

### Miss Dowdye's Termly Newsletter

#### The count down begins!.....

It may seem like a while since the first newsletter appeared. This is because the newsletter which I produce will only be distributed once a term. I will use this time to update you on any exciting news we have at St. James, as well as the special projects we are involved in and the great achievements made by the children.

As we bear towards the last part of the summer term we have begun to experience different types of weather. Due to the effects the weather can have on us, can I please remind everyone to ensure that sunscreen is applied to children when the sun is shining, as well as making sure that each child comes to school with a jacket when the weather is not so great. I would also like to remind everyone of the importance of ensuring that all the children are drinking plenty of water inside and outside of school. Drinking plenty of water regularly will allow us to remain hydrated, as well as provide us with the focus and energy we need each day.

#### Safety outside of our school

As some of you have noticed myself and Ms McFarlane have been present at the school gates in the afternoon, as well as Ms McFarlane being present with Mr Sanchez in the mornings.

Whilst seeing all of our families off home, I have begun to notice the issue of parking on our school road. As is noticeable the actual road of St James is small, and due to the dead end it can be hard to navigate your way through at times.

With this in mind, please be very cautious when driving along the road as the health and safety of our children and parents are being put at risk.

Making sure that we undertake the simplest things will lower the risk each day;

- Ensure you look both ways when crossing the road
- Do not cross in between parked cars
- When reversing, carefully look in all blind spots before moving off
- Please keep the yellow zig zag lines clear to allow an unrestricted view

Thank you for all your help.



## Peer Mediation

As you will know here at St. James we have a number of children who are known as peer mediators. These children help out at playtimes to support their peers to help resolve any small conflicts which may occur in the playground. These children have been doing so well during their break and lunch times and deserve a big congratulation!

I am currently in the process of recruiting new peer mediators for the upcoming academic year. If you feel this is a job you could do, then please come and see me.

Peer mediators picture (with jackets)

## Well being

As discussed in the last newsletter, the wellbeing of our children and families is important to us at St. James. We are currently looking at ways to make this more prominent within our community, as well as provide all with education around this topic. As a school community we are currently identifying more ways for us to be able to address the area of wellbeing. Until this takes place we would like to make you all aware of a great resource available to families. An organisation called MindEd provides up to date information as well as online training courses for free. This is an excellent resource and will allow us to find out more within our own time. Please see [www.minded.org.uk](http://www.minded.org.uk) for more information.

As well as the above there are other charities and organisations which provide support, such as Samaritans [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org) - 116 123 (Freephone number) and Place2Be [www.place2be.org.uk](http://www.place2be.org.uk) - 0808 168 9144 (Freephone number)

We are here to help in anyway we can, so please see any of us if you require support or further information.



## Keeping us updated...

If your child incurs any issues which you feel may affect their behaviour or attitude whilst at school, please let us know. We try our best to accommodate any transitions that our families may be experiencing but can only do this in partnership with you, our parents.

If you feel you need any further help you should talk to your child's class teacher or doctor to find out what help is available. Any of these people will be able to put you in touch with someone who can help.

Here at St James the Safeguarding officers are:

Ms McFarlane – Head Teacher

Ms Rose – Inclusion Manager

Ms Dowdy – Learning Mentor

### Reminders to Parents and children

Drop in sessions take place on the following days:

**Tuesday** (lunchtime) – Children only

**Wednesday** (2.15 – 3.15pm) – Parent/ Carers only

**Thursday** (lunchtime) – Children only

**Please feel free to contact me at any other time to make an appointment or find me in the playground after school.**

## This Terms Attendance & Punctuality Highlights

### Attendance

Reception:

Year 1:

Year 2:

Year 3:

Year 4:

Year 5:

Year 6:

### Punctuality

**Congratulations to Team .... for having both the best punctuality and attendance so far**

Picture of best class with attendance and punctuality

### Special Mention....

The school council would like to say a massive thank you to ex St James pupil Ruby who has been helping us out on a weekly basis during our meetings. Ruby is in the final stages of her college course and will be off to Northampton University in September to study Social and Community Development . We at St James would like to wish Ruby the best of luck with her studies and the beginnings of her future career.

