



St James' Church of England Junior School

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Newsletter

23 January 2026

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 4A who won the weekly attendance award with 97.6% and 5A who were runners-up again with 96%. 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 29 January	CANCELLED - Swimming for Year 3 (Hopefully will be re-arranged)
Friday 30 January	CANCELLED - Swimming for Year 4 (Hopefully will be re-arranged)
Thursday 5 February	Swimming for Year 3 Cake Sale after school – Please bring in donations from Monday
Thursday 12 February	Year 6 NHS National Child Measurement Programme
Friday 13 February	Swimming for Year 4 End of Term 3 at 3.20 pm
Monday 16-Friday 20 February - February Half-term	
Monday 23 February	INSET Day (No children in school)
Tuesday 24 February	Start of Term 4

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.**

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.

Head lice outbreak at school – please visit [Let's fight headlice together - Once a week take a peek](#)

Coughs & Colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. **Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly, at home and at school.**

Sickness & Diarrhoea

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they shouldn't come into school until 48 hours after their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

Chicken Pox & other infectious diseases

If you think your child has Chicken pox or any other infectious disease, please do not bring them into school and let us know asap. If you do not know what the rash is, please see a pharmacist.

Swimming for Year 3 and Year 4 – Please pay £2.50 every week unless it has been paid for in full. Swimming is a part of the curriculum.

Got a question? Need to know something?

Term Dates ● PE Days ● School Calendar

Please look at our website first before ringing us – www.st-james-junior.co.uk

HAF Holiday Voucher Scheme

Applications for **holiday FSM vouchers** for the February half-term 2026 will be open from midday 19 January until midday on 26 January. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing 9 February. Families should check their junk/spam folders during this period. If parents have not received their vouchers by 16 February, please encourage them to submit a query via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#)

This February half-term, 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 for one week.**

To find out more about the scheme and to apply, visit 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 February half-term 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.

Please note we check eligibility for the scheme by cross-referencing with the term-time free school meal register, so please make sure parents are registered beforehand. *They can* register by visiting the [apply for free school meals](#) page. If your school does not currently use this method, we will require confirmation from the relevant school for the child's eligibility for Free School Meals. You can find more information on what schools these are on the link above.

Using vouchers – vouchers will only be awarded once the parent has registered for the scheme and cannot be backdated. Vouchers should be used in the holiday period in which they are awarded. If vouchers are not claimed and have expired, they cannot be re-issued. Vouchers not received should be queried via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) by the end of the holiday period.

For any parents wishing to update details of an existing application, please submit an update existing details request via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) so we can update details.

Gloucestershire County Council is offering Bikeability courses during all 2026 school holidays. These courses are designed for children aged 9–14 and help build cycling confidence and safety skills in small groups with qualified instructors.

2026 Course Locations & Dates:

- Summer Holidays: Skillzone (2 sessions available)
- October Half-Term: Pineholt Village Hall

Course Details:

- Cost: £10 per course (2 x 2-hour sessions)
- Bikes: Available subject to availability
- Booking: <https://forms.office.com/e/vBSvziEEBk>



St James' C of E Junior School



CAKE SALE

Thursday 5 February

3.20 pm

Please bring lots of change!

Cake donations from **Monday 2 February** please.




Five Rivers Fostering

We are looking for Foster Carers in Gloucestershire & surrounding areas

If you are interested in a life-changing vocation and can provide a safe, loving home to a child in care, we'd love to hear from you.

0333 0603 962 | five-rivers.org/fostering

Join a local Social Enterprise and a community of foster carers providing long and short-term care for children. Round the clock support and specialist training. Potential to combine with full or part-time work. Highly competitive fostering allowance of up to £28,000 a year, tax-free.



Foster with us
Foster carers turn children's lives around

READ AND SIGN UP BEFORE SKATING →




FAMILY FRIENDLY ROLLER DISCO

FRIDAY 30TH JAN '26
GLI LEISURE CENTRE
GL1 1DT

ADULT £8
KIDS £4
SKATE HIRE £2

6-8PM

LIMITED SKATE HIRE AVAILABLE

SUPPORTED BY



@CITYSKATE
@CITYSKATEUK
CITYSKATEUK@GMAIL.COM

PUNCTUALITY MATTERS

IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR

5 MINUTES
late each day

= **3** days off in total





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