St James' Church of England Junior School

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Website: www.st-james-junior.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs E Gardiner

Newsletter 6th November 2026

Our Value for the year is **Respect**

Congratulations to our:

Values Cup Winners



Good Work Winners



Congratulations to 6A who won this week's attendance with 96.25%. Well done

Got a question? Need to know something?

Term Dates ● PE Days ● School Calendar ● Parent Portal ● Communication

Year 5 trip to the Tower of London

We had a wonderful day visiting the Tower of London. The journey was long but the views as we travelled through London were amazing – Westminster Abbey, The Houses of Parliament, the River Thames and the many bridges that cross her and HMS Belfast. While in the Tower of London we saw the Crown Jewels, the ravens, the Beefeaters and the torture chambers. We also had a teaching session from 'Lady Katharine Grey' who told us what life would have been like for prisoners in the Tower of London.

The children were a credit to you and our school; we were very proud of their behaviour and respect.

Boys football Team match against Finlay

Boys' Football Match Report

Yesterday, the boys' football team played against a well-organised Finlay School side. It was a hard-fought match, with Finlay taking a 1-0 lead into half-time.

St James' defended brilliantly throughout the game and created several impressive attacking moves. Finlay came close to extending their lead on a number of occasions, hitting the post twice during the match.

Despite the boys' determination and effort, Finlay eventually secured a 4-0 victory.

Mrs Odurny and Mr Matthews were extremely proud of the way the boys conducted themselves. They showed excellent sportsmanship, never gave up when mistakes were made, and continued to work hard and give their very best right until the final whistle. Their resilience, teamwork and positive attitude were a credit to the school.



A huge well done to Yusuf in Y5 for winning the Gloucestershire Diocese Black History Month writing competition. He attended the awards' ceremony at St James Church on Thursday evening, where he was presented with his certificate by Bishop Rachel.

Congratulations to Linuki in Y6 who came 4th, and Laura in Y6 who came 2nd.

We are very proud of all of you!

School Hours from September 2026

8.00 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 8.00-8.30 am. **Children are expected to be punctual, but they should not arrive in school before 8.00 am when the gates open.**

Important information about free school meals eligibility

As of September 2026 the eligibility for free school meals and pupil premium has changed. We are guided as a school by the local authority with a list of pupils and the category they fall under. Please visit the below link with a detailed explanation of the changes and criteria. If you believe your child should fall under any of these, please apply of the relevant website and check your eligibility, The school are unable to do this on your behalf.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools-and-local-authorities/free-school-meals-guidance-for-local-authorities-local-authority-maintained-schools-academies-and-free-schools

Up-to-date Information in Arbor

Please check the details we have for you and your child as it is important that we have up-to-date contact information. Go to **View Student Profile** on your child's Arbor Parent Portal page. You can add and change information for your child and parents/carers, address etc.

working together | always improving | respectful and kind | making a difference

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

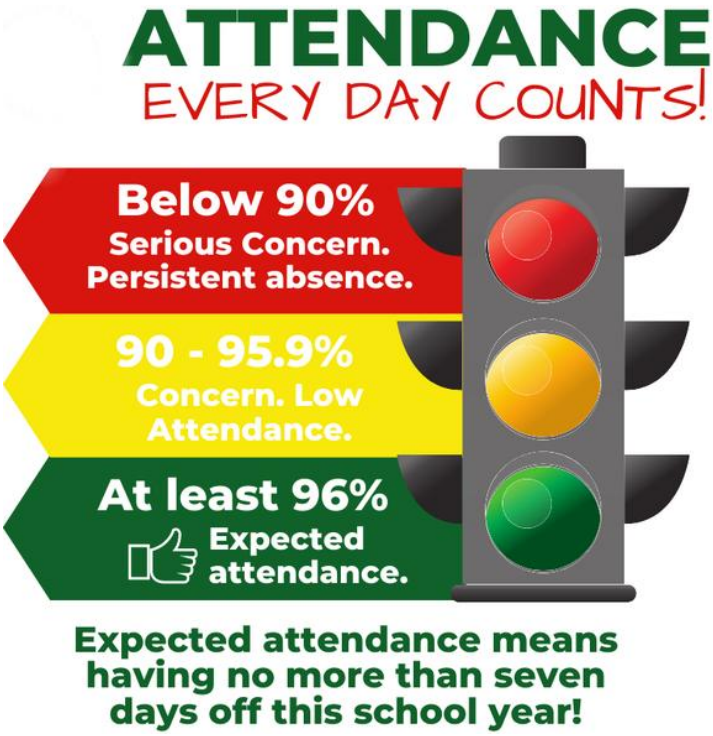
Take a look at the school calendar and term dates for 2026-27 and 2027-28 here.

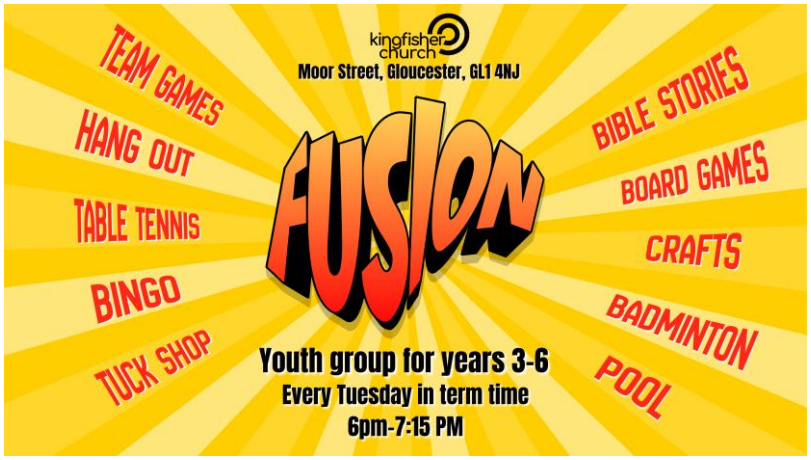
Wednesday 11th November – Remembrance Service in school (Just for the children)
Friday 13th November – Non School uniform for Children in Need. £1.00 donation
Wednesday 25th November – St James Choir singing at the Cathedral
Friday 27th and Monday 30th November - Book Fair after school
Tuesday 8th December – Y6 Ice skating trip
Wednesday 9th December – Year 5 and 6 Everyman Pantomime
Tuesday 15th December – School disco
Wednesday 16th December – School Christmas Dinner

Head Lice

We have been advised by some parents that they have discovered head lice on their children. Please check your children's hair for head lice. Please check your child's hair frequently as eggs hatch very quickly. Head lice are tiny insects that live in hair. Nits are the empty egg cases attached to hair that head lice hatch from. Head lice are a common problem, particularly in school children aged 4-11.

PGL for Year 6 – Please see the recent email we sent and information on our website: St James' Church of England Junior School - Year 6 PGL Residential 2027 Payment is now available via Parent Portal only.





Arbor Parent Portal

The Arbor Education online system is a data system that allows you to view your child's attendance, data information, register for clubs, pay for swimming, trips and buy ties, book bags and house t-shirts.

When your child starts at St James', you will receive a welcome email from Arbor. It is important when you receive the email that you activate your Arbor account via parent portal, as we will be sending you communications via Arbor.

The email will contain your login information to access Arbor, where you will be able to view your child's attendance data and the information we hold for you (eg: name, address, email, contact details).

Process

1. You will receive a 'welcome to Arbor' email from St James' Church of England Junior School
2. Within that email it will have a link to login. Click on **login**
3. The Arbor site will appear, input your email address and click **'forgot password'**
4. You will receive a password link sent by email from St James' Church of England Junior School (please check your junk/spam folder)
5. Using the username and password in the email, login to Arbor
6. Verify account
7. Enter the Date of birth of your child
8. Verify
9. Account verified - you will see your child's data! (see example below).

REMINDER – SJJS is a cashless school except for non-uniform days, charity collections and fundraising events. T-shirts, bags, ties, swimming and all trips need to be purchased via Parent Portal on Arbor. Please don't use Parentpay for anything but payment of lunches.

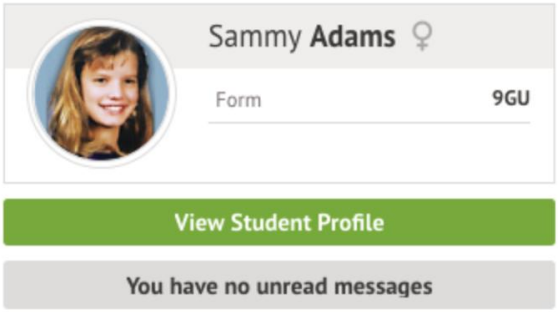
SWIMMING FOR YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6
You can pay in instalments or in one lump sum via the Arbor Parent Portal. You will be able to see how much you have paid and how much you owe. No cash payments will be accepted.

Once you have logged into Arbor, check the data information we hold for you is correct. You will be able to amend any information to update your contact details. You, as parent, have the facility to change data, you do not need to inform the school office if the data is incorrect.

Your Homepage Dashboard

The dashboard is the first screen that you will see. This gives a quick glance of the student's daily timetable, behaviour points, meals, notices, current attendance and progress.

You can see your in-app messages by clicking this button under your child's photo. (Photos added after being taken in school by school photographers).



You can return to this page at any time by clicking on the school's logo or choosing Dashboard from any menu. On the homepage you'll also see sections for:

- Statistics - This shows information about the student's attendance, behaviour and progress statistics for the current term.
- Accounts - The **Accounts** section loads the student's account balances. **Lunches will still be paid via Parentpay.**
- Trips - Sign your child up for trips.
- Clubs - Sign up to After School clubs.
- School Shop - Make purchases for items.

For further Information:

St James' Church of England Junior School - Parental Communication via Parent Portal and Parent App

When you have logged in please go to 'View Student Profile' to check all parent/carer/student details and go to 'Quick Actions' to pay for t-shirts, trips etc.

Beezee FAMILIES

Making healthy school lunches easy!

Helping children make healthier choices at school doesn't have to be complicated. A few simple changes can build healthy habits and help your children stay energised and ready to learn throughout the day. Here's a few tips to help you get started:

Tip 1:

Pack some healthy snacks

Including a healthy snack in your child's lunchbox, like a preferred fruit or plain popcorn, can help them stay energised throughout the school day and make nutritious choices easier.



Tip 2:

Know what options are available

Take a look at your child's school lunch menu together and talk about the healthier choices available. Exploring the options in advance can encourage children to try new foods and make balanced choices at lunchtime.



Tip 3:

Talk about healthy choices

School lunchtimes can be a great time to encourage independence and positive decision-making. Agree simple goals together and celebrate healthy choices throughout the week.



Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Scan here or Click to find out more

glo.maximusuk.co.uk

* Our courses are designed for families with children aged 4-12

DENMARK ROAD
HIGH SCHOOL

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS ABOUT THE FSCE ENTRANCE TEST FOR YEAR 7 ENTRY

The Gloucestershire Grammar Schools Entrance Test for entry into Year 7 in September 2028 will take place on **Saturday 3rd July 2027**. If your child is currently in Year 5 and wishes to apply for a place at a Gloucestershire Grammar School, they must take this test.

Registration will open on Monday 8th February 2027 (12 noon) and close on Friday 19th March 2027 (12 noon).

Following the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools announcement earlier this year the test provider will be Future Stories Community Enterprise (FSCE). **The admissions test will consist of three FSCE papers:**

- **Adventure Paper:** English and Maths, with Multiple Choice Answer options;
- **Beacon Paper:** English and Maths, where you respond with Short Written Answers;
- **Compass Paper:** any of the following subjects you learn at school: Art & Design, Computing, Design & Technology, English, Geography, History, Languages, Maths, Music, Physical Education, Science, with Multiple Choice Answer options.



Contact

Ms Sarah Graves, G7 Admissions Manager
Email: enquiries@glosgrammars.com
Denmark Road High School Admissions
Email: admissions@denmarkroad.org

About Denmark Road High School

Denmark Road High School is a girls' grammar school for students aged 11-18, located on Denmark Road, Gloucester.

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

WE'RE RAISING MONEY

WHAT

NON-UNIFORM DAY

WHEN

FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

£1 DONATION
Plus, items for sale in office from 9th November



BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

WE'RE RAISING MONEY

Pens - £1
Water bottles - £2
Bears - £3
Pudsey Ears - £2

For sale in the school office
From Monday 9th November

