

St James' Church of England Junior School



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Headteacher: Mrs E Gardiner



Newsletter

21 November 2025

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

Congratulations to our:

Values Cup Winners



Good Work Winners



Congratulations to 4A who won the weekly attendance award with 97.6% and 5B who were runners-up with 97.3% Well done!

Important Dates & Holidays – Please keep a copy of the term dates handy!

Take a look at the school calendar and term dates for 2025-26 and 2026-27 [here](#).

Thursday 27 November	Swimming for Year 5 Book Fair after school until Tuesday 2 December
Friday 28 November	Swimming for Year 6
Thursday 4 December	Swimming for Year 5
Friday 5 December	Swimming for Year 6
Thursday 11 December	Swimming for Year 5
Friday 12 December	Non-uniform Day (payment in bottles for Tombola) Year 4 Trip to Sherborne Cinema Swimming for Year 6
Tuesday 16 December	9.00 am Christmas Carols at St James' Church (Parents welcome)
Wednesday 17 December	Christmas Jumper Day – Wear a jumper with uniform Christmas Lunch 3.00 pm - Christmas Fair
Thursday 18 December	Swimming for Year 5
Friday 19 December	No swimming for Year 6 1.30 pm End of Term 2 at 1.30 pm
Monday 29 December – Friday 2 January – Christmas Holidays	
Monday 5 January 2026	INSET Day (No children in school)
Tuesday 6 January	Start of Term 3

BOOK FAIR – FROM THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER TO TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER AFTER SCHOOL – CASH & CARD PAYMENTS – GET THOSE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!

School Hours

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

Pupils should be in school by 8.45 am. All children who are late (when gates are shut) 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.**

Christmas Fair – Wednesday 17 December – We need your help!

Book/toy Tombola - Please bring into school, quality, used books and toys for our book/toy tombola. Please have a sort out at home this weekend and bring them in next week! Thanks!

Raffle

All the children have brought home an envelope containing a book of raffle tickets. Please send back into school, in the envelope provided (sealed) with all cash and completed raffle ticket stubs (keep tickets yourself) asap. We have some great prizes to win – **Kindle, Hamper, Toy voucher, Sherborne cinema tickets, Amazon Voucher, Roses Theatre cinema tickets, plus lots more.** Each ticket is 50p and the whole book of 5 tickets is £2.50. Extra tickets will be available at the Christmas Fair on Wednesday 17 December, or from the office before. If you cannot sell the tickets please bring them back into school for us to sell. The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Fair.

Bottle Tombola/Toy Tombola/Raffle

Thank you to those parents who have already donated bottles for our tombola, prizes for the raffle or items for our Toy Tombola.

Please remember to bring lots of change on the day!

ST JAMES' C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER
NON-UNIFORM DAY
 in aid of
Christmas Fair

INSTEAD OF PAYMENT FOR THE NON-UNIFORM DAY PLEASE BRING IN A BOTTLE FOR THE BOTTLE TOMBOLA. ALCOHOL MUST BE BROUGHT IN BY AN ADULT. IN DATE BOTTLES OF WINE, FIZZ, SPIRITS, SOFT DRINKS, BATH/SHOWER GEL ETC.

All money raised at the Fayre will go towards St James' children activities/trips, etc.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR

CHRISTMAS FAIR

WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER
 3.00 PM

RAFFLE BOTTLE TOMBOLA
 TOY TOMBOLA
 GAMES STALLS CAKE STALL
 REFRESHMENTS
 GUESS THE WEIGHT OF CHRISTMAS CAKE
 GUESS THE NUMBER OF SWEET IN A JAR
 AND MUCH MORE!

BRING LOTS OF SMALL CHANGE

RAFFLE TICKETS - PLEASE SELL AS MANY AS YOU CAN TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE UNTIL THE DAY OF THE CHRISTMAS FAIR.
PRIZES: AMAZON VOUCHER, TOY VOUCHER, HAMPER, CHOCOLATES + MANY MORE

**Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day –
 Wednesday 17 December**

Children can wear Christmas jumpers, Christmas t-shirts with their school uniform on 17 December.

If they have not chosen a Christmas lunch they need to bring in a packed lunch as there will be no other food choices on the day.



REMINDER: School meals are £2.71 per day and £13.55 for a week and should be paid in advance via Parentpay. Please make sure all accounts are up-to-date and in credit. **Parentpay logins** for all new children are available in the office. The school office is open from 8.30 am – 3.30 pm.

Good attendance means...

Being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days



This Winter Holiday, 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, and they are separate to that of term-time free school meals.

Applications for holiday FSM vouchers for the Winter holiday 2025 will be open from midday **25 November** until midday on **9 December**. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing 15 December.

Check junk/spam folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If parents have not received their vouchers by **22 December**, submit a query via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#)

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 for one week.**

To find out more about the scheme and to apply, those wishing to find out more about eligibility and the scheme can do so by visiting our holiday free school meal voucher webpage here: [Holiday free school meal vouchers | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

Families who have signed up previously do not need to re-register for the Winter holiday vouchers - they will already have been included. Families that have previously signed up will need to contact GCC with any changes to their circumstances (e.g. if the number of children eligible increases or decreases). Parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

GKR KARATE
KARATE FOR EVERYONE

START KARATE NOW!

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

• CONFIDENCE • FOCUS • DISCIPLINE • FUN

PH: 07306 443584
E: SQUARTERMAN@GKRKARATE.COM
Scan QR code for class timetable

Just Camps

REGISTER 14 DAYS BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF THE CAMP WEEK AND GET OUR EARLYBIRD PRICE

EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAY

VENUE: SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL, OAKLEAZE, LONGLEVENS, GL2 0LF
HALF DAY - FULL DAY - EXTENDED DAY OPTIONS

'EXCELLENT FUN - KIDS HAVE A GREAT TIME AND VERY WELL ENTERTAINED - HIGHLY RECOMMEND!'
- JO S., PARENT

ROOKIE COACH
12 - 16 YEARS? ASK US ABOUT BEING A ROOKIE COACH

JUST BRING:

- PACKED LUNCH
- SNACK
- WATER/DRINK
- SUNCREAM
- APPROPRIATE CLOTHING
- ENERGY & ENTHUSIASM

Earn your Bronze! Silver! Gold! and become a Just Camps Mini-Coach

REGISTER HERE

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

AGES 4-16 YEARS
OFSTED REGISTERED
CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

JUSTCAMPS.CO.UK
01242 436753
MAIL@JUSTCAMPS.CO.UK

Festive Fun at the Museum!

Discover your Winter Window and dive into festive fun with creative workshops and seasonal trails- complete the trail and claim your special prize!



Winter Windows
Tue 2 Dec - Sun 4 Jan

A magical Christmas display of over 1,000 pupil-made cardboard windows, celebrating light, warmth, and winter traditions at the Museum of Gloucester.

Free!



Lights, Feasts and Fire Trail
Tue 2 Dec - Sun 4 Jan

A festive museum trail exploring global winter traditions through creative challenges, stories, and seasonal fun for all ages.

£2 per trail



Cracker Creations
Sat 20 Dec, 10am - 1pm

A festive kids' workshop where young makers craft unique, eco-friendly Christmas crackers filled with surprises and seasonal creativity.

£3.50 per child - adults go free!

M MUSEUM OF GLOUCESTER

Scan me for more info!



What's On This Festive Season!

Lights, Feasts and Fire Trail
Tue 2 Dec - Sun 4 Jan

A festive museum trail exploring global winter traditions through creative challenges, stories, and seasonal fun for all ages.

£2 per trail

Winter Windows
Tue 2 Dec - Sun 4 Jan

A magical Christmas display of over 1,000 pupil-made cardboard windows, celebrating light, warmth, and winter traditions at the Museum of Gloucester.

Free!

For parents only!

Art After Hours: Retro Christmas Decorations
Fri 5 Dec, 6pm-7pm

Adults-only workshop to craft vintage-style Christmas ornaments with a nostalgic twist.

£12 per person - hot drink included with ticket price!

Make Your Mark
On until Sun 7 Dec

Help create a bold, collaborative tape artwork in the Museum of Gloucester's gallery - a free, evolving installation celebrating creativity and community.

Free - donations welcome

Ghosts & Giggles: Family Tour of Haunted Gloucester
Fri 12 Dec, 5pm-7pm

A family-friendly ghost tour uncovering Gloucester's haunted history, from museum mysteries to eerie ruins and hidden halls.

Child: £10 | Adult: £15

Brick Builders Club: Christmas Building!
Sat 13 Dec, 10am-1pm

Drop-in LEGO sessions for kids aged 5+. No rules, just brick-tastic fun!

£3 per child - adults go free!

Medieval Mercenary Tour of Eastgate Chamber
Sat 13 Dec & Wed 31 Dec, 2pm-3pm

Join Sir Miles for an underground tour of the Eastgate chamber, uncovering its history, myths, and medieval superstitions.

Adult: £7.50 | Child: £5 | Family: £25

Cracker Creations
Sat 20 Dec, 10am-1pm

A festive kids' workshop where young makers craft unique, eco-friendly Christmas crackers filled with surprises and seasonal creativity.

£3.50 per child - adults go free!

Glorious Glevum Tour
Tue 30 Dec, 2pm-3pm

Explore Roman Glevum with Lucius Sita, a guided tour revealing the city's history, hidden treasures, and life as an auxiliary soldier.

Adult: £7.50 | Child: £5 | Family: £25

M MUSEUM OF GLOUCESTER

Scan me for more info!



JET AGE MUSEUM

PROUDLY PRESENTS



JUNIOR PILOTS WANTED DAY

THURSDAY 1 JANUARY 2026 10.00AM - 4.00PM

FEATURING

THE DAVE PARTRIDGE RE ENACTOR PILOTS
WITH ALL THE KIT YOU NEED TO BE AN AVIATOR

OPEN COCKPITS FOR ALL AGES

CARRIER DECK LANDING GAME

PAPER AEROPLANE MAKING

AVIATION QUIZ

COLOURING TABLES

AND MUCH MORE BESIDES

Meteor Business Park,
Cheltenham Road East,
Gloucester GL2 9QL.
Tel 01452 260078
www.jetagemuseum.org

NO ADMISSION CHARGE

WE THRIVE ON
DONATIONS

Christmas Tree Recycling

LONGFIELD
Community Hospice

In Partnership with Just Helping

Collections 10th -13th January
Registration Closes 6th January

JUST HELPING
Registered Charity No. 14885

Take the hassle out of disposing of your Christmas tree and have Longfield collect it for a voluntary donation. *

You will not only be helping reduce your carbon footprint but also supporting your community hospice providing Hospice at Home care and Wellbeing, Counselling and Bereavement Support for individuals facing a life-limiting condition.



*After costs, over 80% of monies raised will go to Longfield Community Hospice with around 13% going to Just Helping charity and over 5% to other local charities.

just-helping.org.uk/register-tree
Registered Charity Number 298627

Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR



St James' Church of England Junior School

School Term Dates & Holidays - 2025-26

SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER					
Monday	1	8	15	22	29	Monday	6	13	20	27	Monday	3	10	17	24
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30	Tuesday	7	14	21	28	Tuesday	4	11	18	25
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29	Wednesday	5	12	19	26
Thursday	4	11	18	25	Thursday	2	9	16	23	30	Thursday	6	13	20	27
Friday	5	12	19	26	Friday	3	10	17	24	31	Friday	7	14	21	28
Saturday	6	13	20	27	Saturday	4	11	18	25	Saturday	1	8	15	22	29
Sunday	7	14	21	28	Sunday	5	12	19	26	Sunday	2	9	16	23	30

DECEMBER					JANUARY					FEBRUARY					
Monday	1	8	15	22	29	Monday	5	12	19	26	Monday	2	9	16	23
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30	Tuesday	6	13	20	27	Tuesday	3	10	17	24
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	31	Wednesday	7	14	21	28	Wednesday	4	11	18	25
Thursday	4	11	18	25	Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	Thursday	5	12	19	26
Friday	5	12	19	26	Friday	2	9	16	23	30	Friday	6	13	20	27
Saturday	6	13	20	27	Saturday	3	10	17	24	31	Saturday	7	14	21	28
Sunday	7	14	21	28	Sunday	4	11	18	25	Sunday	1	8	15	22	

MARCH					APRIL					MAY						
Monday	2	9	16	23	30	Monday	6	13	20	27	Monday	4	11	18	25	
Tuesday	3	10	17	24	31	Tuesday	7	14	21	28	Tuesday	5	12	19	26	
Wednesday	4	11	18	25	Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29	Wednesday	6	13	20	27	
Thursday	5	12	19	26	Thursday	2	9	16	23	30	Thursday	7	14	21	28	
Friday	6	13	20	27	Friday	3	10	17	24	Friday	1	8	15	22	29	
Saturday	7	14	21	28	Saturday	4	11	18	25	Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	
Sunday	1	8	15	22	29	Sunday	5	12	19	26	Sunday	3	10	17	24	31

JUNE					JULY					AUGUST						
Monday	1	8	15	22	29	Monday	6	13	20	27	Monday	3	10	17	24	31
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30	Tuesday	7	14	21	28	Tuesday	4	11	18	25	
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29	Wednesday	5	12	19	26	
Thursday	4	11	18	25	Thursday	2	9	16	23	30	Thursday	6	13	20	27	
Friday	5	12	19	26	Friday	3	10	17	24	31	Friday	7	14	21	28	
Saturday	6	13	20	27	Saturday	4	11	18	25	Saturday	1	8	15	22	29	
Sunday	7	14	21	28	Sunday	5	12	19	26	Sunday	2	9	16	23	30	

Term Time	School Holidays	Bank Holidays	INSET Days (No children in school)
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Term Dates 2025-26

Term 1: Wednesday 3 September – Friday 24 October 2025

Term 2: Monday 3 November – Fri 19 December 2025

Term 3: Tuesday 6 January - Friday 13 February 2026

Term 4: Tuesday 24 February – Friday 27 March 2026

Term 5: Tuesday 14 April – Friday 22 May 2026

Term 6: Monday 1 June – Friday 17 July 2026

Bank Holidays 2025-26:

Christmas Bank Holidays Thursday 25 December 2025

Friday 26 December 2025

New Year Bank Holiday

Thursday 1 January 2025

Good Friday

Friday 3 April 2026

Easter Monday

Monday 6 April 2026

Early May Bank Holiday

Monday 4 May 2026

Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 25 May 2026

Summer Bank Holiday

Monday 31 August 2026

INSET Days: Monday 1 & Tuesday 2 September 2025, Monday 5 January 2026, Monday 23 February and Monday 20 July