



## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

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 if it 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).**

Best wishes,

Mrs Lynch  
Principal

## 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>

## World Down Syndrome Day – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, we invite all children and staff to wear your brightest and boldest socks to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day- they could be a matching pair of your most colourful socks, or two of your favourite socks from different pairs. The socks campaign is a celebration of everything that makes us all different and yet the same, and celebrates the uniqueness of every chromosome- each one valuable and one-of-a-kind! We would welcome donations of £1 which we will donate to Down Syndrome UK who do valuable work supporting children and adults with Down Syndrome and their families, including by educating people to break down stereotypes and prejudices.

## Year 1 Request

If you have any (empty) 6-egg eggboxes, please could we ask that you send them into school. This is for a maths workshop we will be doing after Easter. Thank you!

## Easter Menu

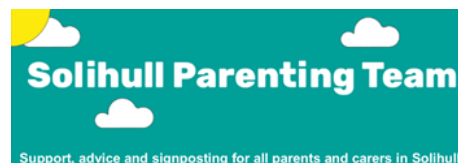
Please see the Easter menu for Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March [here](#)

## Wraparound – Parent Survey

We sent a letter earlier this week asking for your views about our wraparound services. Please may we ask that you complete the survey found here to give us your views:- <https://forms.office.com/e/9uXg8pDBYi>. It should take you no more than 10 minutes to complete and all submissions are anonymous. The survey will close on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Your support is much appreciated.

## 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. Further details will be sent shortly.



## 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;

[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.

<b>When?</b>	<b>What?</b>	<b>Who?</b>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Last swimming session	Year 3
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Church Service	All pupils – EYFS parents invited
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	World Down Syndrome Day – wear brightest & boldest socks to school	All pupils
Friday 22 March 2024	End of Spring Term	Whole School