

ST JAMES' Newsletter

St James' Blackburn
C of E Primary School
Earl Street, Blackburn
BB1 8EG
01254 698335

Date: Friday 8th December 2023



Doug Stitches

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

We only have two weeks left now before the Winter holidays. Please remember that school will close at 3:05 pm on **Thursday 21st December 2023** and re-open to children on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**.

I'm sure you will have seen our Christmas events are now in full-swing! Yesterday was our jumper day and our Christmas dinner – it was lovely to see so many staff and children enjoying their Christmas meal and looking so festive!

This time last year, we had a visit from Ofsted which interfered with a lot of our activities! I missed a lot of the performances due to meetings with inspectors! However, this year, we are looking forward to really enjoying the season and we are all looking forward to seeing most of you over the next

two weeks.

Finally, just a reminder about road safety. This week, we had an incident where a child was injured by a car outside school.

Please emphasise with your children how dangerous the roads can be and maybe practise crossing so you can show them how to look for signs that cars may be about to move.

If you are driving to school, please be very aware of your surroundings. Remember, some of our children are very small and are easy to miss.

But of course, the real solution to the problem is to walk to school if you can.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Stitches



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Deputy Headteacher: Ms V. Moore BEd (Hons), NPQH
Email: office@stjames.blackburn.sch.uk

Save the Children

Whilst we are not carrying out any additional fundraising in school at the moment, we know that many of you will still want to give in order to support the humanitarian effort in the Middle East. 'Save the Children' has been recommended to us as a suitable charity.

You can give a one-off donation by visiting <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/donate/single/donation-single-00138?cid=pse-gpgazaemergencyappeal> and any monies raised by clicking this link will go directly to supporting children caught up in the crisis.



Save the Children®



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Autumn Term Events updated:



- **11th December 2023 at 2:15pm, Year 1 and 2 carol concert, KS2 hall - £1 per ticket**
- **12th December 2023 at 10:20am, Year 3, 4 and 5 carol concert, KS2 hall - £1 per ticket**
- **12th December 2023 at 2:15pm, Year 3, 4 and 5 carol concert, KS2 hall - £1 per ticket**
- **13th December 2023 at 2:15pm, EYC and Reception nativity, KS2 hall - £1 per ticket**
- **14th December 2023 at 2:15pm, Year 6 production, KS2 hall - £1 per ticket**
- **14th December at 10am, Rocksteady Concert, KS2 Hall - Parents of children taking part invited to attend.**
- **21st December 2023 at 10:30am (KS1) & 11am (KS2), Church service**
- **Closure after School – Thursday 21st December 2023 @ 3:05pm**
- **School Re-open – Tuesday 9th January 2024**



Annual selection box raffle

Tickets on sale
20p a ticket
Raffle drawn in school on
20/12/2023





On Wednesday the children at St. James' were wowed by the magical performance of *Robin Who? Robin Hood!* With the help of the actors and their puppets, all of the children were transported back in time to the mid 13th century, landing in Sherwood Forest. Together with Miss Clutterbrook, Robin Hood and his band of merry men, managed to steal from the rich and give back to the poor, all in time to free King Richard! Thank you for all of your pantomime donations, the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



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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	RS	88.0%
	RJ	91.4%
	1S	89.0%
	1J	88.9%
90% - 94.9%	2S	91.7%
	2J	93.3%
	3S	91.3%
	3J	96.4% 
Below 90%	4S	93.3%
	4J	89.7%
	5S	89.3%
	5J	96.7% 
	6S	95.5%
	6J	93.3%

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		Fatimah I & Yusuf R & Willis W & Azaan A	
RS	Melissa MF & Amaan P	RJ	Saarah P. & Zala M.
1S	M. Isa A & Kulsum L	1J	Muhammed Aayan H & Alyan I
2S	Muhammad-Rayhan P & Amreha F	2J	Aiza R & Issa P
3S	Salma A and Haniya A	3J	Adam A-M & Muhammad Zain A
4S	Safa M & Asfa S	4J	Subhana S & Hawa H
5S	Limar A & Hassan S	5J	Hashim H & Yasa Alvi H
6S	Ayaan R & Faizan M	6J	Ehla S & Zayn A



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YEAR GROUP *updates*

Forest Pre-School & Nursery

This week we have started learning about the season Winter. We have been reading the story 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson and making our first own stick men using the sticks we have found in our outdoor area.

Action

- Please make sure you have your child's nativity costume ready for Wednesday.

Reception

We watch our Christmas nativity this week, Robin Hood and it was fabulous! The children had a wonderful time decorating the Christmas tree and the classroom, as well as sharing a lovely lunch together in our Christmas jumpers. We have continued our space topic and have been looking at astronauts like Tim Peak in space!

Action

- Please send clothes that were specified on your slip for the nativity ASAP. If you are unsure please ask your teacher. Thank you to everyone who attended the Stay and Read session.



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 1

The children all have their library cards now, it would be lovely to see pictures of them visiting and borrowing a book of their choice. They are behind you! Oh no they're not! Our Panto was a great success! The children enjoyed the story of Robin Hood and his merry men. The spirit of Christmas is truly upon us and it was great seeing all the children in their festive outfits. Teachers and all the children enjoyed our Christmas meal together. We had a cracking time!

Action

- We have our KS1 carol concert on Monday 11th December at 2:15 in the KS2 hall. Please can all the children come in, in their Christmas outfits.

Year 2

Year 2 have visited the library this week and have had an amazing time finding our local library and looking at the selection of books. We have planned our writing this week all about Spring, we have learnt lots of interesting things to help with our non-chronological reports!

Action

- KS1 Carol Concert @ 2:15pm on the 11th of December.



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 3

This week the children have been practicing their carols to perform during the carol concert on Tuesday. They all thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas lunch in their jumpers on Thursday. It really is beginning to feel a bit more like Christmas in school now!

In Science, the children have been further investigating how shadows are formed through light, and have begun to create their own shadow puppet theatre.

The children have used the exciting vocabulary that they have learnt in English to write their own spell poem.

Action

- On Monday, 3J will be going to the Memory Café to perform their nativity concert for the residents there. Please make sure that they are wearing sensible footwear and have a waterproof coat on. The children can't wait to perform their carol concert songs to you on Tuesday! Please continue to complete the weekly Maths homework and continue to listen to your child read.

Year 4

This week we have been writing our own information texts about the Industrial Revolution using our history topic to help us. In Maths, we have continued to find factors of a number using our times tables to help us.

We have also looked at the importance of making healthy choices.

Action

- Please continue to practise all of the times tables at home with your child. Thank you.



YEAR GROUP *updates*

Year 5

Year 5 really enjoyed their visit to the library on Tuesday afternoon. If your child has taken a book, please remember to return the book back to the library in 3 weeks. We have worked really hard this week and completed Maths, Reading and SPAG test. Well done Year 5!

Action

Please make sure your child is wrapped up as the weather is getting colder. It is important for your child to read at least 3x a week. Year 3,4,and 5 Carol concert is held on the Tuesday 12th December at 2:15pm.

Year 6

Year 6 have been busy this week rehearsing for our nativity. We hope you can come and watch your children perform the story of Christmas.

Action

- Please can you help your children learn their lines for the nativity.



PRAYER

for the week

Dear God

Thank you for our St James' community and everyone who helps our school to be the best that it can be.

We pray for the year ahead.

Let's all pray for the safety of everyone and peace all around the world.

Amen



After School Clubs

• Monday

Dodgeball club

Y4 Multiplication Club

UKS2 Girls' Football Club

KS1 Technology Club

Y1 & Y2 Music Club

• Tuesday

- Year 1/2 Multi-skills 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.



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