

St James Infant and Pre-School

A place of bright beginnings.



WELCOME TO ST JAMES INFANT AND PRE SCHOOL

Foreword: Head teacher, Sarah O'Shea

We are an inclusive and nurturing school that empowers our children to become lifelong learners, with our school values of Respect, Kindness, Inclusion and Teamwork at the heart of everything we do.

As the headteacher, I firmly believe that our children deserve the very best opportunities in both life and education. Our mission is to empower every child with the knowledge, skills and values necessary to become responsible, confident and compassionate individuals who can positively impact their communities. As a forward-thinking school, we continually evolve all aspects of education to prepare our children for their next steps in life.

Our vision of "being the best we can be" is central to everything we do at school; from designing the curriculum, to the exciting extra-curricular activities and enrichment visits on offer, to maintaining the highest standards of teaching and learning. It's very important to us at St James Infant and Pre school this remains at the heart of our community.

We are committed to offering an inclusive education that empowers all our children to thrive and succeed. We foster an environment where every child feels welcome and safe, valuing diversity and treating everyone with kindness, empathy and courtesy.

We are a school at the heart of the community, with strong connections to our families and the local area we seek to serve. We instil in our pupils a sense of social responsibility, empowering them to make a positive impact on the world.

As the head teacher, I am privileged to lead a dedicated, passionate and committed team that strives to nurture each child's unique abilities and qualities.

Kind Regards,

Sarah O'Shea



OUR SCHOOL DAY

School times are as follows:

8.45 a.m. - 8:55 a.m. Welcome and morning activity

8:55 a.m. - 12.15 p.m. Morning session

10.45 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. Play time for KS1

12.15 p.m. - 1.15 p.m. Lunch time

1.15 p.m. - 3.15 p.m. Afternoon session

Learning starts as soon as your children enter the building.
Punctuality is crucial for all.

Our before and after school wrap-around care service is designed to provide a seamless and enriching extension to your child's day. We start with a nutritious breakfast to energise them for a day of learning and exploration. In the afternoon, we offer delicious snacks that keep hunger at bay and fuel their creativity. Our program is filled with a variety of engaging activities. Whether it's through arts and crafts, sports, or educational games, we strive to create a nurturing environment where children can thrive and enjoy every moment. Trust us to make your child's time with us both productive and enjoyable.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is based on the notion that it promotes a sense of pride in the school and a sense of community and belonging.

Our school colour is navy blue. Sweatshirts or cardigans bearing the school badge, plus a range of other uniform items are available. They can all be purchased from Tailormade on Prospect Way.



Uniform at St James



All items can be with or without the school logo



Trousers, shorts, skirts and pinafores can be grey or black

Gingham or striped dresses/shorts for summer months

PE Uniform



Plain white T-shirt, blue short, plain blue tracksuit.

Children can come to school on PE days in their PE kit.

SCHOOL VALUES

Gardener Kit, our beloved school mascot, plays a pivotal role in helping our children learn and embody the core values of Kindness, Inclusion, and Teamwork. These values are intricately woven into the fabric of our educational philosophy, as we believe they are essential in nurturing our students to reach their fullest potential. The seeds that Gardener Kit plants symbolise these values, representing the growth and development they inspire in our students. Our sunshine logo, which shines brightly over everything we do, embodies the overarching value of Respect. This crucial value acts as the guiding light that fosters a nurturing and supportive environment, ensuring both personal and communal growth. Together, these values create a harmonious garden where our children can thrive and blossom into the best versions of themselves.



BEHAVIOUR AND SELF- DEVELOPMENT:

FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

High standards: Using of good behaviour is an important part of a child's social development. We use a positive approach, which makes it possible for children to achieve success and a feeling of self-worth. We carry out 'fix it' conversations which allow the children to reflect on what happened, their feelings, the impact on themselves and others and solutions to make situations, actions and feelings better. We plan for and reward good behaviour. It is essential that home and school work together in partnership to support behaviour expectations. School Agreements: Each class creates their own class agreement at the beginning of each year. Children are part of the decision making process and value the decisions made.

CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Children are rewarded for all of their learning and behavioural successes. 'Dojo points' and stickers are given and even certificates in assembly.

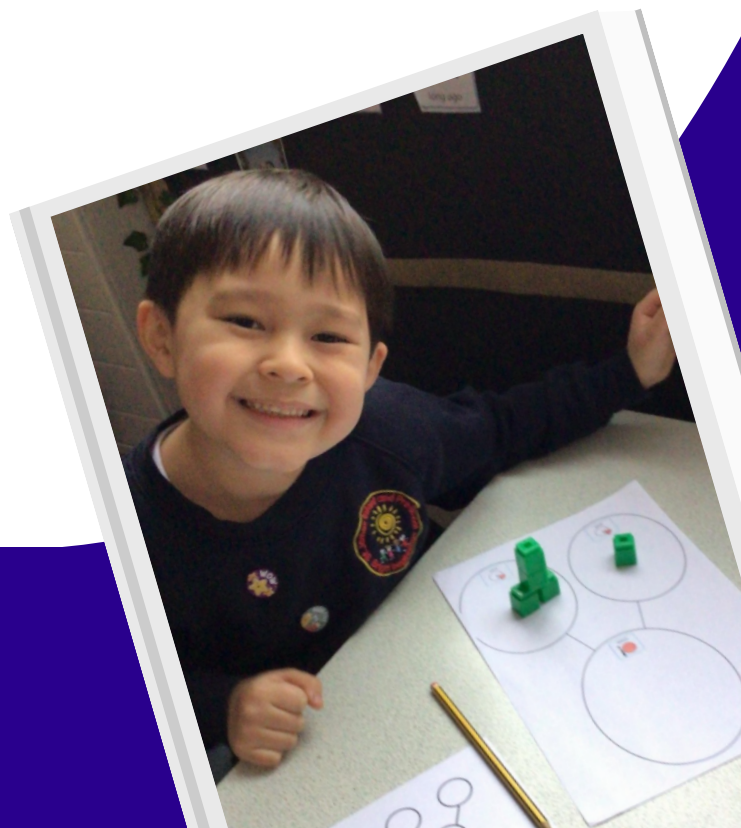
Celebration Assembly is a time for all children to feel proud of their achievements as they receive their certificates and take their place on the 'Proud Bench'.

School reports: All parents receive an annual written report summarising your child's academic achievements and personal and social development.



OUR CURRICULUM

At St. James Infant School, we take great pride in offering a broad, enriching, and balanced curriculum that caters to the diverse needs of our students. Our approach is designed to provide children with ample opportunities to focus, develop, embed, and enhance their learning across all areas. We believe that learning should be fun and engaging, which is why we incorporate hands-on and real-world experiences tailored to reflect the needs of our cohorts and the demographics we serve. Our lively and active learning environment is child-interest led and includes outdoor education, all of which contribute to the development of the holistic child. By prioritising these elements, we ensure that our children are not only academically successful but also well-rounded individuals who are prepared for the future.



OUR CURRICULUM

In today's educational landscape, fostering a holistic learning environment is paramount. Our school strives to cultivate confident, passionate, enthusiastic, and critical readers by providing a diverse array of reading materials and encouraging open discussions. Children are also empowered to become independent, creative, and expressive writers, with a focus on nurturing their ability to articulate thoughts and ideas effectively. In mathematics, the emphasis is placed on understanding core concepts and honing critical thinking and reasoning skills, while simultaneously developing a solid foundation in basic number skills. By integrating these approaches, we aim to equip our children with the tools necessary for success in an ever-evolving world.



CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

CLUBS

Here at St James' we offer an extensive selection of extra curricular opportunities.

Our clubs currently include; Nature Ninjas, Gardening Club, Craft club, Puzzle club, choir, sporting stars and football stars. All of these clubs highly enjoyed and valued by our children.

TRIPS AND VISIT

Educational Visits are planned to enrich our curriculum and are hugely beneficial to our children's experiences. Previously trips have included trips to local parks, farm parks, butterfly farms, local community visits including; the cinema, the library, Daventry museum, many of our churches and junior schools within the town.

The children also have visitors for experience days such as 'The great fire of London experience', visits from emergency services and the dentist.

Each year our Early years classes also have a wonderful experience of observing life cycles first hand, including the life cycles of ducks, chicks and butterflies.



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

ADAPTIVE CURRICLUM

At St. James, we are committed to adapting our curriculum to meet the diverse needs of all children, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive. We recognize that a one-size-fits-all approach to education is not effective for everyone, so we incorporate a variety of alternative curriculum elements designed to enhance each child's learning experience. For example, sensory circuits are integrated into our program to support students who benefit from sensory-based activities, helping them to improve concentration, coordination, and emotional regulation. By tailoring our educational strategies and activities, we aim to create an inclusive environment where every child feels valued and supported in their journey toward academic and personal growth

If you have a child with special educational needs or suspect that your child might have such needs, it's important to inform us as soon as possible. Early communication allows us to collaborate effectively with relevant agencies and develop a tailored support plan for your child. By working together, we can ensure that your child receives the necessary resources and assistance to thrive in their educational environment. Your partnership is crucial in creating an inclusive and supportive learning experience for your child.

SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS COORDINATOR

Mrs Clare Cousins

Clare.Cousins@sjis.inmat.org.uk



FRIENDS OF ST JAMES

The Friends of St James Infant and Pre-School are a group of parents who aim to raise funds for school. They do this by running various fundraisers throughout the year. Fundraising pays for school trips, special events such as cinema night, specific projects too. The most recent being our 'gazebo' in the playground. They also provide games, books and treats for the children. All children benefit from the money raised and always enjoy the events; Christmas, Easter and Summer Fayres. If you are interested in either helping on the day of any event, or in becoming a 'Friend', contact the school office..

LOCAL ACADEMY COMMITTEE

Our Local Academy Committee (formerly known as the Governing Body), are an active part of our school. It includes parents, staff and members of the local community. The Committee has a range of duties and a general responsibility for the conduct of the school, always with a view to promoting high standards of academic and personal achievement.



ADMISSIONS

We welcome prospective parents and pupils to visit us at any time.

Please arrange an appointment to visit the school by contacting the school office. Applications for Reception, Year 1 or 2 are to be made Via West Northamptonshire council admissions.

Preparing to start school for the first time

Entering school for the first time is a big step in any child's life. Our aim is to make this step as smooth as possible, both for you and your child.

So, for Pre-school and Reception children we; hold play and stay sessions, a parents' meeting, go and visit nurseries and also visit you and your child at home, all during the Summer term.

This is all a great opportunity to share information and respond to any concerns.

Feedback from parents have told us that all of these plans ensure that children are happy during those first days.



ADMISSIONS

Admission into Pre-School - Poppy Class

Children are able to join Poppy Class, as soon as they are three years old. Registration forms can be obtained directly from our school office or website. Children can attend just morning sessions or just afternoon sessions or stay all day. You can state your preference on the booking form and we will endeavour to accommodate this. Payment is made through Parent Pay. All 3 - 4 olds can get 15 hours a week free provision for 38 weeks per year. Your child becomes eligible for this the term after they have turned three years old. You may be able to get up to 30 hours free childcare, if your child is three years old. You must apply online for a childcare account to get a code, which you will then need to share with us. Your eligibility depends upon:

- If you are working
- How much you earn
- Your child's circumstances
- Your nationality





CONTACT US



Written information cannot compare to a visit to the school itself. We would love to welcome you, so invite you to come and visit. To make an appointment, or to simply ask us a question, please contact us using the details below:

Email: sjis-admin@sjis.inmat.org.uk

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