**St James’ Pre-School Newsletter**

May 2022

Welcome to our May edition of the Newsletter.

As the weather gets better we will be spending more time outside. We would like to ensure that the children can enjoy it safely! It is important for us to help the children to care for their skin and avoid damage in later life. Please ensure that your child is protected from the sun by applying sun cream before arriving at pre-school. During the warmer weather, the children sometimes remove sweatshirts/cardigans. Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child’s name so that we can ensure that they are returned.

**Transition to School** It is an exciting time for some of you as our older children prepare for their **new schools** in September. Kelly, Gemma and Amanda will be working with our 27 leavers to prepare them for their new schools with some fun activities to get them school ready. They will be looking at the different uniforms for their relevant schools and talking about how their daily routines may be different from Pre-school. For the children staying with us Suzanne and Deb will organise settling visits in the big room so they can get to know their new Key-person.

**Photographer Visit** - Phil, our photographer, will visit pre-school onThursday 19th May **to take photographs of children leaving to go to school only**. Parents will have the opportunity to purchase group and individual photos. If your child does not attend pre-school on this day, you are welcome to come at the start of the session with your child to have their photograph taken.





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**Fundraising News** – Our Easter Hat Parade, Raffle and Tombola raised a fantastic £457.50, Thank you to all who suported us. We also raised £24.85 from the last Roberts Recycle Collection. We have another Roberts Recycle collection organised for Friday 10th June if anybody is having a clear out over the half term we will be happy to accept any clothing, shoes or bags.

We have used some of the funds raised to buy some resources to enhance our outdoor provision as we hope to spend lots of time outside enjoying the sun. We have purchased lots of water resources for mark making and developing fine motor skills. We have also restocked our writing and creative areas with lots of inviting resources. We are planning to buy some child friendly books on diversity to update our library and book areas. 



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**Sponsored Colour** The theme for our sponsored colour this year is the Platinum Jubilee. To celebrate, on Friday 27th May, during our morning session, we’ll enjoy a special Jubilee ‘street party’ snack and the children are welcome to attend this day dressed in red, white and blue. The children have taken their colouring sheets home this week and if they’re returned by Friday 20th May, we’ll display them around our room for everyone to enjoy, before returning them to you.

**Walk to school Week** Monday 16th – Friday 20th May is Walk to school week. We realise that not everybody is able to walk to school but you can help your child to get involved by parking your car further away to get those extra steps in. Walk to school week gives the children an opportunity to take in features of our local area. Deb has put together a sheet of things your child can look out for on their way to Pre-school and these will be issued shortly. Fingers crossed for good weather!!

**Healthy Eating Week** Monday 13th-Friday 17th June is Healthy Eating Week. Although we do promote healthy eating at Pre-school Healthy Eating Week gives us an opportunity to plan more focused activities, there is a theme for each day. We will be receiving posters and activity packs to share with the children & trying out lots of different foods.

**Volunteer for your Pre-school Governing Body**

Do you thnk that you could contribute some time, ideas or enthusiasm to Pre-school?

We recognise that parents make a valuable contribution to our Pre-school and believe it is essential that the children attending are represented and that the services we provide meet the needs of Pre-school’s current community. **We are a not for profit organisation with charitable status and in order for us to comply with the requirements of the Charities Commission, our Governing Body must have representation from a minimum of four Parent Governors.**

The Governing Body meets approximately **four times** during the school year and meetings are held at St James’ Church Hall, usually starting at 7.45p.m. All aspects of Pre-school life are discussed and meetings are chaired by Stephen Skyner.

Our elections will not take place until our **Annual General Meeting in November,** but if you would like to get a feel for what’s involved, please speak to Deb or Suzanne and come along to our **next meeting** which is being held on **Thursday 7th July at 7.45pm.**

**We really do need your support in order to comply with the guidelines set out in our Constitution, without the support of the parents/carers as Trustees, Pre-school cannot continue.**

**Pick up and Drop off times**

Can we ask all Parents and Carers to try whenever possible to stick to our drop off (9.15) and pick up (12.15) times please. Staff work hard to plan the best learning environment for the children at St James’ especially at the beginning and end of the morning when group adult led activities are structured. Children arriving and leaving during these key times are not only missing out on activities but staff are also being taken away from the planned activity. If children need to be dropped off late or collected early would you please inform a member of staff. Thanks for your co-operation.



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This year our **Leavers’ Service**, for children leaving pre-school to go to school, will be held on **Tuesday 12th July** in St James’ Church at the end of the pre-school morning.

All children are invited to our end of term **Pre-School Party** on **Tuesday 19th July**, this is the last day of our school year.

More details about the Leavers’ Service and the party will follow after half term.

The team at St James’ would like to thank you for reading this newsletter!

We are grateful for your support as always.

**St James’ Pre-School Woolton Ltd.** *A non profit organisation*

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

* School Leavers’ Photograph **Thursday 19th May**
* Walk to school Week – **16th-20th May**
* Colouring sheets for our Sponsored Colour to be returned by **Friday 20th May**
* Pre-School closes for **HALF TERM** on **Friday 27th May**
* Staff admin day **Monday 6th June** (Pre-school closed for children)
* **Children return to Pre-School Tuesday 7th June**
* Roberts Recycling Collection **Friday 10th June**
* Healthy Eating week – **13th-17th June**
* **Leavers service – Tuesday 12th July**
* Preschool party – **Tuesday 19th July**