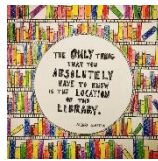


Thursday 3rd February 2022



Dear Parents,



It certainly has been a very interesting week here at James Wolfe; from mysterious books and bookshelves appearing in random places around the school, to the apparent disappearance of Mr Westerby. These strange events have been a little unnerving -- but fear not, we are surrounded by wonderfully inquisitive detectives who immediately jumped at the challenge of finding out exactly what is going on around here. Where has Mr Westerby's office gone? What are these mysterious books and why can't we open them? Armed with their questions, they set to work -- and from what I hear, the investigation is ongoing.

So far, I have been informed that there appears to be some kind of magic that is bringing books and stories to life, and that there is in fact a way to open up this world... if you believe! I am sure you will agree that there is little more powerful than the imagination of a child and so it is no wonder that they have been able to piece the clues together so easily.

It has been wonderful to see the children so excited about books and the power that the worlds within them hold. This immersive experience has brought storytelling to life for our children and inspired many to begin creating stories and magical worlds of their own. Here are just some of the comments that we have heard this week:

"The noise was so creepy. I was about to faint and I was going to hide under the books."

"Today is the best day ever."

"He didn't have a book, he read us a story from his imagination and it actually came true."

"It was a magical place."

"Is this a dream? Pinch me please."

"I can't believe what just happened, it was so magical."

Books and libraries really are magical places that have the power not only to educate readers, but also to transport you on a journey to settings you never realised were possible. What was the last book that you read? When did you last visit a library? What was your favourite book as a child? I ask you these questions because, sadly for many of us, our busy lives have pushed reading to the very bottom of our list of priorities. This week, the children have reminded me that reading is one of the most valuable things we can do for many reasons – education, relaxation or escapism to name a few – and we should be making time to do it. No matter how busy you are this weekend, I challenge you to pick up that book that you started weeks ago, press play on that audiobook that has been sitting in your library and share that story with your child that you have read hundreds of times already, but know you secretly love.

Happy reading!

**Kind regards,
Mrs Curtis**

P.S. I am happy to report that Mr Westerby has been found safe and sound!

If your child receives a positive test result for COVID-19, please contact admin@jameswolfe.greenwich.sch.uk as soon as possible, giving the child's name, class, date of test.



parentsevening
system

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parents' Evenings will be held online during the week beginning Monday 7th February and bookings are now open -- please book your appointment(s) as soon as possible. The letter emailed out to all parents last week can be found on our website at <https://tinyurl.com/922j9m2x>. Please visit <https://jameswolfe.parentseveningsystem.co.uk> to book your appointment(s).

This term's Parents' Evenings will be held remotely via video calls, We will be reviewing how we hold our Parent Consultations in the future, as there are benefits for both the virtual and face-to-face approach -- for now, however, as we still need to minimise close contacts, this term's meetings will be held online.

Please note that, on the day, it is vital that you are ready to start your appointment promptly, **as the meeting will end automatically at the end of your ten minute slot and cannot be extended.**

If you have any issues signing into or using the booking system, or with video calling, please contact the school office who will be happy to help. A full guide for parents/carers on how to take part can be found at <https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>.



AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Parents may now book as many activities as they would like for their child(ren), so long as they are for the correct year group, and we would encourage parents to do so, as take-up for some of the activities has been disappointing, meaning they are at risk of being withdrawn.

Copies of the letter and rota, with details of how to set up your account and book, can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/2p8ndh89> and <https://tinyurl.com/2p8kmnkh>. **Parents of children eligible for the benefit Free School Meals, who are entitled to one free activity, should contact the school office after setting up their account but before booking.**



SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

As Winter starts to fade and we look towards Spring, it's time for another photographic competition! Find inspiration in our local area and show us how it springs to life at this special time of year.

Photos can be submitted digitally to admin@jameswolfe.greenwich.sch.uk using the subject line "Photography Competition" or dropped into the office at Randall Place - please make sure all entries are named. The closing date for you to show us what Spring means to you is **Friday 18th March**.



BSL BILL - #BSLActNow

BSL may finally be given legal status as an official language! The BSL Bill, proposed by MP Rosie Cooper and supported by Rose Ayling-Ellis, amongst others, had its second reading in Parliament last Friday, where it passed unopposed, with the third reading due on 18th March.

Susan Daniels of the National Deaf Children's Society said it was "a historic day for British Sign Language users everywhere. With their language now well on the way to being recognised in law, they can feel jubilant, valued and optimistic about the future. There are also thousands of deaf children who use sign language and they will be very excited too. It's another big step towards a society where they're truly included. Until every deaf child gets the support they're entitled to and the same opportunities as everyone else, the fight will be far from over."

BSL was first recognised as an official language in the UK (after many years of campaigning) almost twenty years ago and this is now an important date in the d/Deaf community's calendar, celebrated as 'BSL Recognition Day' on 18th March every year. At the time, the government promised to consider giving BSL legal status -- however, nineteen years later, this still hasn't happened, meaning many d/Deaf people are unable to access essential information and services in their own language. In 2015, the Scottish Parliament passed a law giving BSL legal status and protection. An example of the impact of this bill was seen during their COVID daily briefings, where the Scottish d/Deaf community had full and immediate access to important health information, as there was always an interpreter standing next to Nicola Sturgeon. In England, there was no interpreter next to Boris Johnson, despite much campaigning from the d/Deaf community. This meant that BSL users had to wait to receive vital information in later bulletins, when the interpreter would be added (#whereistheinterpreter).

Our children were shown signing in a clip about the BSL Bill on BBC Breakfast News last Friday morning and we are very proud to be supporting the Bill! You can read a statement from the BDA at <https://bda.org.uk/bda-statement-2nd-reading-bsl-bill/-bsl-bill/> and a story about the effect a lack of BSL support can have at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/stories-59733533>.



FAMILY HALF TERM SHOW AT THE TRAMSHED

'Splat' at the Woolwich Tramshed on Saturday 19th February sees magical collaboration and hilarious physical comedy ensue as two artists try to teach you the history of art. The show runs at 11:30am and 2:30pm, is for ages 3 - 6 years and costs £6 -- you can book your tickets at <https://tinyurl.com/3md58x4y>.



COVID-19

Please can parents ensure that, if a child is sent home with COVID symptoms, they are given a full PCR test and the result emailed to the school before they return.

IMPORTANT DATES

Spring Term 2022

Friday 4th February -- FJWS Meeting (9am RP) & Uniform Sale (3:30pm RP)

Monday 7th February to Thursday 10th February -- Parents' Evenings

Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February -- Half Term

Monday 28th February to Friday 4th March -- Book Week

Wednesday 2nd March -- Girls' Football League Fixture Day (Meridian Sports Club)

Thursday 3rd March -- World Book Day

Thursday 3rd March -- Football Team League Fixture Day (Meridian Sports Club)

Friday 4th March -- FJWS Meeting (9am RP)

Friends of James Wolfe School

Hi everyone,



Please join us tomorrow (Friday 4th February) morning after drop-off at Randall Place for the return of our in-person meetings! There'll be coffee and chat about our upcoming events, as well as our plans for how to spend the money raised.

Tomorrow will also see our Second-Hand Uniform Sale return to the Randall Place playground after school. Every item will be £1 so come and grab yourself a bargain!

Please follow/like us on Twitter/Facebook to find out more about what we do, as well as about upcoming social/fundraising events. All are welcome!

Email: friendsofJWS@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/FJWSGreenwich>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/fjwsgreenwich>

**DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND OUR
GREENWICH BRANCH
IS OPENING A NEW AFTERNOON SCHOOL**

**ANNA FIORENTINI
THEATRE & FILM SCHOOL**

SINGING | DRAMA | DANCE

FOR 7 - 18 YEARS
James Wolfe School, SE10
Saturdays | 10am-1pm OR 1.30pm-4.30pm
Sign up for a taster day: 5th February

Increase in confidence through creative expression
Learn new performance techniques and transferable life skills in a friendly, safe and supportive environment
Opportunity to potentially land leading roles on TV, Film and the West End Stage through our Talent Agency

FOR MORE INFO AND TO SIGN UP VISIT ANNAFIORENTINI.COM AND CLICK 'SCHOOLS'
020 7682 1403 | hello@afperformingarts.com

James Wolfe pupils get 20% off their first term's fees and 10% off thereafter. The theatre school also has a bursary scheme, meaning it is possible they could offer a student who may struggle to afford fees a scholarship.



Boppin' bunnies

AWARD WINNING

Fun & educational music classes for children aged 3 months - 4 years, including a live musical performance in each session

★ NEW CLASSES & LOCATIONS ★

Interactive Music Classes taught by live Musicians

Greenwich Hither Green Borough
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We're passionate in offering only the very best in childcare and music.

Let us inspire your child at our award-winning Holiday Camps.

Venue: James Wolfe Primary School, Royal Hill, Greenwich SE10 8RZ.
 Dates: w/c 14th Feb, plus every school holiday in 2022

Rated 5* by parents on Netmums and Feefo, our Ofsted-registered Holiday Camps bring together the very best of music and childcare to engage and inspire your child every school holiday.

Each day is wonderfully different and includes our "Learn Together, Play Together" morning lessons. Choose from either guitar, violin and ukulele (dependent on location and dates). Free hire of an instrument for every child too!

Afternoons include our carefully-created workshops, designed by our experienced Head Office team and based on the theme of the week. Workshops range from dance and music, to art and sport.

Don't miss out on our End of Holiday Camp Grand Concert too!

Recommend to a Friend for 10% Off - For Both of You!

- ♥ You: a 10% off voucher for your next booking with us.
 - ♥ Your Child: an exclusive activity book, pencil and sticker.
 - ♥ Your Friend: your friend can also claim 10% off their booking with us
- Visit www.thestingsclub.org or call our Head Office team on 0121 296 9204.

Why Consider Us?

- Our passion in offering only the best in childcare and music
- EYFS Ofsted-registered so we can welcome children aged 4 all day
 - Free hire of an instrument
 - £50 per day plus 10% sibling discount
 - Qualified, experienced, fully DBS checked team
 - Standard hours and Extended Hours available
 - Childcare vouchers and tax-free childcare accepted

10% off for James Wolfe families -- parents must call them to redeem this extra-special offer.

MUSIC LESSONS AVAILABLE!



Did You Know?

Music lessons can help develop language, memory, coordination, pattern recognition and creative thinking. Music lessons can also teach you how to work as part of a team and give you better self-confidence. It's even been proven to improve SAT scores!

Think you have what it takes to learn a musical instrument?

If you would like to learn a musical instrument we currently have spaces on our waiting list for the following instruments: violin, cello, trumpet, trombone, french horn, clarinet, flute, saxophone, piano, guitar and drums. For more information on how to sign up, please contact the school office.



OUR LIBRARIES

Our libraries are always looking for book donations and adult volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Katey Hearn at friendsofJWS@gmail.com. Donations can be left with the School Office at either campus.



School success starts
with attendance

ATTENDANCE

The current version of our Attendance Policy can be found on our school website. Parents are reminded of the importance of high attendance. High attendance leads to great achievement.

We receive a number of requests for pupils to be absent from school during term time. Parents are reminded that the school cannot authorise a leave of absence for a holiday and we will only grant a leave of absence for exceptional circumstances. The process for applying for a leave of absence is as follows:

1. A Request for a Leave of Absence form is completed by the parent.
2. An appointment will be made with the Headteacher or Head of Campus to discuss the request.
3. The school decides if it will authorise the leave of absence.

Parents should note that flights (etc.) should not be booked before a leave of absence is authorised. Every day of school missed by a pupil reduces their attendance by 0.5%, meaning that a child with 95% attendance has missed ten whole days of school and a child with 90% attendance has missed twenty whole days of school. By the time a pupil is persistently absent (85% attendance), they have missed six weeks, or half a term, of schooling.

Days Absent at End of Year	Absence Percentage	Attendance Percentage at End of Year
1	0.5%	99.5%
5	2.5%	97.5%
10	5%	95%
20	10%	90%
30	15%	85%



EMAIL ADDRESSES

Emailing letters directly is now our usual way of communicating with parents. If you believe you are not receiving these, please check your spam/junk folder -- and review your settings to allow "James Wolfe" and "jameswolfe" if you find them there.

If you do not find them, please message us at admin@jameswolfe.greenwich.sch.uk, putting your email address and child's name in the title.



NO PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

We remind all parents not to park in the restricted areas on the roads surrounding the school, particularly the roads surrounding our Royal Hill Campus, as they are part of a Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN). Please walk to school with your children if at all possible, but if you must drive, please do not park in restricted areas. This is for the safety of all children arriving at and leaving the school, and is more important than ever due to the current road closures and road works taking place in the area.

Please can we also remind parents not to park their cars in the residential bays in Old Pearson Street when dropping-off their children to Nursery and Reception.



[Instagram](#)



[Email](#)



[Website](#)



[SoundCloud](#)

 smile amazon.co.uk

 easyfundraising
feel good shopping

Remember, you can donate to our parents' association when doing your shopping at no extra cost to yourself!

When you shop online, please access your accounts via their associated charity portals. If you visit your Amazon account via <http://smile.amazon.co.uk> and assign 'Friends of James Wolfe School' as your chosen charity, Amazon will then make a donation to us for every purchase you make. For online shopping with thousands of other retailers (such as Argos, John Lewis, Sainsbury's and many more), please begin via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> and follow the directions to link the FJWS, so that each retailer will make a donation.