



## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for the very generous donations to our Harvest collection. The house that brought the most was Discovery- very well done to them. Our collection will be picked up tomorrow by Helping Hands at the Christian Renewal Centre: [Helping Hands - Renewal \(renewalcc.com\)](https://renewalcc.com)



As we approach the end of the half term, I want to wish our school family and happy and safe half term. Please see below for some helpful information from West Midlands Police regarding safety on Halloween and Bonfire Night.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lynch  
Principal

## Weekly Bulletin

*Through the Parent Bulletin, we seek to send out as much information as we can via only one document each week. There may be occasional additional emails where information needs to be sent out quickly, but we always try to keep this to a minimum. We hope this helps parents and families to keep track of what is happening in school without having to trawl through dozens of emails! At the end of each bulletin, you will find upcoming diary dates of note.*

## PTA Updates

### Halloween Disco - 8<sup>th</sup> November [Price and Costume Info](#)

- Parents please collect children as normal at the end of the school day.
- Wraparound children are to go to wraparound as normal. Staff will take them to the disco if they are attending and collect them after their disco session ends.
- First disco starts at 3.30pm for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2. Parents please do not enter the school, instead please queue at the front office gate for drop off. Children will then be released at their normal pick up areas:  
Nursery & Reception - EYFS door  
Year 1 & 2 - Playground

- Second disco starts at 4.30pm for Years 3,4,5 & 6. Again, parents please do not enter the school, instead please queue at the front office gate for drop off. Children will then be released to the playground from 5.30pm. *(There is no Chess Club this day).*
- School Staff will be present at both discos alongside the PTA volunteers so there are First Aiders.
- School staff will also be in charge of releasing children back to parents at the end of the discos.
- Water and squash will be offered to children during their disco session but **no food will be served.**
- There will be a non-edible gift for all children to take away at the end of the disco.
- The deadline for cash payment has now ended. Any remaining ticket purchases to be made to the following account please with your child's name as reference. Those parents paying for multiple children, please use surname and then email [pta@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk](mailto:pta@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk) with the children's names and year groups.

Account name: St James School Parent Teacher Association  
Sort code: 60-19-14  
Account no: 05943078

- Anyone who may have some contacts and can help with raffle prize donations or other forms of assistance towards the Christmas Fair, or would like to have a stall at the fair, please contact the PTA.
- Parents wishing to purchase pre-loved uniform can email the PTA and leave a donation of their choice in a sealed envelope with the school office. We are also accepting donations of pre-loved uniform (school-branded items only please.) Please see the up-to-date inventory of available items [here](#).

**All correspondence for the PTA should be sent to [pta@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk](mailto:pta@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk)**

### Remembrance Day- Poppy Appeal 2023

After half term, pupils will be able to buy poppies and a range of poppy-themed stationary at school. Please send in cash only (coins are preferable) to school in a named envelope. The suggested donations are £1 for a poppy (most of what we have been given this year are the new plastic-free poppies); 50p for a reflector poppy or zip pull and £1 for a wristband.

### New Menu

Caterlink have released a new menu that will be used after half term: [School Meals - Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James \(tgacademy.org.uk\)](#). The menu is on a three-week rotation and the dates for each week underneath the week titles.

### Children in Need- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November

This year will be having a 'SPOTacular' Dress up and Donate Day for Children in Need. On Friday 17th November, your child can come to school dressed in something spotty (uniform not required) for a suggested donation of £1. Children participating in PE on that day will need to wear something suitable for PE.

### Half Term Writing Competition

Mrs Lewis has set up a half term writing competition for all children from Years 1 to 6. The details can be found here: [Half Term Writing Competition](#). Submissions can be handwritten or typed, must clearly have the child's name and class on, and must be returned by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. The competition will be judged by Mrs Myers, the Tudor Grange Academy Trust Lead for English, and Mrs Russell, Associate Principal. We look forward to receiving your spooky entries!

## School Council

Over half term, we are encouraging pupils from Years 2-6 to write letters of application to join our school council. Two pupils will be selected from each class. Mrs Lewis, who will be supporting the children with school council, has put together a job description which will be shared in school with the children before half term. It can also be found here: [School Council Job Description](#). Letters can be handwritten or typed and should be returned to your child's class teacher by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

## Staffing Updates

Mrs Leung (year 4 TA) will be finishing with us very soon to go on her maternity leave. We wish her the very best of luck and look forward to her baby announcement! We have recruited for two roles, and I will introduce those new members of staff to you after half term.

## Halloween and Bonfire Night

With both of these dates coming up during half term, I feel it is important to signpost you to some guidance that has been put together by West Midlands Police: [WMP Parent Guide](#)

Remember...

- Stay visible at night by wearing fluorescent clothing or head torches
- Supervise children with sparklers and at firework displays
- Only trick or treat in well-lit, known areas

## 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?
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November		Half Term
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA School Disco (no Chess Club this evening)	Whole school
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Deadline for Half Term Writing Competition	Years 1-6
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Deadline for letters of application for School Council	Years 2-6
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need- Spotty Non-Uniform	Whole school
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> & Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Y6 Level 3 Bikeability	Details to follow
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Scholastic Book fair	Details to follow
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	'Journey to the Stable'	Year 1
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	'Sinbad the Sailor' Visiting Theatre Company	Whole School – Details to follow
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December – Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Last week of school-led enrichment clubs	Whole school
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Last swimming session (restarts Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January)	Year 3
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December AM	EY & KS1 Nativity	Nursery and Year 1 Parents Details to follow
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December AM	EY & KS1 Nativity	Reception and Yr 2 Parents Details to follow
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupil Christmas Lunch	Details to follow
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Last day of term	Whole School

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

