

# ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025



*Doug Stitches*

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

## Dear Parents/Guardians

That was a very short week with the Bank Holiday! I hope you all enjoyed the long weekend.

This week, we have been celebrating VE Day with a variety of activities and assemblies, culminating with our Year 3 children participating in the council commemorative service yesterday. It was a beautiful event with children and veterans alike taking time to remember those who died during World War II.

You can see the photos in the Lancashire Telegraph!

Next week is SATs week for our Year 6 children. If your child is in Year 6, it is imperative that they are in school every day on time. If they do not take any of the tests in one subject, they will not be given a score. If you are having any difficulties at all, please contact the

school office as early as you can.

And finally, in the last week of this half-term (week beginning 19th May), we will be holding our Sports Days. This year, we are planning on creating a more immersive and competitive experience and we will be asking parents to, if possible, wear the colours of their child's house team to show support! It's going to be quite the event, and we really hope you enjoy our new format – which is more in line with traditional sports days from the days!

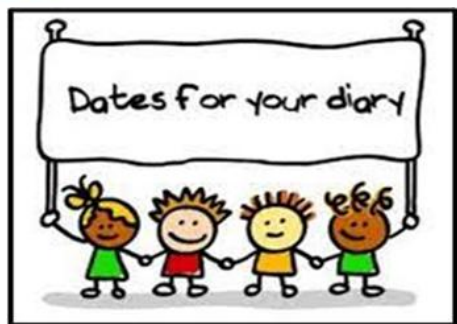
Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Stitches



**St James' Blackburn**  
C of E Primary School

**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)



**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

SATs week

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

School close for half term

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

Year 3 & 4 Sports Day @ 1:45pm

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

Year 5 & 6 Sports Day @ 1:45pm

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

Reception & KS1 Sports Day @ 1:45pm

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

EYC Sports Day **10am** for am children

EYC Sports Day **2pm** for afternoon children

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June** New Reception Intake 2025 Parent Meeting @ 9am

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

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

Important  
Dates



**St James' Blackburn**  
C of E Primary School

**Headteacher:** Mr D Stitcher BA (Hons), PGCE (Dist.), NPQH  
**Deputy Headteacher:** Ms V. Moore BEd (Hons), NPQH  
**Email:** office@stjames.blackburn.sch.uk

## Breakfast Club

As KS2 SATs are taking place next week, the Breakfast Club will relocate to the KS1 hall. Access will be via the KS1 blue front door. Please knock to get the attention of the staff.

Breakfast Club will return to the KS2 hall from Monday 19th May. Thank you.



## SATs Breakfast Club

A reminder that SATs Breakfast Club starts in the KS2 hall at 8:20. If your child is earlier than this time, please go to the KS1 hall for normal breakfast club and they will be brought down at 8:20. For this week, there is no admission fee for Y6 children.

Please ensure all Y6 children attend school for 8:20 next week.





The Forecast is still showing high temperatures for the weeks ahead. Therefore we have asked all children to:

- Wear their PE kits
- Bring in a cap
- Bring a water bottle
- Ensure they have applied sun cream

In the afternoon, parents are invited to arrive to the fields behind Oozebooth Terrace at 1:45pm. Parents are invited to spectate via the fields. There is a path leading down to the fields.

Parents are asked to stay on one side of the fields and leave children to sit with their classes and compete in the races.



## School Meals & Breakfast Club - Charges from September 2025

We would like to advise that from Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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>
<b><u>Reception</u></b> <b><u>(RG &amp; RW)</u></b>	Friday 25th April	Friday 2nd May	Friday 9th May	Friday 16th May	Friday 23rd May
<b><u>Year 1</u></b> <b><u>(1A &amp; 1F)</u></b>	Wednesday 23rd April	Monday 28th April Wednesday 30th April	Wednesday 7th May	Monday 12th May Wednesday 14th May	Monday 19th May Wednesday 21st May
<b><u>Year 2</u></b> <b><u>(2K &amp; 2W)</u></b>	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
<b><u>Year 3</u></b> <b><u>(3B &amp; 3M)</u></b>	Wednesday 23rd April	Monday 28th April Wednesday 30th April	Wednesday 7th May	Wednesday 14th May	Monday 19th May Wednesday 21st May
<b><u>Year 4</u></b> <b><u>(4A &amp; 4S)</u></b>	Thursday 24th April	Monday 28th April Thursday 1st May	Thursday 8th May	Thursday 15th May	Monday 19th May Thursday 22nd May
<b><u>Year 5</u></b> <b><u>(5B &amp; 5R)</u></b>	Friday 25th April	Friday 2nd May	Friday 9th May	Monday 12th May Friday 16th May	Friday 23rd May
<b><u>Year 6</u></b> <b><u>(6H &amp; 6V)</u></b>	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.



**St James' Blackburn**  
C of E Primary School

**Headteacher:** Mr D Stitcher 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)



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](https://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 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025

1pm - 3pm

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

3pm - 5pm

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025

5pm – 7pm

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025

1pm - 3pm



**St James' Blackburn**  
C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Mr D Stitcher 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)

# 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	<b>15 October - 30 November</b> (no later than 31 December)
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	<b>15 January - 29 February</b> (no later than 31 March)
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	<b>15 June to 31 July</b> (no later than 31 August)

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



# attendance ~~MATTERS~~



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 4A WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FROM LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

95% and above	RG	92.3%
	RW	91.6%
	1A	96.5%
	1F	88.6%
90% - 94.9%	2K	95.0%
	2W	98.9%
	3B	98.9%
	3M	95.7%
	4A	99.0%
	4S	95.0%
Below 90%	5B	95.7%
	5R	96.1%
	6H	98.0%
	6V	94.7%



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



**St James' Blackburn**  
C of E Primary School

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

# 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		Sulieman G, Maryam P, Hafsa H & Odai A	
RG	Zayn Y. & Khadijah B.	RW	M.Husayn A & Meela B
1A	Firdaus H & Maryam B	1F	Zayn P & Aiara P
2W	Aysha K & Shifa P	2K	Amna AA & Aaminah G
3M	Aaisha C & Haadi F	3B	Gamar A & Amina M`
4S	Sana A & Muhammad Saad S	4A	Ayaan A & Ibrahim Q
5B	Areeba S & Aiman Z	5R	Ayesha Q & Fatimah R
6V	Hira M & M.Hasan F	6H	Issa P & Arfa k



**St James' Blackburn**  
C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Mr D Sticher 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)

# YEAR GROUP *updates*

## Forest Pre-School & Nursery

The children have had a fantastic week learning about Elma the Elephant and observing changes in the natural environment.

### Action

Please continue to send the children in with water bottles and sun hats.

## Reception

The children have enjoyed our new class story 'A shark in the park.' We have spotted rhyming words and have been working on writing simple sentences. In maths we have been doubling numbers within 10. The children have enjoyed learning about VE day. They spent the afternoon crafting medals and flags. In PE we are learning about athletics and have been practising our jumping and running skills.

### Action

- Please continue supporting your children with their reading every day at home. Now the weather is getting nicer enjoy the outdoors with your children, going to the park, climbing, cycling, ball games etc.



# YEAR GROUP *updates*

## *Year 1*

We celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day this week. The children learnt about the history of the key events and created table decorations and made lemonade.

## *Action*

As the weather is warming up again please apply sun cream before coming to school and bring in hats and water bottles.

## *Year 2*

This week the children have learnt all about VE Day and created some fantastic bunting to help with the celebrations. We have been continuing to work on 'The Magic Finger' in English. This week the children have planned their own ending to the story. Miss Kay and Mrs Williamson are very excited to read their fantasy stories.

## *Action*

"Please continue to read and complete homework with your child. Miss Kays' Performing Arts Club is back on Monday. "



# YEAR GROUP *updates*

## *Year 3*

Year 3 have had a brilliant week celebrating VE Day and represented our school well at the VE Day memorial. We have completed our Maths unit on addition and subtraction where the children have done superb!

## *Action*

Please ensure you have returned the Ribchester Museum slip to the office or your child's teacher.

## *Year 4*

Year 4 have had a brilliant week this week. In English we have been planning a Fantasy story and in Maths we have been partitioning four digit numbers.

## *Action*

Please ensure children are wearing trainers on Tuesday as we will be litter picking in the local area.



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Year 5*

Another short but busy week in Year 5. We have been very busy working through our Summer curriculum and this has included learning about significant women in the Bible, writing diary entries, carrying out Maths assessments and sketching plants. On Thursday we learnt about VE day and its significance in British history.

## *Action*

Please can you ensure planners are regularly signed, included the date and page numbers that have been read.

## *Year 6*

"over the past few weeks year 6 have been revising key topics in both Maths and English. They have practiced using a range of past SATs papers to build confidence, improve their test techniques and identify areas for development. Mrs Valli, Miss Hussain and all the Year 6 support staff are incredibly proud of the effort they have shown."

## *Action*

"As your child prepares to sit their SATs next week, we want to ensure they are set up for success each day. A light breakfast (free of charge) will be provided for all students on testing days to help them start their morning with energy and focus. We also kindly remind you to encourage your child to get plenty of rest each night during the week. Thank you for your ongoing support."



# 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  
Year 1 Phonics 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.



**St James' Blackburn**  
C of E Primary School

**Headteacher:** Mr D Stitcher 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)