



# St James' Church of England Junior School

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Executive Headteacher: Mr Simon Millington



## Newsletter

19 January 2024

Our Value for the year is **Respect** Our Value for this term is **Integrity**

Congratulations to our:

### Values Cup Winners



### Good Work Winners



Congratulations to 6A (Mrs Gardiner/Mrs Cossins) who won the weekly attendance award this week with 96.1%. Well done to the rest of the school who were 93.2%

## Important Dates & Holidays

**Take a look at the school calendar and term dates for 2023-24 and 2024-25 [here](#).**

Monday 22 January	3.30 pm	DGAT Parents' Meeting
Thursday 1 February	3.20 pm	Movie Night (Finishes at 4.30 pm)
Thursday 8 February	9.00 am	Coffee Morning
Friday 9 February	3.20 pm	End of Term 3

### **February Half-Term – Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February**

Monday 19 February		Start of Term 4
Friday 22 March	1.30 pm	End of Term 4

### **Easter Holidays – Monday 25 March to Friday 5 April**

Monday 8 April		Start of Term 5
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## School Hours

<b>8.15 am</b>	Breakfast Club
<b>8.30 am</b>	School playground is staffed – children can be left after 8.30 am
<b>8.50 am</b>	Pupils come into school
<b>9.00 am</b>	First session
<b>3.20 pm</b>	End of school day

**Pupils should be in school by 8.50 am.** All children who are late need to be brought into school by a parent to sign them in. If children arrive in school later than 10.30 am we may not be able to order them a hot lunch so they should bring in a packed lunch.

Breakfast Club is available from 8.15-8.45 am. **Children are expected to be punctual, but they should not arrive in school before 8.15 am when the gates open.**

## Introducing Mrs Jones

Mrs Heather Jones has been given a new job across the Hatherley/St James' Federation as Engagement Co-ordinator. This role will allow the school to support as many children and families as possible across the two schools in many different areas, especially your children's education.



Mrs Jones has been a teacher in Gloucester for over 30 years and until recently has been teaching in class at St James'. She will be at St James' on Mondays, Tuesdays and every other Wednesday. Please look out for her on the playground at the beginning and end of the school day; she will be happy to meet you.

## Doctors, Opticians and Dentist Appointments

Routine doctors, opticians and dentist appointments **SHOULD NOT** be made during school time. Only emergency appointments and hospital appointments should be made during the school day. All other appointments should be made after school, at weekends or during the school holidays. If an appointment has already been made children should be in school before, if possible, and should be brought into school after the appointment, if time. A whole day is not required for a local appointment. Please email or text if your child is going to an appointment. If you have to make an appointment for your child at the beginning of the day, please inform the school.



### Home Story

This week, the children thoroughly enjoyed reading 'Pandora's Box' in Urdu! Thank you, Mrs Pervaiz, for your wonderful storytelling skills. If you would like to volunteer to read a 'home story' in any language, please let Miss Kirby know.



### Movie Night – Monday 1 February

3.20 – 4.30 pm - £1 per child, including a drink and a biscuit. Movies to be chosen soon.

Applications for holiday FSM vouchers for **February 2024 Half-Term** will be open from **midday 16 January until midday on 30 January**. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing **5 February**. If you have already registered please check your junk/spam folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there.



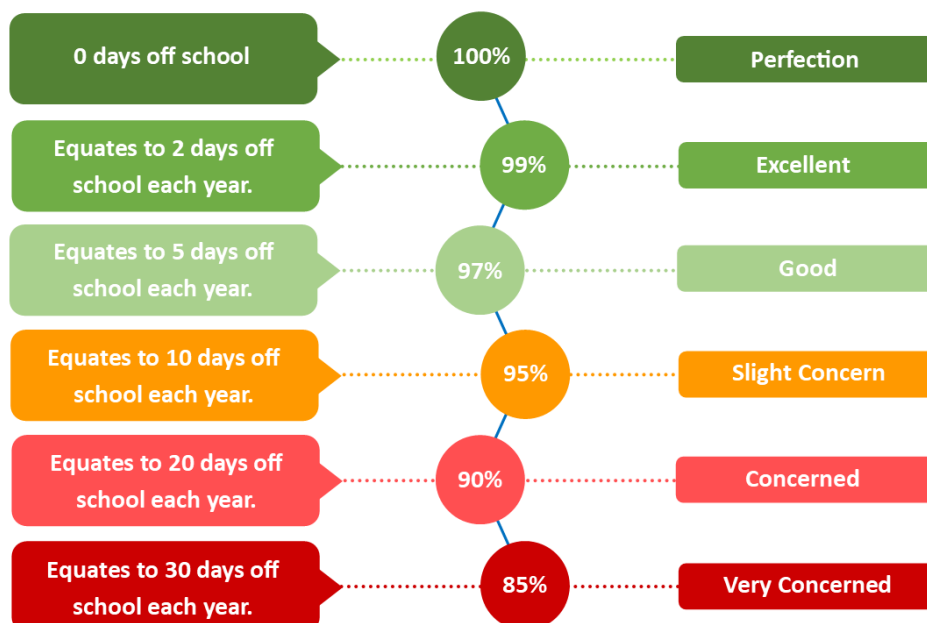
If you have not received their vouchers by 7 February email [childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

This Winter holiday period, Gloucestershire County Council will provide families in receipt of Free School Meals, who sign up to this offer, with vouchers to assist with food costs during the school holidays. The vouchers are funded through grant funding we have received, and they are separate to that of term time free school meals.

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. **We are unable to consider college and sixth form students, nor children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2) - they are not eligible for this scheme.**

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of £15 per child. **Families who have signed up previously do not need to re-register for February 2024 holiday vouchers** - they will already have been included. Families that have previously signed up will need to contact us with any changes to their circumstances (e.g. if the number of children eligible increases or decreases). To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

To find out more and to apply, parents can visit [FAQs | Gloucestershire County Council](#)





## Technology STEM Camp

Longlevens Junior School, GL2 0AL on 12-15 February (Half-term)

Our aim is to **inspire, engage** and **empower** the next generation of creators, coders and inventors. We have put together an action-packed Activity Schedule with something for every child to extend their learning in a fun and unique way using the latest and greatest tech. Activities include:

- 🤖 ROCKING ROBOT - Build, program and debug...bring robots to life!
- 🚀 GENIUS INVENTIONS - Create electronic wonders, while exploring the world of circuits and invention with so many outstanding possibilities.
- 🧠 3D CREATIONS - Unlock your inner Tech Artist and create mesmerising three-dimensional creations – let your imagination soar!
- 📺 MEDIA MADNESS - Enthusiastic directors, actors, and content creators will delve into the captivating realms of photography and filmmaking, unlocking the artistry behind visual storytelling
- 🌐 VIRTUAL REALITY - With the magic of VR, you can explore breath-taking virtual worlds, design your own adventures, and unleash your imagination like never before.
- ⚙️ MINECRAFT ENGINEERING - As a Minecraft engineer, you can build incredible structures, create ingenious Redstone contraptions, and bring your wildest dreams to life.
- 🧑‍🔬 TECH FUN - Experience a mind-bending fusion of cutting-edge tech, heart-pounding action, and mind-expanding science, all in one exhilarating adventure.

All staff are DBS Checked and Qualified to run the best sessions in the safest environment. For more information check out our flyer attach, visit our website below or watch our video to see what to expect at camp <https://youtu.be/VWqFyudd9oU>

Our camps cater to **ages 5-12**. **Spaces are limited**, so **don't miss out and book online today**, simply visit: <https://www.nextthing.education/product/longlevens-junior-school-february-camp/>



### Deal with dinner time distraction

Jodie Plows,  
BeeZee Bodies Nutritionist

#### Six quick tips

to help you set boundaries around screen time – for more enjoyable meals together and happier, healthier children:

1. Agree a daily routine with your child, so they know when meals and screen time are.
2. Set timers for screen time and be sure to stick to those boundaries.
3. Give them pre-dinner warnings, like "dinner is in 10 minutes", "5 minutes" etc.
4. Build up time away from screens - start with half the meal without and increase gradually.
5. Try to make dinner engaging - make conversation, play games or do a quiz.
6. Allow movement breaks if needed, to keep them engaged with eating without a screen.

Want to start some healthy habits as a family in 2024?  
Sign up now and our friendly team will support you.

Scan the code  
...or click here to find out more

Sign up today!



**beeZee bodies**  
Gloucestershire

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