



## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

We thoroughly enjoyed our Easter Service this afternoon. It was lovely to see contributions from so many of the children; to hear their reflections and to learn more about Easter. I hope you have a safe and happy Easter break, and we look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lynch  
Principal

## PTA

We have currently had no interest for any of the roles for the PTA. As the current PTA committee is stepping down this means that we will no longer have an active PTA for St James should we not receive any interest. Without a PTA committee involvement, we are unable to offer fund raising events across the academic year such as school discos, summer fayres, Christmas card projects..... (this list is not exhaustive). TGPA St James' PTA brings together parents, teachers and children to raise funds and strengthen the school community. Money raised is usually spent on things that the school budget does not cover.

For further information and details how to submit your interest, please see the link [here](#) or email [pta@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk](mailto:pta@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk) The deadline for registering your interest is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April and it if remains that we have no show of interest, PTA will cease to be active.

Perhaps there may be a group of parents who could get together to champion this and become our new PTA Committee for St James!

**Please note that the re-arranged AGM date is Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024 (5.30pm – 6.30pm).**

## West Midlands Police - Shirley Neighbourhood Team

### Message from PCSO Matthew Johnson

The parking situation outside of the school has been brought to the attention of Solihull Police over the past few weeks. I have spoken to parents who have stressed that some of the parking poses a danger to pupils crossing the road, to enter the school gates.

The first concern is at both bottom corners of Danbury Road, which takes you on to Halifax Road. Vehicles have been seen to be parking on these corners, which obstructs the view for parents and pupils crossing the road. In addition, these corners are marked with double yellow lines, meaning that any vehicles parked here can be penalised.

Secondly, there have been reports of parking within the keep clear markings directly outside the school gates. Again, this is highly dangerous and I must stress that all parents abide by the Highway Code. People parking here will be penalised.

Solihull Police will continue to monitor the parking situation, and will conduct school patrols in marked and unmarked vehicles where possible. If you would like to report dangerous parking, please email myself: [Matthew.Johnson1@westmidlands.police.uk](mailto:Matthew.Johnson1@westmidlands.police.uk).

**Please include a photograph of the vehicle displaying the registration.** Please also raise the same report to Solihull Council.



## Opportunities at St James

Please see the link here for some exciting opportunities which have arisen at TGPA St James including PTA Committee, Library and Reading volunteers:-

<https://www.stjames.tgacademy.org.uk/files/2024/02/TGPASJ-needs-You.pdf>

## Summer Term Enrichment Clubs

We are pleased to inform you that every pupil has been allocated a space for a club that they have expressed an interest in whether it be their first or second choice. As usual we had an overwhelming response with 125 responses for the five school-led clubs. There are still a few spaces on Chess Club (which can be booked via your child's MCAS account) and FootieBugs and Stardust can also be booked via their websites.

We will send a reminder for school-led clubs just before they start but if you login to your child's MCAS account, you can see the club, with dates, in their account. Please do let us know if your child no longer wishes to participate in the club in order to keep our registers up-to-date and offer any other pupil the opportunity to join should they wish.

## Summer Term Menu

Please see the summer term menu [here](#)

## Wraparound

Please may we remind you that there is no wraparound on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

## Wraparound Request

If anyone has a wooden toy kitchen and/or wooden toy food that is no longer needed or wanted, wraparound would be most grateful for any donations.

## MCAS Balances

As Summer term approaches, please can we ask that you start reducing any balances for wraparound services as all balances will need to be clear at the end of the Summer term.

## Solihull Parenting Team

Please see the timetable [here](#) for Summer term dates from the Solihull Parenting Team.



## Swimming – Year 3

We are pleased to advise you that swimming for Year 3 will continue during the Summer term. We request a donation towards the ever-increasing coach costs of £1 per week and payment can be made via your child's MCAS account. We are so pleased to offer the children an extra term of swimming and we do appreciate your support in this.



## Coffee and Chat

You are warmly invited to attend a coffee morning on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April (held in the library) from 8.45am – 9.45am with the School Engagement Team.

## Safety Planning Workshops for Parents/Carers

Solihull Virtual School is continuing to offer Safety Planning development workshops, designed to support parents and carers. **Safety planning is a way of supporting children to understand their own safety needs and to know how to increase their safety in various scenarios, including what to do, where to go and who to contact should they need to.** The workshop is designed to empower parents and carers with the tools and conversation starters to support their children to keep themselves safe and to know what to do if they feel unsafe. This session may be especially relevant for parents and caregivers whose children may be at risk from peers, street violence, exploitation and other harms outside of the home. It is however relevant for everyone who wishes to learn more about how to support their children and young people, of any age, to know how to keep themselves safe.

There are 2 available dates that cover the same content and participants may choose whichever date is most suitable:

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 10am – 12.00**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024 4pm - 6pm**

The workshops will be delivered by a specialist facilitator on behalf of Virtual School, via Microsoft Teams.

If you would like to book a place, please email Lisa Cameron, [lcameron@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:lcameron@solihull.gov.uk) Please provide:

Name, email address to access the teams link and preferred date to participate.

There is no charge for the training.

## Stardust Dance / Gymnastics and FootieBugs – Summer Term 2024

Please find information [here](#) for Summer term dates for Stardust Academy and [here](#) for Footiebugs

## Holiday Club

Please find details [here](#) of a holiday club specifically for children with SEND aged 5-11.

## Choir Holiday Club

Choir holiday club for KS2 pupils may be found [here](#)

## Easter Holiday Clubs

Please see the attached links for holiday club information across the Easter holiday;

[Family Cycling Information](#)

[Tudor Grange Leisure Centre Let's Play](#)

[Pick and Mix Holiday Camp](#)

[The Bugs Group](#)

[Solihull College Easter Sports Camp](#)

Please note that these are not run by or organised by TGPA St James.

**'Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. Do everything in love.'** 1 Corinthians 16:13-14



## Upcoming Diary Dates

**Did you know?** You can sync our school calendar with the calendar on your phone, so you always have the most up to date calendar information. Click [here](#) to go the calendar page on our website, click on the button at the bottom of the page that says 'Subscribe to Calendar' and select which of your own calendars you wish to sync it with.

When?	What?	Who?
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	End of Spring Term	Whole School
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Inset Day	School closed to pupils
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term	All pupils
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Visit to Birmingham Mosque	Year 2
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	No Wraparound – staff training	All pupils
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Spring Bank Holiday	Whole school
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Church Service @2pm	Year 3 & 4 Parents invited to attend
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half term	Whole school