



St James's Jotter

September 2024

Welcome back A very big welcome to all the children, their families and our staff. A particular welcome to the new families and staff members: Miss Loughran who will be teaching Year 2 and Mrs Kerr who is an assistant in Y2 Miss Lamont's class. Congratulations to Miss Tubridy who got married during the Summer and is now Mrs Mc Veigh and to Miss Rooney who also got married and is now Mrs Wilson.

New Posts in School Mrs Farrell is due to go on maternity leave this week. I want to thank her sincerely for fulfilling the temporary Vice-Principal and SENCo roles with the utmost care and passion. We wish her and Mr Farrell every blessing as they prepare for the next addition to their family. Mrs Mc Veigh will be Vice-Principal and Mrs O' Neill will be Learning Support Co-ordinator in a temporary capacity. Mr Farrell has been appointed Literacy Co-ordinator. Congratulations to all three members of staff.

Safeguarding and Child Protection Please click [here](#) on the link to access Safeguarding and Child Protection information and [flow chart](#).

School Closures The school will be closed on Friday 27th and Monday 30th of September for Staff training.

School Meals-School Money App School meals should be booked and paid for using the School Money App. Those entitled to free school meals must also book. Bookings are uploaded to the app a week in advance and can be made up to midnight on the day before the meal is required. Mrs Brown, our secretary is happy to help parents/guardians who are having difficulties with the App.

Coffee Morning There will be a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 25th September at 9:00am to 10.30am in the Dinner Hall. Parents and families are welcome to attend. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer charity. [#We can...be connected.](#)

Easy Fundraising Please remember that St James's Primary School and Nursery Unit - Newtownabbey is registered with easyfundraising. This enables us to continue to raise free funds, at no extra cost to you. When you shop via the easyfundraising website or app, with over 4,100 of your favourite retailers, including eBay, Amazon and many more, you will raise FREE donations for our school. If you are not already registered, please visit our easyfundraising page: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjamesps/>

MR Sports This is the company that provides a range of After School clubs in our school. If you have any queries, contact Matthew Rooney. Please click [here](#) on the link to see the flyer and contact details.

Ruby Roo's Wraparound care continues to operate on our school site. They offer very competitive rates. Contact Matthew Rooney, as above, for more information.

Value of the Month: Gentleness

Monthly Mathemagician: Counting forward and counting back

Breakfast Club Breakfast club is available every morning from 8:00am. The cost is £1.50 for breakfast and supervision and £1.00 for supervision. Please book a place using the School Money App. After midterm we hope to welcome our nursery children to breakfast club if needed.

Music Tuition In school this year we have Violin tuition from Mrs Mc Cartney from the Education Authority for children. She is inviting children in Year 4 to take part in lessons. Mark Rankin teaches guitar to children from Y5-Y7. There are spaces available for both. If your child is interested and for more information, please contact the school office.

Parents' Information Sessions We are inviting the parents/guardians to meet the class teacher for an information session in the school. The teachers will discuss curriculum, homework and a range of school matters. Please click [here](#) on the link for dates and times. [#We can...learn.](#)

Eco-school Last year our school was awarded the bronze and silver certificates for Environmental Awareness. This year we are striving to be awarded the Green Flag as an official Eco-School. Miss Lamont and the Eco-club will need our support and they will keep you informed about our progress.

Healthy eating With the rise in childhood obesity and the increase in poor dental health, we are making every effort to ensure that the children eat a healthy break. Please support our determined efforts and provide a healthy break for your child every day. See the link for information on what is considered a healthy break and for some new ideas. <http://www.pha.site/healthylunchbox> [#We can...be fit and healthy.](#)

Lateness and Absences We encourage all children to be in school on time. This avoids anxiety in the child and disruption to teaching and learning. We also appreciate prompt collection of children at home time. If your child is absent, please contact the school office and Mrs Brown will pass the message onto the teacher.

Cost of Living Please contact the school and speak with Mrs Clenaghan if the Cost of Living Crisis is affecting your ability to provide for your child in school.

SEAG registration Parents/guardians of the Year 7 children who intend to do the SEAG assessment for transfer to post primary school should complete registration before 11:59am on Friday 20th September 2024. Visit the website for more information. seagni.co.uk

Menu Please see our school website for the canteen menu for this month.

Contacting Staff Please remember that if you need to speak with staff you should arrange this through the office or using SeeSaw. Teachers are not available to talk with parents/guardians or to answer SeeSaw messages during teaching hours.