

Headteacher: Mr D Lawford



St. James' CE First School and Nursery

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Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust your child has settled into the new school year. We are so impressed with all the children; the school is a calm and purposeful space for everyone involved. With any school year, the wheels are beginning to turn with increasing speed and activities and events will start to come thick and fast! Here's just a few...

Harvest Festival (Wednesday 1st October | 09.30 – 10.30)

In our worship this term, we will be focusing on our core value of Love. We want all our children to grow in their love for each other but also think about how we can demonstrate love to those further afield. As we approach this harvest season, we want to encourage our children to be generous and understanding that our community will be a better place when we give freely. On the 1st October, the whole school will gather at Holtwood Methodist church for our harvest festival. 'Nick the Vic' will lead us in a time of collective worship, celebrating all that we have and how to demonstrate generosity. **We would love you to join us for this service, which will begin at approximately 09.30am.**

On Arbor, please navigate to the 'Trips' section where you will see a new trip – all parents need to give consent for the trip. There is an option to give financially towards the cost of the coach – this is a voluntary contribution which just goes towards offsetting the cost of the coach for the whole school (£240 each time we go to the church). The deadline for completing consent is 26th September at 9am.

We are partnering with [Wimborne Food Bank](#) who serve the local community in a number of ways. If you are able, we would love your child to contribute food which we can give to the foodbank to serve those struggling in our community. Last year, Wimborne Food Bank donated close to 2,000 food parcels and the need this year is even greater. The volunteer team have asked that you check the date of any items donated. They have also provided a list of items they are currently running low on.

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|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| - Tinned potatoes | - Tinned carrots | - Corned beef | - Tinned custard |
| - Tinned rice pudding | - Packets of rice | - Porridge | - Long life fruit juice |
| - Squash | - Washing up liquid | - Washing pods | - Deodorants |
| - Shampoo | - Shower gel | | |

We are not asking for any financial donations, but if you wish to give financially, cheques should be written to Wimborne Food Bank or A/C Name: Wimborne Food Bank, S/C: 405240, A/C No. 00034963 for direct bank transfers.

Believe & Achieve "I will show you my faith by my deeds" James 2:18

Love | Hope | Truth

We also want to serve you as a family of St James'. If you are struggling, please reach out to us and we can connect you with organisations like the food bank for help.

Open Evening (Wednesday 1st October | 17.30 – 19.00)

Later that day, we will open the school as part of our Open Evening for any parents who have children due to start school for the first time in September. If you already have children at the school, please can I encourage you to still come along to the evening as your voice is so helpful talking to new parents from outside of our community. You can also share the event on [Facebook](#). Last year we managed to fill our reception class with 25 wonderful school starters and we hope to be able to do the same again this year. I have sent home some flyers this evening that you could perhaps pass to anyone you know starting school in September who are thinking about which school is best for their child.

Parent Share Events

Last year, we rolled out Parent Share Events for all classes. These were a wonderful opportunity for the parents and carers to come and engage in the learning of their children in school and we are continuing our parent share events this year. We have been ambitious in setting our dates for the whole year as we understand that many of you will adjust your working week to be at these events. The Autumn Term overview below lets you know when and where events will be taking place. We would love for you to be able to join us at these events.

Foxes	Hedgehogs	Squirrels	Owls
Overview: Children show off their Christmas performance with acting, songs and dancing. Date: 18/12 Time: 09.30 – 10.30 Location: Hinton Martell Church	Smoothie Cafe Overview: Come and taste our smoothies at our café. Date: 22/10 Time: 14:30 – 15:00 Location: School Hall	Stone Age Britain Overview: Children will share their learning from Hooke court all about Stone Age Britain. We will also share our Art work that focuses on stone age caves. Date: 20/11 Time: 14:30 – 15:00 Location: School Hall	Pavilions Overview: Pavilions (Design Technology project) Children will share the outcomes to their design technology projects and their learning journey. Date: 23/10 Time: 14:30 - 15:00 Location: School Hall
	Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole Overview: Watch our assembly on Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole linked to our school value of hope. Date: 11/12 Time: 14:30 – 15:00 Location: School Hall		

Have a wonderful weekend and good luck to Reception who start school full time on Monday.

Kind regards,



Mr Lawford

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