



St James' Church of England Junior School

Upton Street, Gloucester GL1 4JU
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Email: admin@sjjs.dgat.org.uk
Website: www.st-james-junior.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs E Gardiner



Newsletter

27 February 2026

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

Congratulations to our:

Values Cup Winners



Good Work Winners



Congratulations to 3A who won this week's attendance award with 98% and 5B who were runners-up with 97.8%. 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 5 March | World Book Day Non-Uniform Day - Come dressed as your favourite book character! (No charge) World Book Day – Change to normal menu (see page 4) Swimming for Year 3 |
| Friday 6 March | Swimming for Year 4 |
| Thursday 12 March | Swimming for Year 3 |
| Friday 13 March | Swimming for Year 4 |
| Thursday 19 March | Swimming for Year 3 |
| Friday 20 March | Comic Relief Non-uniform Day - £1 donation Swimming for Year 4 |
| Wednesday 25 March | Parents' Evening – 2.30-7.00 pm |
| Thursday 26 March | Swimming for Year 3 |
| Friday 27 March | End of Term 4 at 1.30 pm/No swimming for Year 4 |
| <i>Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April Easter Holidays</i> | |
| Monday 13 April | Start of Term 5 |

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 8.15-8.30 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 make an appointment for your child at the beginning of the day, please inform the school.

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.**

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

We're using the Arbor Parent App!



See and manage your child's day-to-day school information. Understand their progress, make payments and bookings, and receive in-app messages - all from one app



Log in in seconds with Face ID

Receive in-app messages and reminders on your phone

Make payments, sign up for clubs, and book parents evenings

See your child's progress, attendance, behaviour points, report cards and more

Check your child's calendar, it's always up-to-date

Scan the QR code to download the Arbor Parent App, and use your email address to log in



IMPORTANT – All parents need to sign up to receive notifications from school as T2P is no longer used! 35% have signed up so far. Please sign up over this weekend.

A letter was sent to parents/carers in February explaining the new Arbor Parent App and Parent Portal. If you have not received it, please look in your junk/spam folder or look on our website under Parental Communication. An email was then sent on Monday 9 February enabling you to sign up. If you have any problems, look on our website or contact Mrs Hayward in the office.

All parental communications will now be through the Parent Portal/Parent App or via the school email system. All payments for swimming, trips and residential will also eventually be through the Parent Portal as we become a cashless school.

Parentpay will still be used for paying for school lunches.

If you are a parent/carer and have not received a log in request for Arbor's Parent Portal, please email admin@sjjs.dgat.org.uk and we will send you the details.

Easter Colouring Competition Easter Colouring Competition Easter Colouring Competition

Children will be given an Easter Egg sheet to colour in next week. £1 to enter. Prizes for winners in year groups. Return completed sheets to school by **Monday 23 March**.



Free 11+ preparation and KS2 learning + Grammar Test

[St James' Church of England Junior School - Free 11+ preparation and KS2 learning + Grammar Test](#)

We work in partnership with [Atom Learning](#), the leading online Key Stage 2 learning and 11+ preparation platform, to provide children in Years 3-6 who are eligible for Pupil Premium with free Atom Home accounts. Atom Home is normally £575.90 per year.

Atom Home provides Key Stage 2 learning resources, helping children build exam technique, subject mastery and academic confidence.

If your child is aged between 7-11 and has been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years (please check with the school office if you are not sure), please fill in the form by clicking the button below.

[<<Access free 11+ preparation and KS2 learning>>](#)

For other families, there is a five-day free trial of Atom available: <https://atomlearning.com/11-plus>

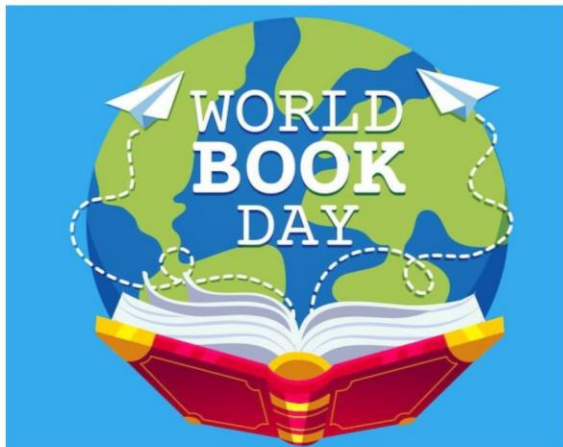
Free 11+ preparation and KS2 support
St James CofE Junior School & Atom Learning

Trustpilot ★★★★★

World Book Day – Thursday 5 March

Children can come dressed as their favourite Book Character. No cost. There will also be a change to the menu on that day (see below).

WORLD
BOOK
DAY



THURSDAY 5 MARCH
**COME DRESSED AS YOUR
FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTER!**



WORLD BOOK DAY

MATILDA'S MARVELOUS MEATBALLS
WITH SPAGHETTI

JACK AND THE BEAN STALK FIVE BEAN
CHILLI WITH RICE

GANGSTER GRANNY'S GABBAGE
PETER RABBITS CARROTS

MR JELLY'S STRAWBERRY JELLY WITH
JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH PEACHES

caterlink
feeding the imagination

Hi there.
Come say hello!



My name is Harriet, I'm the neighbourhood connector for Barton & Tredworth. I want to work with residents, groups and organisations to make our community an exciting, supportive place to live.

Fairshares is a community project that uses two-way volunteering to reward people for the time they put into their neighbourhood.

Do you want to connect with your neighbours?

Do you have an idea for a new group, activity or project?

Questions?

Get in touch!

Harriet Hughes
Harriet@fairshares.org.uk
M: 07883 781796
T: 01452415900

Fair Shares
community time banks

Gloucestershire
Gateway
Trust

Fair Shares
community time banks

city farm coffee club

Come along for a hot drink and afterschool activities!

Every
Wednesday

St James City Farm,
23 Albany St,
Gloucester GL1 4NG

From 3PM-5PM

Free hot drinks and snacks provided
New people welcomed, no need to book!

Message Harriet for more information:
07883 781796



**Show your heart
some love this February**



It's National Heart Health Month and we're here to help you and your family take gentle, everyday steps to look after your hearts together. Little changes to what you eat and how you move as a family can make a big difference. Here's some simple, fun tips to help everyone get involved.

Activity 1:

Move a little together, every day

Whether it's a mini dance off in the kitchen or a short family walk, small bursts of movement will keep everyone's hearts happy.



Activity 2:

Fill your plates with colourful foods

Boost meals with colourful fruit, veggies and wholegrains to grab kids attention.



Activity 3:

Get kids involved in the kitchen

Let them wash veggies, pick toppings or help stir. It makes healthy eating fun and helps them learn habits that stick.



Our free Beezee Families programme is here to help you feel healthier and happier as a family. Your heart works hard for you, so let's show it some love as a team!



Want more healthy lifestyle support?
Check out our website to find out how we can help your family.*

Scan here
or
Click the link



glo.maximusuk.co.uk

*Our courses are designed for families with children aged 5 and up.

26-5816

*Wartime Poetry
Competition!*



Do you see yourself as the next Ivor Gurney or F.W. Harvey?

In recognition of **World Poetry Day**, the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum will be running a poetry competition.

We need you to send in your best **Wartime Poetry!** This can be on any topic related to the Wars, from a Frontline or Home Front perspective. The winning poetry will be displayed in our museum galleries, so please feel free to get creative and decorate your entries too!

The poetry will be judged under 2 categories, **Key Stage 1** and **Key Stage 2**.

The prize for the winning entries will be:

- **1st place:** poetry displayed in the museum during easter holidays with 12 months free admission for 1 Adult and 1 child.
- **2nd place:** poetry displayed in the museum during easter holidays with 6 months free admission for 1 Adult and 1 child.
- **3rd place:** poetry displayed in the museum during easter holidays with 3 months free admission for 1 Adult and 1 child.

The **deadline** for all entries is the **18th March 2026**.

These can be sent in by post, or emailed to:

jade.smith@sogm.co.uk

Good Luck!



**Texting advice for parents
and carers of children
aged 5-19 years**

We can help with all kinds of things like:

- Behaviour support
- Sleep
- Bullying
- Healthy eating
- Bladder and Bowel needs (including toileting)
- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Any other health needs requiring support

Text ParentChat now on:

07312 263059



chathealth.nhs.uk/

Disclaimer:

We may inform someone if we are concerned about your safety, or that of your child, but would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare professionals, who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply within 48 hours. You should receive a message to confirm we have received your text. Texts will not be seen outside working hours. If you need support before hearing back from us, contact your GP, nearest walk-in centre or dial 111. If your child requires urgent medical support or attention, contact your nearest Accident and Emergency Department or call 999. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (this does not include messages from landlines, international mobile numbers, and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To stop receiving messages text 'STOP' to 07312 263059. Texts are charged at your usual standard network message rate.



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: Monday 13 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