

ST JAMES' Newsletter

St James' Blackburn
C of E Primary School
Earl Street, Blackburn
BB1 8EG

01254 698335

Date: Friday 8th September 2023



Doug Stitches

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back! The sun has really been shining on our first week back at school and it's been a wonderful start to what I'm sure will be an exciting and productive year.

This week the children were treated to a musical presentation from Rock Steady where they were able to experience live music from a variety of instruments. Unfortunately, I was in a meeting – otherwise, I definitely would have asked for a go on the electric guitar!

You will today also receive a letter from me about Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC). You will have seen a lot of media reports about this, and I would like to reassure you that at this point, we only have inconclusive results and the Diocese have assured us they think it is highly unlikely that we have RAAC In Key Stage 1. However, as safety is our top priority, we have decided to temporarily close off the

potentially affected areas until a full and complete survey can be completed. I would like to apologise in advance for the inconvenience and disruption this may cause you and your children, but I am sure you will agree that it is better to be safe than sorry.

Of course, I will keep you informed as the situation develops.

Finally, I would like to remind you about the importance of being in school every day. With Covid and teacher strikes, children have missed an awful lot of school and we need to start this year as we mean to go on with every child in every day!

Next week, we will start publishing our attendance figures again in the newsletter so let's see if we can have every class at 98% or better!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Stitches



St James' Blackburn
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Headteacher: Mr D Stitches BA (Hons), PGCE (Dist.), NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Ms V. Moore BEd (Hons), NPQH
Email: office@stjames.blackburn.sch.uk

School Meals

School meals must be paid for in advance via School Spider, at a cost of £2.35 per meal.

If you believe you may be entitled to free school meals, due to your financial circumstances, please ensure you apply as soon as possible.

<https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-meals>

Parents will continue to be able to book their child's meal on a termly basis, which allows your child their choice of meals. If a meal is not pre-booked your child will be receive the Kitchen Choice for the day.

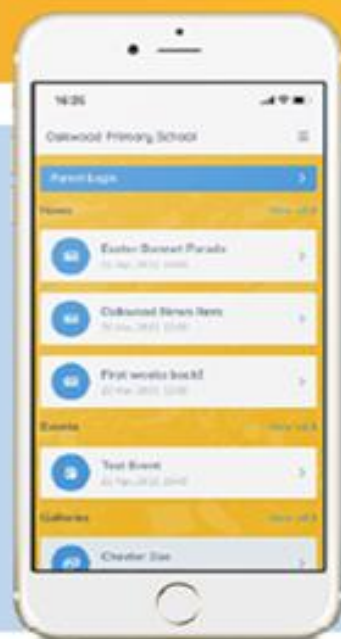


GUIDE TO OUR APP FOR PARENTS & CARERS



School Spider allows you to receive and return information directly to and from the school.
Receive instant messages, complete surveys, book your parents' evenings and make payments.

Select your school to get started!



LOGGING IN

Once you have selected the school, you will see posts from the school website. Click parent dashboard to login or create an account. Create an account by pressing "create account" and enter your email address. You must have your email linked with the school

TAKE A LOOK AROUND

See all action items on your dashboard

Click to respond or book for each child



Click the envelope to see your recent messages

Click these 3 lines to:

- Switch between areas
- Edit your profile
- Logout

DOWNLOAD NOW



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Walking To and From School Alone

From September 2023, children moving into Year 3 will not be permitted to walk to and from school alone.

The roads around school are very busy at the start and end of the school day so please make sure that your child is brought to school and collected by an adult or responsible older sibling from September.

Thank you for your co-operation!



WHOLE SCHOOL *updates*



St. James' Stars of the Week!

Well done everyone, we are very proud of you. Who will be receiving a certificate next week?

Pre-School & Nursery		Halima L & Maryam H & Ibraheem P & Harir G	
RS	Muhammad P & Adam B	RJ	N Noushad & M.H Shazaad
1S	Hassan. A. & Fatima M. Y.	1J	Sireen B & Muhammed Aayan H
2S	Noor H & Ilhan N	2J	Tayyab S & Maheen M
3S	Ali A & Haleema M	3J	Abdullah V & Muhammad Saad S
4S	M Fahim K & Amna M	4J	Saifan R & Fuzail S
5S	Yusuf A & Issa P	5J	Tinashe M & Muhammad Ismail A.
6S	Subhaan S & Owais B	6J	Yusuf P & Aleena K



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YEAR GROUP *updates*

Forest Pre-School & Nursery

We have had a lovely first week back in Pre-school and Nursery. It has been great to see so many of our Pre-school children arriving in the morning with big smiles on their faces. A big warm welcome to all our new starters too. This week we have been learning each others names and developing new relationships.

Action

- Please talk to your child about 'Charity'. This is something we will be discussing as we learn more about 'Harvest'.

Reception

We have had a fabulous first week in reception! We have been reading lots of traditional tales and singing number songs. We are learning to count forwards and backwards to 10. Children have been practising the daily routines and following the rules very well!

Action

- "PE day is Friday. Please send your child to school in their PE kit. If you have any spare wellies or old ones which don't fit your child anymore, we are looking for donations for our forest school."



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 1

"Welcome back to school. All the children have been amazing this week and settled in extremely well. We understand that change can be difficult and if you have any concerns or questions, do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Year 1 team. PE will be on Tuesdays and Fridays. "

Action

- "The children will be given their reading books on Friday. Please sign your child's diary once they have read their book. They will be given a Phonics book and a book to enjoy. The children will also be given their first set of spellings; please help them practice throughout the week ready for their daily spelling tests. The scores will be recorded in their planner."

Year 2

A warm welcome back to all the children in Year 2! We have had a wonderful start to the new academic year with the sun shining brightly on us! This week the children have thoroughly enjoyed their 'hook lesson' in English where we created our favourite fairy-tale characters. We can't wait to continue reading the Jolly Postman to see who he delivers post to next? In maths we have begun to draw jottings which represent tens and ones and have enjoyed using maths manipulatives to exchange. We have also been fortunate enough to participate in a musical workshop help by 'Rock-Steady' and are eager to form our very own Year 2 rock band!

Action

- **P.E. will now take place twice a week on Wednesday and Thursday. Please remember to come dressed in the appropriate P.E. uniform. We also kindly ask for all children to bring their book bags to school everyday which should have their reading planners, reading books and homework books.**



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 3

"We have loved seeing you all back happy and healthy this Autumn Term! Our new English text is 'Dear Greenpeace,' and the children have been learning about how to keep our world healthy. In Maths the children have been looking at place value and identifying the value of each digit in a number. Everybody enjoyed becoming part of the 'rock band,' and we hope to see many of you sign up for additional music lessons."

Action

- "PE day is a Wednesday, so please come to school in your PE kit. Alternate Mondays (your class teacher will remind you) we will also be completing 30 minutes of PE, so you will be required to come to school in your PE kit, starting from the 11th September. Each week we will send out 6 Maths questions, in your child's homework book, linking to the Maths topic in class. Please complete weekly in your books. Any questions, please try and catch your class teacher at the gate at the end of the day."

Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant first week back. In Maths we have been looking at Place Value and we have started to read 'Captain Underpants' in English. Just a quick reminder that next week will be PE on Monday as well as Thursday.

Action

- Please ensure children are reading at least 3 times a week at home and diaries are being signed.



YEAR GROUP *updates*

Year 5

What a fantastic start to the year! You have all settled in really well and have worked so hard. Miss Hussain and Mrs. Vali are excited to see what the year brings. We have been looking at a range of sentences in English and in Math's we have been focusing on place value. We have touched on Roman numerals and numbers up to a million.

Action

Homework must be completed by Wednesday the latest. We will be giving out reading books by next week. Please make sure your child reads at least 3x a week. P.E is every Tuesday. Every other week it falls on Monday and Tuesday.

Year 6

A huge welcome back to our fantastic Year 6 class! They children have worked exceptionally hard this week and have produced some excellent writing! We are so proud of you all! It has been wonderful to see our new Head Boy, Head Girl and our fantastic team of Prefects be excellent role models around school. Well done!

Action

- "Please ensure reading diary's are signed. If you have last years Art sketchbook at home, please return it to school. "



PRAYER

for the week

Dear God

We pray our school would be a place of great discovery,
adventure and creativity.

May it be a place where we love to learn and where we learn to
love, A place where every one is respected and all are deeply
valued. We ask you to help us through our school year

Amen



Follow the school on social media to
keep up to date on what is happening
in and around school!

Facebook: [@StJamesCofEBlackburn](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesCofEBlackburn)

Twitter: [@st_blackburn](https://twitter.com/st_blackburn)

Please note that you don't need to
have an account to view our social
media pages.



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