



Independence



Generosity



Honesty



Teamwork



NEWSLETTER Term 5: 6th May 2025

<https://sjm.academy>

Telephone: 01323 730255

Email: office@sjm.academy

Upcoming Whole School Dates

April	Tuesday 22nd : First day of Term 5
May	Monday 5th : May Bank Holiday Friday 23rd : Whole Class Photos Friday 23rd : Last day of Term 5
June	Monday 2nd : First day of term 6 Friday 20th : INSET day Monday 23rd : INSET day
July	Friday 4th : Sports Day Friday 22nd : Leavers Service / Last day of term 6

Whole School Reminder:

NO NUTS are to be brought in to school. Thank you.



Dear parents and carers,

Term 5 has started well with the children looking smart and much cooler in their summer uniform and just in time too!

Class Updates

The **Year 1** class were off with a Bang with their space theme, and I love that Mr Barber and Mrs Vile were dressed as astronauts in modified Hazmat suits to add authenticity to the day. It is encouraging to see how the children have developed their writing on the theme of space; they have been sharing such great ideas and are now including direct speech in their work.



Year 6 continue to impress as they apply themselves to their work with high levels of engagement and perseverance. Mrs Foster, Mrs White, Mrs Capon and Mrs Miller are working well to keep them on track, and we know that the children will do their best in the SATS in the week of the 12th of May.

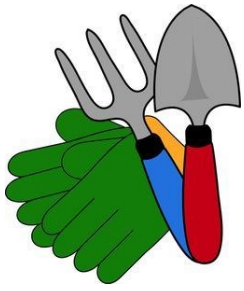
We have had successful trips in **Year 2** and **4**; all the children were commended on their excellent behaviour. They enjoyed these enriching experiences, and we are grateful to the staff and parents who make this possible. Year 4 continued their learning after their visit; report writing on their trip to Battle Abbey. They impressed us with their extensive vocabulary and the great pride they took in editing and presenting their work.

Year 5 were all awarded the Headteachers Award this week, for consistent effort. They have all really improved the range of vocabulary and punctuation in their writing. They are all showing great independence in their ability to stay on task.



Year 3 have been developing their writing in English using the book Ratty's Big Adventure. They are now learning about direct speech and punctuating it correctly. They used their imagination to introduce their own characters into the story, ranging from leopards to lemurs. We are particularly pleased that they are working independently for longer periods of time and starting to edit their work.

In **Reception** the children are coming along in leaps and bounds. Mrs Satchell, Mrs Pillar and Mrs Grout have been carrying out assessments and it is truly remarkable to see just how secure they are becoming in a range of skills such as their reading, language and even social skills.



The Green Team has been newly formed; this is a group of children who wish to get more involved in making a difference to our local environment. We are excited about this - for now the children want to claim back the allotment on the field and organise a beach clean in the last term. We will keep you posted as this develops as we may need some support to get the allotments ready for the children to do some planting. *If you would like to volunteer to help with this - please do let the Office know.*

Thank you to the parents who have completed the parent survey. We do appreciate the feedback. It will be good to hear from more parents as well so can I ask that you please give this a few minutes of your time.

<https://forms.office.com/e/3qdDWjCZ2J>

I hope you had a lovely Bank holiday weekend!

Mrs Byrroo



Every Minute Counts!

Celebrating Attendance and Punctuality at St Johns Meads

We're proud to celebrate our whole school attendance of **95.3%** – a fantastic achievement and above the national average! A huge thank you to all our families for helping us reach this milestone. Good attendance is key to every child's learning, wellbeing, and success, and we're thrilled to see so many children in school, ready to learn every day.

However, it's not just about being present – it's also about being on time.



Why does being on time matter?

When children arrive late, even by just a few minutes, it can:

- ◆ Disrupt their own learning – they miss the important start of the lesson, where key instructions are often given.
- ◆ Affect their confidence – walking into class late can make children feel anxious or embarrassed.
- ◆ Impact the whole class – the flow of the lesson is interrupted, and teachers need to pause and catch latecomers up.
- ◆ Every minute missed is a learning opportunity lost. **Just being 10 minutes late each day adds up to nearly a whole week of school missed over the year!**

Let's aim even higher!

While 95.3% is great, we know our brilliant community can aim even higher. Let's continue working together to improve attendance and punctuality, ensuring every child gets the best start to their day.

Together, we can build habits that help our children thrive – in school and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support!



Keeping Our Children Safe Online -

What Every Parent Should Know

In today's digital world, children are growing up surrounded by technology – from tablets and smart TVs to online games and educational websites. While the internet offers wonderful opportunities to learn and connect, it's also important to help our children navigate it safely.

Why online safety matters

Children at this age may not yet fully understand the risks of the online world. They can be curious and trusting, making them more vulnerable to things like:

- Inappropriate content
- Sharing personal information
- Talking to strangers online
- Cyberbullying

That's why it's so important for parents and carers to stay involved and guide children as they explore the internet.

What can you do?

Here are some key ways to support your child's online safety:

- Talk regularly about what they do online and who they talk to.
- Set clear rules about screen time and what websites/apps they can use.
- Use parental controls on devices and home Wi-Fi.
- Encourage openness so they feel safe telling you if something upsets them online.

Helpful resources for families

Here are some trusted sources of advice, tips, and tools to help you keep your child safe online:

NSPCC Online Safety Hub - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Childnet - Parents and Carers Toolkit<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

Both sites provide age-appropriate guidance, conversation starters, and practical advice on setting boundaries, using apps safely, and more.

Let's work together

Online safety is a shared responsibility; children are taught about online safety in school in their PSHE and computing lessons. By working together – school and home – we can make sure our children enjoy all the benefits of the internet while staying safe, confident, and informed.

If you have any concerns or need support, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or any member of the safeguarding team (Mrs Byroo, Mrs Massey and Mrs Hitch).



We are a **'Light in the darkness'**, living life to the full, worshipping and working so that everyone may flourish and achieve their God-given potential.

Our values are: Love (for God and each other) Independence Generosity Honesty Teamwork



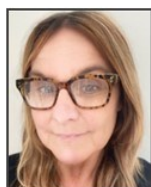
SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING TEAM



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Trustee Safeguarding Lead

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What should I do if I have a safeguarding concern?

Concerns about Children or Young People

If you have any concerns relating to Child Protection or Safeguarding, please contact one of the schools designated officers immediately.

Visiting the school?

If you are a visitor to the school and need to report a concern, please contact the DSL on 01323 730 255 or DSL@sjm.academy

If a child or other person is at any immediate risk of harm, the first response should always be to call the police on 999. This policy applies to all adults, including volunteers, working in or on behalf of St John's Meads Primary School and DCAT.

Concerns about the Headteacher or member of staff?

If you have a concern about a member of staff or a volunteer, please contact the headteacher or alternatively contact a member of the Trust DSL team

Concerns about the Headteacher

If you have concerns about the Headteacher please contact the Trust DSL or the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**

Useful contact numbers

Children and young people

For additional help and support or to speak to someone independent of the school please call the SPOA team;

SPOA - 01323 464 222



Staff and volunteers

To speak to someone independent of the school about concerns of staff or volunteers please call the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) on;

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/professional-resources/lado/



Highlights from Battle Abbey

Year 4 children embarked on an exciting journey back in time with a visit to the historic Battle Abbey in East Sussex - the very site of the famous Battle of Hastings in 1066! The trip brought their history lessons to life as they explored the grounds.



The day was packed with learning and fun. Children explored the impressive abbey ruins, walked along the battlefield trail, and took part in an interactive workshop where they handled replica Norman and Saxon armour. Some even tried on chainmail and helmets - much to their delight (and amusement!).

Our young historians were full of enthusiasm and asked brilliant questions throughout the visit. Staff at Battle Abbey commented on their excellent behaviour and curiosity. Well done Year 4!

Thank you to all the staff and parent volunteers who helped make the trip such a memorable experience.

Highlights from Drusillas - Year 2





DONATE UNWANTED TEXTILES

Time for a Spring clean? The school will
receive a donation for every bag you give.



Clothes



Paired shoes



Handbags



Jewellery



Belts



Hats



Socks



Bags



Good quality items please

Drop your bags at THE ZONE on:



Tues 20 May: 3.15–3.30pm or



Weds 21 May: 8.30–8.50am



NO SCHOOL UNIFORMS PLEASE WITH OR WITHOUT LOGO

BEDE'S SWIM SCHOOL

Bede's Prep School is delighted to announce the launch of its Swim School, which runs dedicated swimming lessons for children aged 4 years and older. We offer Swim England Learn to Swim Stage 1-2 lessons, on Tuesday evenings at Bede's Prep School.

UPCOMING DATES:

- Block 2: 22nd April - 20th May
- Block 3: 3rd June - 8th July
- Block 4: 9th September - 7th October
- Block 5: 4th November - 2nd December

SESSION TIMES:

- Session 1: 5:45pm - 6:15pm
- Session 2: 6:15pm - 6:45pm
- Session 3: 6:45pm - 7:15pm

DETAILS:

- £60 per block of five lessons
- Max of 5 swimmers per class
- Complete registration form to book

Contact Information:

Email: Tabby.reed@bedes.org

Phone: 01323 356929





CHILDREN with CANCER FUND



RUN TO RUN

SATURDAY 31ST MAY 2025

SIGN UP HERE TODAY



CUCKOO TRAIL, SCHOOL LANE ENTRANCE, POLEGATE
MINI MILE, 5K AND 10K

ENTRY STARTS AT £5

EVERYONE IS WELCOME
- WALKERS, JOGGERS, FAMILIES, PUSHCHAIRS

MEDALS FOR ALL COMPLETERS!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 01323 488561 OR DROP US EMAIL TO fundraising@childrenwithcancerfund.org.uk



'Adolescence' TV show highlighted the issues



What is INCEL culture?
Isolation and rejection
Lack of positive role models
Over dependence on Smart phones
Screen addiction
Vulnerability to online bullying
Influenced by negative role models
Toxic websites
Violent behaviour & misogyny

Emotional Resilience for our Children Online Talk for Parents

from FACE Family Advice £24

email Jane Keyworth, FACE Lead Facilitator

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



Saturday 3rd May 10:00-11:30
Thursday 8th May 19:00-20:30



Talks are recorded and available for 48 hours after each talk

**WHITSUN
HALF-TERM**



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Eastbourne	Crawley	Worthing	Football Camp
Gildredge House BN20 8AB	Hilltop Primary School RH11 8QL	West Park CE Primary School BN12 4HD Worthing Leisure Centre BN12 4ET	West Park & Hilltop - 27th May football camp available

PLEASE BRING

A packed lunch
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

Our 5* Holiday Camps are the perfect place to keep your kids entertained over the Whitsun half-term.

Children can meet new friends, have lots of fun, and create wonderful memories!

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before – from dodgeball to cricket, basketball to archery.

Book now for a half-term full of fun!

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20% OFF TOO!**

*Ts&Cs apply. Refer a Friend discount on new bookings only.



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May Multi - Sports Camp



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27th - 30th May 08:30 - 15:30
 **4 - 11 Years old (4 year olds 08:30-12:30 / £18)**
 **£25 per day / £90 for the week**
 **Sibling Discount Codes: SIBLING1 / SIBLING2**

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SPACE TODAY**



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BRIGHTON@SPORTSCOOL.ORG / 07827066530

@THESKATECLUBUK

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SOUTHWICK**

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ACADEMY (BACA)**

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TO BOOK VISIT:

THESKATECLUB.COM/HOLIDAYSKATECLUB



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