

St James' Church of England Junior School



Upton Street, Gloucester GL1 4JU
Telephone: (01452) 520714
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Website: www.st-james-junior.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs E Gardiner



Newsletter



12 December 2025

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

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](#).

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
<i>Monday 29 December – Friday 2 January – Christmas Holidays</i>		
Monday 5 January 2026		INSET Day (No children in school)
Tuesday 6 January		Start of Term 3

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.**

Illness in Schools

[Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Seven steps to healthier schools and higher school attendance – The Education Hub](#)

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

DGAT Advent Calendar – look at our amazing video!

https://www.canva.com/design/DAG1rdpHVPk/sdy0ARwyhkH8mqKQH7fIFg/view?utm_content=DAG1rdpHVPk&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=viewer (Opens in Youtube)

To view St James' video only – look [here](#).

Please find above the link to the DGAT Advent calendar. Children in school will be opening a new door each day. The children then see they are part of something bigger.



Christmas Fair – this 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 by Tuesday! Thanks!

Raffle

All the children will have brought home 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. Each ticket is 50p and the whole book of 5 tickets is £2.50. Extra tickets are available from the office and will be available at the Christmas Fair on Wednesday 17 December. If you cannot sell the tickets, please bring them back into school for us to sell. The raffle will be drawn at the end of the Christmas Fair.

Bottle Tombola/Book/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/Book Tombola. If you haven't, please bring in by Tuesday.

Please remember to bring lots of change on the day!

PLEASE SELL AS MANY RAFFLE TICKETS AS YOU CAN TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS. THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE UNTIL THE DAY OF THE CHRISTMAS FAIR FROM THE OFFICE.

PRIZES: KINDLE, AMAZON VOUCHER, BEAUTY VOUCHER, TOY VOUCHERS, HAMPERS, HOLIDAY CLUB VOUCHERS, 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.



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

This Christmas, St James Church, Upton Street invites you to discover JOY!

Sunday 14th December 6pm Carols by Candlelight

Monday 15th December 7pm Christmas Big Band Jazz at St. James

Saturday 20th December 4pm Farmyard Carols

Sunday 21st December 11am Crib Service

Tuesday 23rd December 5pm Christmas Family Film

Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 10.30am Celebrate Christmas Day!

Everyone is Welcome, with any faith or none

More Information: Rev Steve on 07503164309 or
vicar@stjamesandchristchurch.uk or visit
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14154/>

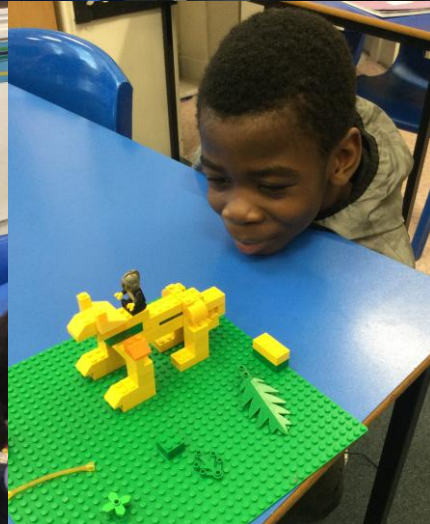


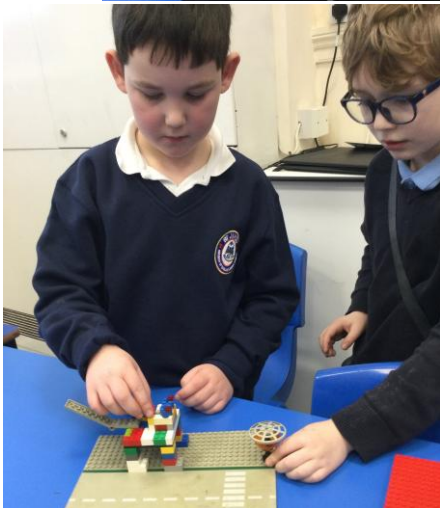
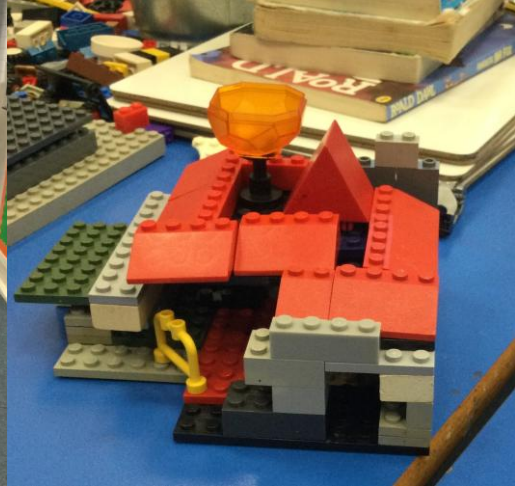
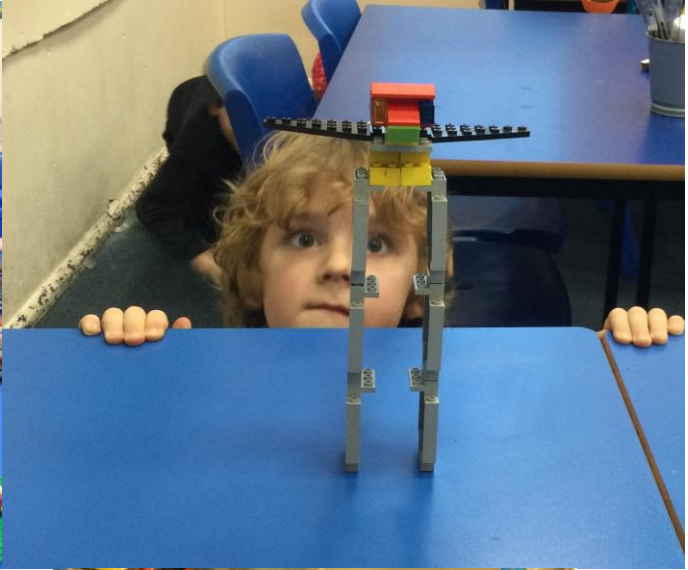
Year 4B Assembly

4B did a wonderful rendition of the Good Samaritan.



Lego Club







Read With Me: Pop Up Panto - HAF & HAP – Gloucester
28 December – St James’ Church – 11.00 am – 4.00 pm
SIGN UP BELOW!

Event Information

Age Range: Whole Family Type of Event: Everyone Welcome Event Type: Indoor
Food Provision: Meal and Snacks Provided SEND Friendly: Yes

Booking & Ticket Instructions One ticket = One Child Place

Activity Summary - The Read With Me Pop Up Panto is returning this December! 🎭 This FREE half-day event is suitable for children of all ages, and everyone can get involved - whether it's making tickets, playing a starring role or shaking a tambourine. The day will end with a final performance of our very own panto!

***Please note that parents are required to stay and children must not be left unattended.**

Food Provision - All food provided will meet School Food Standards, offering a balanced meal with starchy carbohydrates, fruit or vegetables, and a healthy drink. Meal provided: Self-serve breakfast available. Hot meal and cold meal options available for lunch. Dietary options available: Vegetarian, Vegan and Halal For more information, please contact us via the email link on the activity page.

Accessibility & SEND Support

We make reasonable adjustments to support children and young people with SEND. Venue accessibility: Wheelchair accessible and accessible toilets available

Support available: Quiet space available

Families are encouraged to complete the All About Me form (link in next section) to help us support their child. You can also contact us directly with any specific questions.

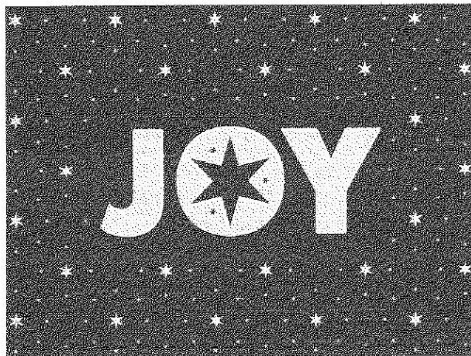
Supporting Your Child's Needs

We want every child to have a safe, fun, and inclusive experience at our HAF activities. Some children may have additional needs, diagnosed or not, and we know every child is unique.

To help us support your child in the best way possible, please complete the forms below:

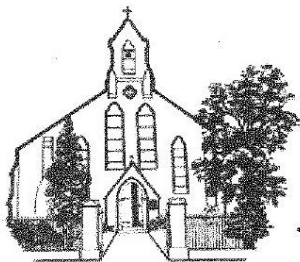
All About Me form: <https://forms.gloucestershire.gov.uk/AllAboutMe>

St James Church wishes you



this Christmas

All events are FREE



Christmas for Children and Families

**Sunday 30th Nov, 7th, 14th, 21st December
11am**

Church Services in Advent!

Each week we light our Advent Candles and countdown to Christmas with special activities for children

Sunday 14th December 6pm

Carols by Candlelight

A very beautiful time to hear the Christmas story and sing favourite carols, all lit by hundreds of candles. A wonderful experience

Tuesday 16th December 9am

SJJS Christmas Carol Service

St James Junior School come to celebrate Christmas by singing much loved carols

Saturday 20th December 4pm

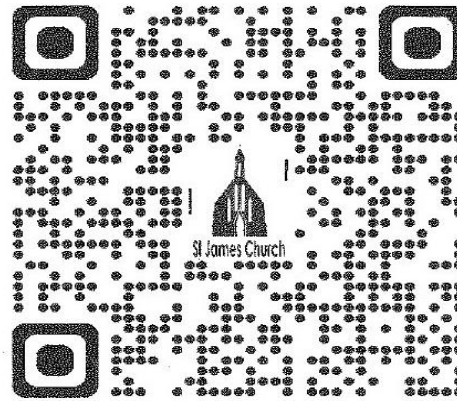
Farmyard Carols

Come and sing carols by candlelight with the Sheep, goats, pigs and other animals at *St James Farm*

Tuesday 23rd December 5pm

Christmas Family Film

Come and watch a classic Christmas film at St. James. Hot dogs and drinks from 5, the film at 5.30.
(Book for free on Gloucester HAF website)



For further information contact

office@stjamesandchristchurch.uk

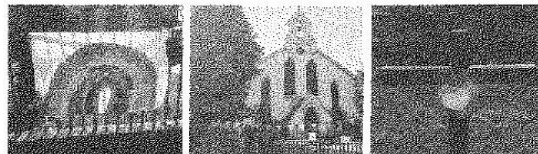
Or contact Rev Steve on 07503164309

Visit:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14154/>

Parish Safeguarding Lead: Sandie Reeves

sandie.reeves@stjamesandchristchurch.uk



THE PARISH OF
ST JAMES & ALL SAINTS & CHRIST CHURCH
KEEPING FAITH - JOURNEYING IN HOPE - SERVING WITH LOVE

office@stjamesandchristchurch.uk
www.stjamesandchristchurch.uk

[@STJAMESCHURCH](#)

Christmas Eve 4pm

Crib Service

Christmas begins in a magical candlelit celebration for all ages at the Crib with Joseph, Mary, and Jesus

Christmas Day 10.30am

Church Service to celebrate Christmas Day!

Come and celebrate the joy of Christmas morning at St. James Church. Coffee and cake before and after. The service will last about 45 minutes.

Sunday 28th December 10am - 4pm

Church Service 10am followed

Create and Star in a Pantomime 11am
Come and join the team from the Holiday Activities and Food programme to put on your own Pantomime!
(Book for free on Gloucester HAF website)

Sunday 4th January 11am

Church Service to Welcome the Wise Men
Come and celebrate the arrival of the wise men at the Crib.

Tuesday 13th January 9am

SJJS Christingle Service

St James Junior School come to celebrate the light in the world with a special Christingle Service

More Christmas events

As well as everything mentioned, these events are perhaps more for those between 11 and 100.

Wednesday 3rd December 1pm

Decorate the Church!

Come and have coffee and cake with a friendly bunch as we decorate the church and tree ready for all the Christmas Season

Wed 3rd, 10th, and 17th December

4.30-6.30pm

Soup 4.30 - 5pm

Followed by...

Advent Reflection Group 5-6pm

A chance to reflect on the themes of hope, joy, peace, and love through music and conversation as we anticipate and wait for the coming of Christ into the world

Followed by...

Advent Evening Prayer 6-6.30pm

A quiet end to the day with a simple, spoken service of evening prayer

Monday 15th December 7pm

Christmas Big Band Jazz at St. James

A festive musical feast of Big Band Jazz.

Donations on the door for charity.

THE VENTURE AND ST JAMES' CHURCH
ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME YOU TO THIS YEAR'S EVENT

CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

Grab your blankets and cozy up for a magical evening of holiday cheer! Join us for a special Christmas Movie Night filled with fun, laughter, and festive vibes watching **Home Alone**.



Tuesday 23rd Dec
Doors open at 5:00 PM



St James' Church
Upton Street

*OFFERING HOT DOGS, DRINKS, AND POPCORN
BEFORE 5:30pm SHOWING*

[Click here](#) OR scan QR code to book

Funded by Together Gloucester





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

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

JUST BRING:

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



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



JustCamps have kindly donated a place at one of their Camps for our raffle
(to be taken up to February half-term)

Camp dates at Sir Thomas Rich's School are:

- 22nd/23rd December
- 2nd January

We offer half, full day (0900-15.30) and extended days (0800 – 1730) across all camp dates.

We are also offering a **20% discount on all places booked before 5pm FRIDAY 5th DECEMBER.**

We will be playing our usual mix of games and sports from Basketball to Football, Cricket to Rounders, Dodgeball to Nerf Wars and lot of fun Christmas themed activities, arts and crafts as well.

Here is the booking link: <https://www.justcamps.co.uk/register/>



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 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