

St James' Church of England Junior School



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Newsletter

28 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 5B who won the weekly attendance award with 95.3% and 4A who were runners-up again with 93.1%. 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 Nov to Tuesday 2 Dec	Book Fair after school
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 (Packed lunches) Swimming for Year 6
Tuesday 16 December	9.00 am Christmas Carols at St James' (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)

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!

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.

Raffle

Children have been given an envelope containing a book of raffle tickets. Please send back into school, in the envelope provided (sealed) with all completed raffle ticket stubs (keep tickets yourself) and the cash 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.

Please remember to bring lots of change on the day!

PLEASE SELL AS MANY RAFFLE TICKETS 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

Football Tournament at Oxstalls



On Tuesday, a group of our boys took part in a football competition at Oxstalls Sports Park, and Mrs Gardiner and Mr Matthews could not be prouder of them. For many of the players, it was their first time representing the school in a competitive match, and they rose to the challenge brilliantly. The team never stopped battling, showed fantastic teamwork, and kept their spirits high throughout the afternoon. We drew with **Hunts Grove** and narrowly lost to **Brockworth, Finlay, St Paul's** and **Heron**. Although the results didn't quite go our way, every player gave 100% effort and should feel extremely proud of themselves. They played with determination, resilience, and a great attitude, and they all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Well done, boys!

Morrisons - Metz Way

Santa's Grotto & Christmas Stalls

Come and see Santa! Every child will receive a gift from Santa!

Only £2.50 per child

Saturday 6th December - 10am - 2pm

Sunday 7th December - 11am - 3pm



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

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 children are available in the office. The school office is open from 8.30 am – 3.30 pm.

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!

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

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. 14886



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)											

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 2026
- 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