



ST JAMES
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

DREAM • BELIEVE • LEARN • ACHIEVE

Principal: Lisa Belfield
Executive Principal: Jill Pilling

St James C.E Primary School
Hillside Avenue, Farnworth, Bolton, BL4 9QB

Tel: 01204 572587

Email: office@st-james-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk

www.st-james-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk

Friday 1st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you are in good health and good spirits under the current circumstances. I thought I would write to you all with a few updates and reminders.

Home Schooling

Thank you so much for those of you who are helping and encouraging your child to work from home. Teachers are continuing to set online work through the Edmodo online platform for KS1 and 2 and Tapestry for those in the Early Years. Teachers have been making phone calls to parents to check how you are getting on with the online learning. We are happy to make work packs for those parents who are unable to access the internet; these can be collected from school. Please request these work packs when your child's class teacher contacts you, or ring the school office.

As a school, we do feel that emotional well-being is the priority for everyone at this moment. As much as we are encouraging you to engage your child in home schooling, as this is important, we appreciate there may be days and times when other matters are more pressing for you and your family. We simply ask that you do your best, as that is all any of us can do at this time.

You might want to find your own resources online and BBC Bitesize and the Oak National Academy are providing learning opportunities for children. There are also plenty of things that you can do to help your child learn at home that doesn't involve the internet – and these are just as important! Some suggestions include playing board games, drawing, baking, singing together, dancing, use recycling materials to make a model, make paper aero planes and see how far you can throw them, make some natural art using sticks and flowers you might find in your garden or on a walk, make a den using dining chairs and bedsheets, complete jigsaws and most importantly read books! We are offering free books outside of school, twice a week weather dependent, if you want to collect one if you walk past us.

If you are engaging in online learning, please ensure you and your child adhere to online safety. We will be posting some online resources soon to provide advice for you. In the meantime, you can visit the following websites for help: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers> and <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Free School Meals Vouchers

Can I please send a huge thank you to those parents, who are eligible for vouchers, for your patience and understanding in what has been a national back log in the online service. The system seems to be getting on top of the demand for vouchers but can still take a while to complete orders from school and parents.

We are aiming to send voucher codes to parents on Mondays, but we can't guarantee this date will be met. Can I assure you this is not school's fault and we continue to work very hard to make sure our orders are uploaded in plenty of time for Edenred to complete them. From this week, we will be sending double the monetary value of vouchers to last parents two weeks (e.g. if you have 1 child you will be sent a code for £30 instead of £15). We hope this means you will only have to visit the freeschoolmeals.co.uk website once a fortnight to redeem your codes.

Please ring school at any point if you are struggling to redeem your codes. We will do our very best to address this for you.



ST JAMES
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

DREAM • BELIEVE • LEARN • ACHIEVE

Principal: Lisa Belfield
Executive Principal: Jill Pilling

St James C.E Primary School
Hillside Avenue, Farnworth, Bolton, BL4 9QB

Tel: 01204 572587

Email: office@st-james-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk

www.st-james-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk

Reopening of Schools

I am sure you have heard in the press stories of when schools may or may not reopen. At this present time, we do not know this information. We are hopeful that the government will give us plenty of time to plan so that we can keep parents well informed. We do miss you all very much and continue to look forward to seeing you all again soon, in whatever capacity that might look like!

Please take care of yourselves and remember that school is still open if you need us – for anything. You can contact us by telephone on 01204 572587 or via email at office@st-james-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk. Please make sure we have your most up to date contact details too. Also, continue to follow us on Facebook so that we can all keep in touch.

VE Day

This Friday is a Bank Holiday so that we can celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. School will be fully closed this day. However, please take photographs of what you and your children are doing to celebrate and send them to our Facebook page @stjamesfarnworth and we will post them. You might want to dress in red, white or blue for the day or take part in the 'Stay at Home Street Party' and have a picnic in your front garden. It will be nice to see what our school family are up to!!!!

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs L Belfield
Principal