



FRIDAY NEWS

13TH
MARCH
2026

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



SCHOOL DISCO SUCCESS!

This week, the school discos were fantastic events and a wonderful way for the children to celebrate and enjoy time together. The hall was full of energy, music and laughter as pupils from across the school showed off their best dance moves and enjoyed spending time with their friends.

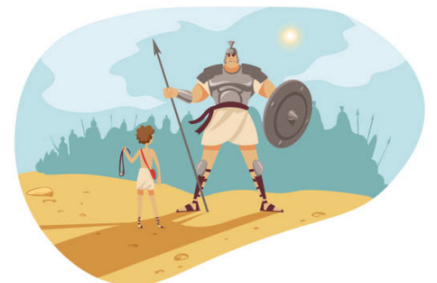
It was lovely to see so many smiling faces and such a positive atmosphere throughout both evenings. Events like this are always a highlight for the children and help to create special memories of their time at school.

A huge thank you goes to our parents and families for your continued support, and to the staff who manned the events to ensure that all had a good time. They even showed off their best Cha-Cha Slides and Mararena moves!

We are very grateful for the strong partnership we share with our families. Together, we continue to create opportunities that bring joy to our children and strengthen our school community.

STARS OF THE WEEK

- Class 1 - Reggie B
- Class 2 - Enoch O
- Class 3 - Jackson H
- Class 4 - Whole Class
- Class 5 - Emmanuel O
- Class 6 - India-Rae B
- Class 7 - Zaid ZA
- Class 8 - Michael M
- Class 9 - Grace M
- Class 10 - Skyler G
- Class 11 - Aziza L
- Class 12 - Danishl



VISION AWARD

- Class 1 - Ara A
- Class 2 - Momina F
- Class 3 - Khadeejah H
- Class 4 - Mahir Q
- Class 5 - Oscar H
- Class 6 - Eshaal M
- Class 7 - Zainab K
- Class 8 - Thomas W
- Class 9 - Willow C
- Class 10 - Maya B
- Class 11 - Seth R
- Class 12 - Felix A

"With God, there is no limit to what you can do. There is no obstacle you can't overcome. Through Him all things are possible."

(Matthew 19:26)

The logo for Comic Relief, featuring the words "COMIC RELIEF" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on a red rectangular background.

BREAK THE RULES DAY

On Friday 20th March, we will be having a 'Break The Rules' day to raise money for Comic Relief. For a small fee, children can break the following rules:

- Non-uniform - 50p
- Wild/coloured hair - 50p
- Fake nails / fake tattoos - 50p
- Jewellery - 50p
- Unhealthy snack - 50p

STAY & LEARN

Monday 23rd March - Class 6, 7 and 8 Stay & Learn at 9 am.

Monday 23rd March - Class 9, 10, 11 and 12 Stay & Learn at 2:30 pm.

Tuesday 24th March - Class 3, 4 and 5 Stay & Learn at 9 am.

Tuesday 24th March - Class 6, 7, and 8 Stay & Learn at 2:30 pm.

Wednesday 25th March - Class 9, 10, 11 and 12 Stay & Learn at 9 am.

Wednesday 25th March - Class 3, 4, and 5 Stay & Learn at 2:30 pm.



EGG DECORATING COMPETITION

We are excited to announce our Egg Decorating Competition!

Children are invited to decorate eggs and create a scene or display using them. You might make a character, a story scene, a garden, a sports theme, or anything else you can imagine!

Competition Rules:

- Your creation must fit inside a shoebox-sized space.
- You can use one or more eggs in your design.
- Eggs can be hard-boiled or artificial.
- Please make sure your name and class are clearly labelled on your entry.

Be as creative as you like — the more imaginative, the better!

There will be prizes for the most creative entries, and all designs will be displayed in school for everyone to enjoy.

Bring your entries into school by Thursday 2nd April.

We can't wait to see all your egg-cellent creations!



Proud Post

Thank you so much for sharing your Proud Post with school. The children loved receiving these. Here are a few:

*To Ashton, I am so proud of how settled you are coming into Class 10. I am proud of how you always join in class discussions and take on tricky challenges. Well done -
From Miss Casserley.*

*To Jacob, Good job on getting Special Person of the Week. Good job and keep it up.
From Imogen L.*

To Joey, you read really well today. Great sounding out. From Miss Symonds.

To Mrs Farnworth, I'm proud of you because you work very hard, and I hope you stay at our school. From Ellie-Rose.

*To Tallulah, I am proud of you for always following the St James Way and being a role model in school. I am also proud of your writing and your fantastic ideas. From
Miss Casserley.*

To Miss Clarke, Miss Young & Miss P, Thank you for making all of our children feel included and seen in school. From Mr Booth.

Coming Up

Wednesday 18th March - Class 3 worship at 2:45 pm.

Monday 23rd March - Class 6, 7 and 8 Stay & Learn at 9 am.

Monday 23rd March - Class 9, 10, 11 and 12 Stay & Learn at 2:30 pm.

Tuesday 24th March - Class 3, 4 and 5 Stay & Learn at 9 am.

Tuesday 24th March - Class 6, 7, and 8 Stay & Learn at 2:30 pm.

Wednesday 25th March - Class 9, 10, 11 and 12 Stay & Learn at 9 am.

Wednesday 25th March - Class 3, 4, and 5 Stay & Learn at 2:30 pm.

Friday 27th March - Non-uniform day for Easter egg/chocolate donations.

Tuesday 31st March - Reception Stay & Play at 2:00 pm.

Wednesday 1st April - Class 8 worship (Easter) at 2:45 pm.

Thursday 2nd April - Easter Super Learning Day

Thursday 2nd April - School Closes for Easter (2 weeks).

Monday 20th April - School re-opens at 8:40 am.

Gold Scroll

India B

Ayokunmi O

Zainab K

Sybil N

Michael Mc

River-Lea G

Laylend G

Sally-Ray G

Isaac Wa

Madison R

Bobbi-Raye B

Renesmae S

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GENERATIVE AI SAFETY

Generative AI tools – such as ChatGPT – are now commonly used by children. In fact, 3 in 4 pupils in the 2024 Annual Literacy Survey reported using generative AI, up from just 2 in 5 the previous year. While these tools can boost learning and creativity, they also raise concerns around misinformation, privacy and overuse. This guide explores the key risks and how to support safe use.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MISINFORMATION AND ACCURACY



Generative AI can sometimes produce false or misleading content. Children – and even adults – may assume the information is accurate and trustworthy. This can affect learning and understanding of important topics. It's vital to teach children to critically assess all information, even when it comes from AI.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Because generative AI is trained on vast datasets from across the internet, there is a chance it may occasionally generate harmful or inappropriate content. Without supervision, children could encounter disturbing or unsuitable material. Active monitoring and clear usage boundaries can help reduce this risk.

PRIVACY AND DATA SECURITY

Some AI tools ask for personal details or store users' interactions. If privacy settings are not correctly configured, children's personal data could be exposed or misused. Teaching good digital hygiene and setting strong privacy controls is essential for protecting children online.

REDUCED CRITICAL THINKING



Relying too heavily on AI-generated responses may reduce children's willingness to think independently. If they consistently use AI to solve problems or complete tasks, it could impact their ability to reason, analyse and form their own ideas. Encouraging thoughtful reflection is key.

DIGITAL DEPENDENCY

Regular use of generative AI can contribute to increased screen time and less real-world interaction. If left unmanaged, it may affect physical activity levels, sleep, and social development. Striking a healthy balance between online and offline activities is important for wellbeing.

UNCLEAR ETHICAL BOUNDARIES

Children may not fully understand the ethical implications of using AI to complete homework or creative tasks. This can lead to unintentional plagiarism or dishonest academic practices. Conversations around responsible use and academic honesty are crucial.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ESTABLISH CLEAR GUIDELINES

Set clear, age-appropriate rules for when and how generative AI can be used. Reinforce these regularly to help children develop a healthy, respectful and informed relationship with the technology.



ENCOURAGE CRITICAL EVALUATION

Help children to question the accuracy of AI-generated information and seek out additional trusted sources. This builds essential digital literacy skills and supports better decision-making.



PROMOTE ACTIVE SUPERVISION

Keep an eye on how the children in your care use AI tools. Check in regularly to ensure they're using them appropriately and be ready to step in if something doesn't feel right.



ENHANCE PRIVACY AWARENESS

Talk to children about the importance of keeping personal information private. Make sure privacy settings are in place and explain how data shared with AI tools could be used.



Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keefe, Deputy Headmaster and Director of Digital Strategy at Eaton House Schools, has extensive expertise in digital safety, safeguarding, and generative AI in education. As an author and speaker on digital literacy and online safety for institutions such as The National College, Brendan guides parents and educators in creating safe digital learning environments.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College