children's Mental Health Week

Fri 14th Launch of World Book Day book in a shoebox competition, Last day of Term 3 - 3pm collection

TERM 4

Mon 24th INSET DAY - school closed to pupils

Tue 25th Pupils return to school

March - Wed 5th Rec-Y2 Values Worship with Rev Ruth - IN SCHOOL

Thu 6th World Book Day, Mid-year reports to parents

Tue 11th Reception Junk Modelling Afternoon 1:45-2:50pm and Parents evening 3:30pm

Thu 13th Parents evening 3:30pm

Thu 27th Whole School Science day

Wed 9th Easter Service

Fri 11th Easter Bonnet parade 1:40pm and Last day of Term 4 - 2pm collection

And that's a wrap! We would like to say a **BIG WELL DONE!** to everyone; children, parents and staff, for getting to the finish line for Christmas. We really have had another long and extremely busy term and everyone has worked so hard! We were so pleased to be able to invite you to join us for our Reception Nativity performance, and wasn't it just **MAGICAL!!** Thank you for all your support providing costumes and helping with learning lines. We hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we did and that you also agree that it was a great way to feel like Christmas is really here.

We would also like to thank you for your kind words, cards and generous gifts and wish you all a very happy Christmas, and best wishes for 2025!

We look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Warmest wishes, The Reception Team



READING BOOKS

Reading books have been collected in this week so we can audit our home reading books over the Christmas break, and also to ensure books sent home in January match our most recent assessments and your child's individual phonic knowledge.

Don't forget, sharing stories, new and old, is just as important in developing reading skills as practising skills of decoding. We hope you are able to enjoy snuggling up and sharing some stories together over the holiday. You could also encourage your child to sound out any CVC words or spot the harder to read and spell words we have been learning in school.



PRACTISE MAKES PERFECT! YOUR HELP OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLS...



This term we have continued to have a focus on the Physical Development and Managing Self aspects of our curriculum. We would be very grateful if over the Christmas break, your child continues to practise putting on and doing up their coats and taking off and putting on jumpers, cardigans, socks and shoes **independently.** We really appreciate your continued support.

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NAMING ITEMS

Over the Christmas break, please can you check all clothing and other items, such as water bottles, are named. We have had a number of items that are un-named which we are struggling to return to their owners.



PARENTS AS PARTNERS SUPPORT

It's good to talk... talk and interactions are a golden thread that runs through everything we do

At St. James', we want to help families have enjoyable learning experiences together. And for us, it is the interactions that children have with the adults in their lives which are most valuable. That's why our curriculum is designed around collaboration and communication, where talk is central to helping children develop the skills they need to learn, make friends and express themselves.

Here are some ways you can support your child's language development:

- **Encourage and acknowledge conversation**
- **Read books and share stories;** sharing books is a great way to practice words and introduce new ones. You can also talk about what you see in the pictures.
- **Sing songs and recite nursery rhymes;** singing and reciting nursery rhymes expose children to a wide range of new words and introduce them to the structure of language.
- **Rhyme;** rhyming helps children to break words down and to hear the sounds that make up words.
- **Listen more than you talk:** avoid yes, no questions. Instead, comment on what a child is doing or saying and leave a gap for them to respond.
- **Narrating the activities** you are doing every day with your child



SPARE CLOTHES

Please can we ask that you send in a spare set of clothes for your child, including socks, as our children go outside whatever the weather and we regularly run out of spare dry t-shirts, jumpers or cardigans and underwear.



WOWS OVER CHRISTMAS!

If your child WOWs you during the Christmas break then don't forget to fill in a WOW voucher and return it to school so we can share their successes in the new year!

PLEASE AND THANK YOU

Christmas time is always a time to be thankful, but in Reception we have been working really hard on remembering to say please and thank you, *and* not just because it's Christmas. We are sure the children will wow you with how well they remember to say please and thank you.

FOREST SCHOOL AND COOKING

Next term we will be continuing our Wonderful Wednesdays, where the children will be involved in a morning of enrichment activities, including Forest school and cooking.

Dates for Forest School in Term 3 are as follows:

Class 1: 22nd January and 5th February

Class 2: 15th January and 29th January

**WONDERFUL
Wednesday!**

Don't forget... if you have any worries or concerns please speak to a member of the Reception team or Mrs Smith. We are always here to help.