

# ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 6th October 2023



*Doug Stitches*

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

## Dear Parents/Guardians

Can you believe it's already October? We now have just two weeks left before we break up for half-term!

Last week, we celebrated National Teaching Assistants' Day, and yesterday was National Teachers' Day! I would like to thank all of our amazing teachers for their hard work all year round. I am just wondering when National Head Teacher Day is!!

On Monday, Kate Hollern, MP for Blackburn popped in for a visit. She spoke with our Head and Deputy Head boys and girls before being interrogated by School Council who made her feel like she was back in the House of Commons.

Ms Hollern also invited us to visit her in Westminster – so this is definitely something we will look to do in the

future.

We also launched Black History Month on Monday with a fabulous worship from Mrs Rehman and we will be continuing this theme over the course of October.

As it is darker for longer, please make sure you consider how your child gets to and from school. Whilst we do allow some older children to walk home alone, it's important to remember that they are still children and if possible, especially as it gets darker, they should be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday

Mr Stitches



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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](mailto:office@stjames.blackburn.sch.uk)

## 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**



## **Blackburn MP visits school hit by crumbling concrete confusion**

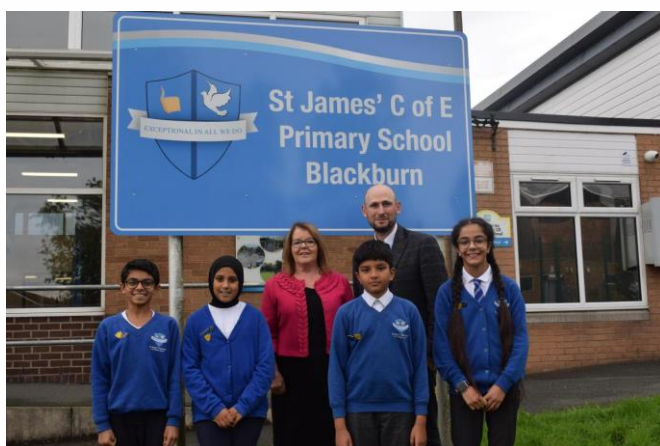
We welcomed a very important visitor this week; marking the end of a difficult period during which an inconclusive RAAC survey forced the partial closure of part of the school.

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerate Concrete (RAAC) has been a hot topic in schools recently after over one hundred schools were found to have buildings affected by this type of concrete that is prone to failure.

After Kate Hollern, MP for Blackburn, intervened, we were able to get a second survey and re-open the building.

Kate told us, "When the Mr Stitcher wrote to me desperately seeking some help as he was unable to get a response from the Department for Education, I knew I had to do something. I was fortunate enough to be selected at Prime Minister's Questions, so I put the question to Mr Sunak. I am delighted that this helped St James' Primary School re-open fully so quickly."

The Member of Parliament spent the morning in the school, talking to pupils about the role of a politician and answering questions from the school council. She joked that 'it was tougher than a day in the House of Commons!'. Ms Hollern also spent time talking to staff about some of the issues affecting them in education and met the school's pupil leadership team.



## IMMUNISATION FLU CLINIC

Intrahealth, the immunisation team, is holding flu clinics over the half term to vaccinate children who have missed the flu vaccination in school. If parents/guardians want to book into one of the clinics, please call the office on 03333583397 Option 2, Option 2. We are also happy for parents/guardians to drop in with their children if they're in the area to get them vaccinated.

- On 23/10/2023 from 9:15 am to 3:15 pm we will be at: Shadsworth Children Centre, North Rd, BB1 2HR
- On 27/10/2023 from 9:15 am to 3:15 pm we will be at: Darwen Family Hub, Lord St, BB3 0HB.








# attendance ~~MATTERS~~



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 4S & 3S WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

95% and above	RS	93.5%
	RJ	94.8%
	1S	90.0%
	1J	97.8%
90% - 94.9%	2S	96.7%
	2J	92.0%
	3S	99.3% 
	3J	97.6%
Below 90%	4S	99.3% 
	4J	97.2%
	5S	97.4%
	5J	98.2% 
	6S	98.0%
	6J	92.7%

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



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# 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		Umair M & Adam A & Ibrahim B & Meela B	
RS	Haleema A & Amara A	RJ	Muhsin P. & Rafia Z.
1S	Kulsum L & M. Sarim Ali	1J	Faiza M & Hajrah A
2S	Kiran I & Tayyab S	2J	Kiran I & Tayyab S
3S	Ibrahim Q & Aysha U	3J	Haris A & Maryam S
4S	Malaika H & Mitzee-Leigh R	4J	Zakariyya A & Salma A
5S	Khadija K & Aamina H	5J	Yasa A & Ayra K
6S	Adam N & Fiza H	6J	Mustafa S & Daniyal U



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# YEAR GROUP *updates*

## Forest Pre-School & Nursery

This week in Pre-School and Nursery we have been learning about the different ways we are Special. The children have learnt about how they are all different and that is what makes them Unique. We have been discussing our hair colour, eye colour, skin colour, who we live with and what our favourite things are. We have also been talking about the sense 'Taste'. The children have been trying porridge and talking about their favourite food.

## Action

- Talk to your child about different tastes. Can they identify sweet, salty and sour tastes?

## Reception

This week the children have been discussing their likes/dislikes during circle time and sharing their favourite stories. They have also created a self portrait using mixed media and they are really proud of them, as are we! In literacy the children have had lots of fun acting out the story of Peace at Last, if you ask them they may show you!

## Action

- If you have any family photos or photos of your family home that you are willing to share, please could you email them to the office: [office@stjames.blackburn.sch.uk](mailto:office@stjames.blackburn.sch.uk). We are learning all about our families and it would be lovely for the children to be able to share these with the class.



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## Year 1

It has been another amazing week! We have been learning about the Jewish festival of Sukkot and we have joined in with some of their traditions. We then compared the festival of Sukkot to the Christian festival of Harvest. In DT, we have been learning about different types of houses. Feel free to send in a picture of your own house and discuss what type of house you live in. Detached, semi-detached, bungalow, flat etc. Where will we be learning take us next week?

## Action

- Please continue to read with the children and sign their diaries once read and practice their spellings throughout the week. Their scores will go in their purple homework books.

## Year 2

We've had another wonderful week of learning in Year 2! The children have worked extremely hard at writing their informal and formal letters and remembered to include all the features of a letter too! We've also enjoyed using base 10 to add and subtract multiples of 10. A special well done to 2S on their beautiful parent worship performance - we thoroughly enjoyed the poems!

## Action

- Please remember to bring your reading book and planners to school everyday and as always please listen to your children read at least 3 times a week. Homework should be completed by Wednesday for the following week. Thank you :-)





# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Year 3*

The children have had another fabulous week of learning this week in Year 3. They have begun to plan their persuasive letter to Mr Stitcher to convince him that Year 3's definitely need a break time! In Maths, we have begun to look at adding three-digit numbers using the column method.

## *Action*

- Please make sure that you are completing your Maths homework each week in your homework books. Children will be given the opportunity to test on their reading books through the Accelerated Reader quiz once they have read and signed their planners. Thank you!

## *Year 4*

Year 4 have had a brilliant week. We have enjoyed looking at 'The Trapper' in English and we have been adding and subtracting four digit numbers with exchange in Maths. We would like to invite 4S's parents to come and watch 4S's Worship on Thursday 12th October at 8:55. We look forward to seeing you then.

## *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

We have had an exciting week voting for our team captains. In English we edited our ending of Outlaw. We are currently reading 'Earth Shattering Events'. In Maths' we have been looking at inverse operations.

## Action

On Monday there is no P.E. Please make sure your child reads at least 3x week and completes all homework.

## Year 6

This week all of Year 6 enjoyed a talk by the Fire Service. The children discussed road safety with the Fire Fighters. We were alarmed to see so many children admit to not wearing seatbelt in the car - please remind your children of the importance of wearing their seatbelt. 6J's Church Gardening visit has been postponed to 19.10.23. The children have all taken more responsibility in ensuring reading diaries are signed - well done keep this up!

## Action

- 6J pupils please learn your lines in preparation for your class worship. All children look at leaflet from the fire service team.



# PRAYER

*for the week*

Dear God

We pray for the families and communities of Calday Grange Grammar School and West Kirby Grammar School as they come to terms with the events of last Friday. We pray for all of those affected.



Nisi Dominus Frustra  
Ad Metam Contendo  
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](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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