

ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 2nd May 2025



Doug Stitches

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

What a sunny week it's been in school! It's getting a bit too hot to wear the lollipop uniform!

Our Year 2 children had a fantastic time on their trip to Blackpool this week. The weather was kind, the children were brilliant ambassadors for our school, and we couldn't be prouder of how they represented us. A huge thank you to all the staff who made the day run so smoothly. We hope your child came home with lots of stories (and not too much sand!)

I have received a complaint from a local resident about her driveway being blocked by parents picking up. Please remember to park considerately. Try and imagine how you would feel if you were unable to access your own property because of people parking in front of it!

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, from Tuesday 6th May, all packed lunch rubbish will need to go home in your child's lunch box. This change is part of our new recycling initiative – helping us reduce waste and giving the children more time to enjoy their lunchtime. Thank you for your support with this.

And finally, just a reminder that Monday 5th May is a Bank Holiday, so school will be closed. We'll see you all again on Tuesday!

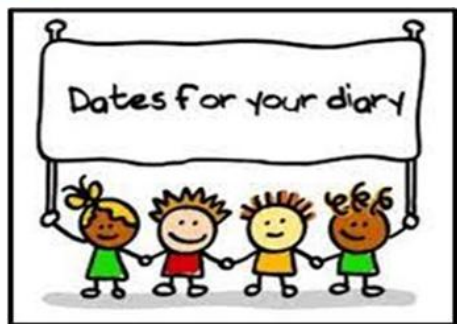
Have a lovely long weekend!

Mr Stitches



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Deputy Headteacher: Ms V. Moore BEd (Hons), NPQH
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Monday 12th May

SATs week

Monday 5th May

School closed for May Day Bank holiday

Friday 23rd May

School close for half term

Monday 19th May

Year 3 & 4 Sports Day

Tuesday 20th May

Year 5 & 6 Sports Day

Wednesday 21st May

Reception & KS1 Sports Day

Friday 23rd May

EYC Sports Day

Thursday 12th June New Reception Intake 2025 Parent Meeting @ 9am

Thursday 3rd July (one-hour slot to be confirmed) - New Reception Intake 2025 Parent and Child child's transition session in school

Monday 7th July (pm – timings to be confirmed) New Reception Intake 2025 Parent and Child Teddy Bear's Picnic

Important
Dates



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School Meals & Breakfast Club - Charges from September 2025

We would like to advise that from Wednesday 3rd September 2025 there will be a price increase to the cost of breakfast club and school meals. The current price for breakfast club is **£1.50 per day**, this will rise to **£2.00 per day**, to ensure all children attending continue to receive a healthy breakfast and the best supervision before they start the school day.

School meals will also increase to **£2.60 per day** for a nutritionally balanced two-course meal would still proves excellent value for money. We continue to work closely with LCC who provide the catering service and have taken their advice with the price increase but still remained lower than their recommended charge per meal. They continue to offer an exciting and varied range of meals which are both healthy and nutritious. All of the menus are developed in line with the nutritional standards which meets the government food standards and gives value for money.

There will be no impact for KS1 children who receive the government funded Universal Infant Free School meal offer, or our students in receipt of Free School Meals.

For parents who pay for school meals we would like to remind you that it may be worth making an application for Free School Meals

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

I ask for your understanding with these price increases and fully appreciate that times are tough. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask them and I'll do my best to answer them.

Please be reassured that, we will continue to assess the meals to ensure that their quality is maintained.



PE Dates

Summer 1

This is a list of dates your child will have PE this half term. It is important that your child wears the correct PE uniform for their PE lesson.

This half term your child will be outside completing their PE lessons, so suitable clothing should be worn, including trainers. Please make sure your child does not wear studs.

A reminder that when it is your child's PE day they must NOT wear earrings to school.

	<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Week 3</u>	<u>Week 4</u>	<u>Week 5</u>
<u>Reception</u> <u>(RG & RW)</u>	Friday 25th April	Friday 2nd May	Friday 9th May	Friday 16th May	Friday 23rd May
<u>Year 1</u> <u>(1A & 1F)</u>	Wednesday 23rd April	Monday 28th April Wednesday 30th April	Wednesday 7th May	Monday 12th May Wednesday 14th May	Monday 19th May Wednesday 21st May
<u>Year 2</u> <u>(2K & 2W)</u>	Tuesday 22nd April Thursday 24th April	Tuesday 29th April Thursday 1st May	Tuesday 6th May Thursday 8th May	Tuesday 13th May Thursday 15th May	Tuesday 20th May Thursday 22nd May
<u>Year 3</u> <u>(3B & 3M)</u>	Wednesday 23rd April	Monday 28th April Wednesday 30th April	Wednesday 7th May	Wednesday 14th May	Monday 19th May Wednesday 21st May
<u>Year 4</u> <u>(4A & 4S)</u>	Thursday 24th April	Monday 28th April Thursday 1st May	Thursday 8th May	Thursday 15th May	Monday 19th May Thursday 22nd May
<u>Year 5</u> <u>(5B & 5R)</u>	Friday 25th April	Friday 2nd May	Friday 9th May	Monday 12th May Friday 16th May	Friday 23rd May
<u>Year 6</u> <u>(6H & 6V)</u>	Tuesday 22nd April	Tuesday 29th April	Tuesday 6th May	Monday 12th May Tuesday 13th May	Tuesday 20th May





Blackburn with Darwen

ADULT LEARNING

School is offering a FREE 5 – week pre – entry ESOL course for parents. The sessions will include developing key languages to promote communication between home and school.

Venue : St James' C E Primary School (Early Years Centre)

Day: Wednesday

Start Date: 23/04/2025 till 21/05/2025

You will need to enrol on the course.

For more information contact the school office.

Please attend all classes every week.



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Lancashire &
South Cumbria
NHS Foundation Trust

East Lancashire Young People's Mental Health

Concerned about your Mental Health?

Are you under 18 or concerned about someone under 18?

Advice sessions are available on-line via

'Attend Anywhere'

Delivered by ELCAS

tinyurl.com/ELCAS-LSCFT



Enter the word "ELCAS" as the first name and "drop in" as the
second name followed by your date of birth.

You will then enter our virtual waiting area where we will collect
you.

Wednesday 7th May 2025

1pm - 3pm

Wednesday 14th May 2025

3pm - 5pm

Wednesday 21st May 2025

5pm – 7pm

Wednesday 28th May 2025

1pm - 3pm



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Free Early Years Education



RECOMMENDED TIME TO APPLY FOR YOUR CODE

- codes **must** be reconfirmed every three months to remain eligible

when your child turns 2 years or 3 years	when they can get Free hours from	Recommended time to apply
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	15 October - 30 November (no later than 31 December)
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	15 January - 29 February (no later than 31 March)
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	15 June to 31 July (no later than 31 August)

**Your code may need reconfirming before your child commences a
Early Years place if you apply too early.**



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attendance ~~MATTERS~~



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 5B WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FROM LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

95% and above	RG	92.3%
	RW	89.4%
	1A	97.8%
	1F	84.4%
90% - 94.9%	2K	95.1%
	2W	98.1%
	3B	95.8%
	3M	96.7%
	4A	98.3%
	4S	94.2%
Below 90%	5B	99.6%
	5R	96.0%
	6H	93.3%
	6V	95.8%



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		Humaria A, Hussain A, Hassan S & Raees A	
RG	Alina M & Mishal I	RW	Ibraheem A & Maryam H
1A	Muhammad-Hassan S & Saarah P	1F	Hawa I & Amaan P
2W	Faiza M & Sienna S	2K	Noor Fatima MY & Emaan RF
3M	Maheen M & Sultan A	3B	Uzair M & M.Ayaan M
4S	Ammar P & Fatema P	4A	Haniya R & All of 4A
5B	Aaqib P & M.Siddiq M	5R	Noor P & Fatima T
6V	Ayra K & M. Saad	6H	Muhammmad P & Khadija K



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YEAR GROUP *updates*

Forest Pre-School & Nursery

"The children have had a fantastic week learning about jungle animals and reading the stories 'Monkey Puzzle' and 'Rumble in the Jungle'. They have started answering why and how questions about stories they know well and retelling the stories using new vocabulary. The children have loved exploring the changes to the outdoor environment during forest school. They have started to plant new flowers, create habitats for insects and enjoy the weather with their friends. "

Action

Please can all children come into nursery with a water bottle and sun hat.

Reception

This week the children have been learning about odd and even numbers in maths and have impressed the grown ups with how quickly they have grasped this. We have been continuing with our sea theme this week, writing simple sentences about our story Tiddler. The children have made sea creatures in expressive arts and design and have made boats in the construction area. We definitely have some future engineers and designers!

Action

- As the weather has been warmer please make sure your child comes into school with sun cream on, no coats, with a water bottle and a sun hat. Please continue reading regularly at home, every day if possible. Thank you.



YEAR GROUP *updates*

Year 1

"In Science, we have started to learn about different types of animals. Mammal, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians
[.https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6882h](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6882h)
vUse the link above to learn more about these animals. Create a poster about one type of animal."

Action

Please can you ensure that your child bring in a water bottle and hat in a the weather has we have been having warmer day.

Year 2

"The highlight of our week was definitely 'Blackpool! 'What a lovely day we had. The children built sandcastles, saw the lightboats in the station, walked to the tower and ate ice creams. We will continue to do work based on the trip for the next few weeks."

Action

"Please continue to read with your children, it is so important and can have such a positive effect for the rest of your child's life."



YEAR GROUP *updates*

Year 3

This week, the children have been adding and subtracting with missing numbers. It has been very difficult but they have worked very hard. The children have also been acting out playscripts and editing them so they become their own.

Action

Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant week this week. We have been finishing our class novel 'The Waterhorse' in English and in Maths we have been looking at place value. In science we have been exploring solids, liquids and gases.

Action

Please ensure children are practising their times tables daily as the official test is only a few weeks away!



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 5

"Year 5 had a fantastic trip to Bowley Scout Camp on Monday. The weather was perfect and we were able to enjoy a range of activities including grass sledging and the leap of faith! Pupils really impressed us with their behaviour and positive attitudes towards the activities. In Maths we've been carrying out some consolidation and assessment of our recent learning and in English we've continued reading Kensuke's Kingdom. We had great fun in Science this week dissecting flowers and creating botanical illustrations."

Action

Please continue to read and sign reading records including the date and number of pages read. If you could aim for three times a week that would be really helpful in supporting pupils. If your child is a fluent reader, you can use this reading time to discuss their understanding of what they've read and explore any unfamiliar words.

Year 6

This week we have been revising for Grammar and spelling. In Maths we have continued to look at shapes and angles as well as a range of reasoning questions. Next week is a 4 day week and the final school week before SATs.

Action

Please encourage your child to complete their work and look at past SATs paper to help them with their revision. It is important your child makes the most of their weekends to revise and refresh their memory so they are feeling prepared and confident. Only 4 school days left till SATs or 11 days if we count the days we are home. Make each and every day count...



PRAYER

for the week

Dear God

Help us to love the world we live in.
Help us to have the courage to be exceptional in all we do.
Help us to respect the people around us
Thank you for making our school your home.

Amen



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS:

MONDAY

Year 2 performing Arts Club

TUESDAY

Year 3 Tennis Club

Year 4 MTC Club

Year 1 Phonics Club

KS2 Athletics 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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