

# ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September  
2023



*Doug Stitches*

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

## Dear Parents/Guardians

Today is National Teaching Assistant's Day. It's a day where we celebrate all the hard work our teaching assistants do to support teaching and learning across the school.

Often the role of the teaching assistant is taken for granted; but without them, the school would not function and today is the day we say a huge thank you!

So on behalf of everyone at the school, I'd like to thank Mrs S Bagiya, Mrs N Ahmed, Mrs A Bhatti, Mrs F Chopdat, Miss S Desai, Mrs F Feathers, Mrs R Gariwala, Mrs Y Jassat, Mrs S Khonat, Mrs H Kothari, Miss T Lavelle, Mrs R Mahmood, Mrs Z Mala, Mr Y Manzoor, Mrs S Nagdee, Miss A Patel, Mrs S Patel, Mrs S Patel, Mrs Z Patel, Mrs M Sidat, Miss H Sufi, Mrs A Vali and Miss M Zaman!

All of your hard work is appreciated and we hope you enjoyed the day.

Next week is very busy and exciting. We are thrilled to be welcoming our

local Member of Parliament to the school. Kate Hollern MP will be joining us next week for a tour and to speak to some of the children about her role and what life like in the Houses of Parliament.

And finally, I would like to apologise to Year 3 for 'banning playtimes'! This was part of Year 3's English lessons and they wrote some very persuasive letters to me to convince me to change my mind! Obviously, we didn't really ban the playtimes and we were delighted with the quality of the children's writing!

I wish you all a lovely and relaxing 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  
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## Forthcoming Dates:

- **11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – 5J Parent’s Evening**
- **17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Pupil Photos in school**
- **18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Parent’s Evening**
- **30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Deadline for Secondary Admission**
- **31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 – 1<sup>st</sup> payment for Robinwood Residential**
- **5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Pantomime in school**
- **7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Christmas Lunch**
- **15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Payment for Residential Payment**
- **21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – Church Service**
- **21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – School Closure**



# BBC 500 Words Writing Competition



**St James' Blackburn**  
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**Deputy Headteacher:** Ms V. Moore BEd (Hons), NPQH  
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The Children's Commissioner for England has launched The Big Ambition survey to gather the views of children and young people ahead of next year's general election. This is a chance for children to have their say about what is important to them. The survey is available for children ages 0-18 and younger children will need the support of an adult to complete. It is available until Friday 15th December. Please follow the link or scan the QR code to find the survey.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition/>



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# attendance **MATTERS**



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 5J WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

95% and above

90% - 94.9%

Below 90%

RS	89.5%	🏅
RJ	95.2%	
1S	96.0%	
1J	95.0%	
2S	97.0%	
2J	96.7%	
3S	97.3%	
3J	96.2%	
4S	97.0%	
4J	97.9%	🏅
5S	94.8%	
5J	98.2%	🏆
6S	96.7%	
6J	92.4%	

If your child is absent due to illness, the office must be informed before 08:35 on that day.



# 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		Ahmad M Patel & Mohamad Azaan A & Gracie H & Mohammed Abu B	
RS	Ayaan M & Khadijah A	RJ	Nasr A. & Ibrahim S.
1S	Kiswa H & Hamza F	1J	Hajrah A & Zareesh W
2S	Anayah A & Hamda R	2J	Rumaisa R & Mohammed D
3S	Yusuf V & Farhan A	3J	Hilal J & Zain D
4S	Karim A & Amina M	4J	Aizah N, Faris H
5S	Anayah A & Hamda R	5J	Ahmed, A & Phoenix M
6S	Kubra & Baktash M	6J	Yusuf M & Inaaya F



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Forest Pre-School & Nursery*

This week in Pre-School and Nursery we have been focusing on the sense 'Touch'. We have been exploring different textures around us and also the different textures on our body, for example our skin, hair and our clothes. We have been really impressed with some of the descriptive words the children have been using e.g bumpy, rough, fluffy and smooth.

### *Action*

- Go on an Autumn walk. Can you collect any natural materials on your walk? Do they feel hard, soft, spiky?

## *Reception*

This week we have started our new class text "Peace at last". The children have been very creative making hedgehogs out of playdough and pasta! We have also been renovating our discovery area in preparation for planting bulbs.

### *Action*

- "We are in need of wellie boot contributions. If you have any old/spare wellies which you are not using or have grown out of we would really appreciate them. If you have specific wellies you would like your child to wear please send them into school with their name on."



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## Year 1

"OH NO! It's the Gruffalo! What's a Gruffalo? Why didn't you know... This week we have had a surprise visitor in class and he made a really big mess! We have been learning the story using actions and we have been looking at adjectives to describe the Gruffalo. He has a... In Maths, we have been doing a balancing act by learning all about Mass. We have used the vocabulary of heavier, lighters and equal to. What things could you weigh at home and what units of measure could you use? For example; pasta, rice etc. Autumn is now upon us, talk to your child about the changes they see outside. Why not go on a nice Autumnal walk and see what you can find."

## Action

- PE is on Tuesdays and Fridays, please come in correct PE uniform on those days. Please continue to enjoy your love of reading and sign once your child has read their book!

## Year 2

"We've had another fantastic week of learning in Year 2! The children have thoroughly enjoyed using balance scales and weighing scales to find classroom objects which weigh more than 1kg and less than 1kg. We've also enjoyed completing our own double bubbles in Science whilst comparing what we can do as a child now to what we did as a baby. We thoroughly enjoyed another exceptional 'hook lesson' in English where we played 'Run Postie Run!' to deliver mail to the correct address! We wonder what next week's learning will be about ... "

## Action

- 2S will be performing a parent worship on Thursday 5th October at 8.50 a.m. in the Key Stage 1 hall. Parents of 2S are invited to come and enjoy their presentation. We look forward to seeing you all. Thank you.



# YEAR GROUP updates



## Year 3

"We have had another great week in Year 3. In English, we are starting our unit on persuasive writing, as a hook to engage the children, Mr Stitcher held a meeting with Year 3, where he suggested banning playtimes to create more learning time. The children enjoyed writing to Mr Stitcher to persuade him that playtimes are beneficial and luckily they were successful. In computing, we are learning about how to keep safe online and the importance of validating the things we read online. Thank you for all your Harvest donations. "

## Action

- "Please read at least 3 times a week. Practise your spellings, daily. Complete weekly maths homework. "

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant week this week. We have been writing Fantasy stories in English and the children have come up with some brilliant ideas! In Maths we have been rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000.

## Action

- Please ensure reading diaries are signed at least 3 times a week. Please allow children to practise times tables regularly at home, to help them prepare for their times tables test.



# YEAR GROUP updates

## Year 5

"Year 5 have been given Math's and English homework which is based on what they have been learning this week, please help your child complete this."

## Action

5J will be holding a parent worship on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October in the KS2 hall, we look forward to seeing you all there!

## Year 6

This week 6J started their help in the Church gardens, we were so pleased to see the children working as a team! The children have all worked exceptionally hard in their maths this week tackling challenging multiplication questions. The children must all continue to work on their times tables.

## Action

- All children to work on mastering rapid recall of all times tables from 1 - 12. Reading diaries to be signed and brought in every day. The remaining children in 6J will be gardening next Thursday.



# PRAYER

*for the week*

Dear God

Help us to always respect others, to do our best, to believe in ourselves and to make the most of every opportunity to learn and grow. Thank you for our school ...

Amen



## After School Clubs

- **Monday**

Dodgeball club

- **Tuesday**

- Year 1/2 Multi-skills club
- Year 4 Multiplication club
- Netball Club
- Year 1 Phonics club

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

Facebook: [@StJamesCofEBlackburn](#)

Twitter: [@st\\_blackburn](#)

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

