

# ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 16th May 2025



*Doug Stitches*

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

## Dear Parents/Guardians

What a lovely week of sunshine! I'd firstly like to say well done to all our Year 6 children who have coped brilliantly with their SATs test this week. It's not easy for them with it being their first experience of formal examinations, but everyone stepped up to the challenge and they can now really enjoy their final couple of months of primary school! And of course, a big thank you to all the staff involved in administering the tests – it's a very stressful process making sure all of the rules are followed to the letter, but again, everyone pulled together to ensure a seamless period of testing.

We do have one child left to take the tests so I would ask that you speak to your children about not sharing what was in the tests either in person or online until next Saturday when all the

children in the country who are eligible will have completed their SATs.

Next week is our Sports Day events! Please send your child in to school (on their day) with a water bottle, sun cream already applied and, if possible, wearing a t-shirt in their house colours. This will add to the overall experience of our first competitive house competition.

Mr Cameron and I will be your hosts – we've been practising our best jokes and we're really looking forward to being let loose on the microphones!

I look forward to seeing you all next week at our Sports Days.

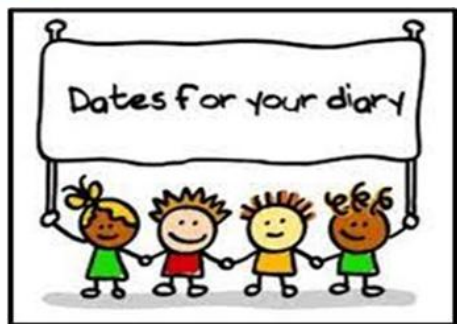
Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Stitches



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<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Year 3 & 4 Sports Day @ 1:45pm
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Year 5 & 6 Sports Day @ 1:45pm
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	Reception & KS1 Sports Day @ 1:45pm
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	EYC Sports Day <b>10:30am</b> for morning children EYC Sports Day <b>2pm</b> for afternoon children
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	School close for half term
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	School Re-open
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	New Reception Intake 2025 Parent Meeting @ 9am
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b> (one-hour slot to be confirmed) -	New Reception
Intake 2025 Parent and Child's transition session in school	
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b> (pm – timings to be confirmed)	New Reception Intake 2025
Parent and Child Teddy Bear's Picnic	





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

- Wear t-shirt in their house colours.
- 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.

Week 1 will start from Tuesday 22nd April.

	<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.



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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](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



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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	<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 5B WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FROM LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

95% and above	RG	93.8%	
	RW	92.0%	
	1A	97.8%	
	1F	86.9%	
90% - 94.9%	2K	91.7%	
	2W	93.1%	
	3B	96.7%	
	3M	97.5%	
	4A	97.9%	2
	4S	97.5%	
Below 90%	5B	100.0%	1
	5R	91.1%	
	6H	97.9%	2
	6V	90.8%	

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		Musa H, Maryam M, Fatima D & Anabia A	
RG	Daniyal A. & Aisha K.	RW	Sebastian C & Safaa A
1A	Muhammad-Hassan S & Abeer S	1F	Amara A & Haleema A
2W	M. Dawood A & Sarim A	2K	Kiswa H & Mubarak Hassan A
3M	Radwan B & Aaminah P	3B	Fatima Nalain A & M.Eesa M
4S	Maryam S & Alesha A	4A	Nafia Z & Ibrahim P
5B	Isma'eel A & M.Zayn B	5R	Saifan R & Subhana S
6V	All of Year 6	6H	All of 6H



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# YEAR GROUP *updates*

## Forest Pre-School & Nursery

"The children have had a fantastic week at nursery! They have created their own tiger and zebra pictures, built water runs in the outdoor area and even create their own nature pictures. Some of the children have started to take part in phonics lessons. It has been fantastic to see their progress in phonics. Please ask your children about this at home. "

## Action

"Please continue to send your child into nursery with a hat, water bottle and sun cream when needed. Sports Day will take place on Friday 23rd May at 10:30am and 2pm. "

## Reception

The children have been learning about halving and sharing this week in maths. In literacy we have been continuing to learn how to write sentences and Fred talk using phonics to write the words. The children have immersed themselves in expressive arts and design this week and we have seen a wonderful variety of turtles.

## Action

- Sports day will take place next Wednesday afternoon, starting at 1.45pm. It will take place in the field next to the Key Stage 2 building (which can be accessed via Oozebooth Terrace). Please continue to read with your child daily at home.



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Year 1*

"This week we have started a new non-fiction text, 'Do you love bugs?' and we found out many amazing facts about some of the bugs. Ask your child to share some of the facts they learnt about bees, worms and spiders. We have also been practicing for our sports events which will be next week."

## *Action*

1F have a 'Parent worship' on Tuesday 20th May at 8:55. We look forward to seeing you all then. On Wednesday 21st May we will be holding KS1 sports day. This will start at 13:45 on the field near KS2. Please ensure that your child is wearing suncream and has a bottle of water. All children need to be in their P.E. kits for the day.

## *Year 2*

The children have been writing stories this week based on the book 'The Magic finger!' Watch out or you might be transformed into an animal. We have also continued our Blackpool topic as the lovely weather continues.

## *Action*

There will be no 'Performing Arts' club on Monday as it's the last week of half term!





# YEAR GROUP *updates*

## *Year 3*

This week, the children have been working hard on their multiplication strategies and learning different ways to multiply numbers. We have also had a go at stitching this week with a needle and thread. The children learnt how to do a running stitch and an over stitch.

## *Action*

P.E. Kits on Monday, caps and sun cream

## *Year 4*

Year 4 have had a brilliant week this week. In Maths we have been calculating sums mentally and finding the missing perimeter in shapes. In English we have finished writing our Fantasy stories. The children have really enjoyed litter picking this week!

## *Action*

"Please ensure children bring a water bottle for sports day on Monday. Please ensure children are practising their times tables everyday since we only have a few weeks left till the official test!"



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## Year 5

We've enjoyed the sunshine this week in Year 5. On Tuesday we went out and did some litter picking. We were amazed by how much litter there is when you look closely. We talked about the impact of this on our community and the environment. We've started training for Sports' Day next week so that we can put maximum effort into each event. In English we've been writing reports about Bowley Scout Camp using our first hand experience and in Science we learnt about the different ways plants reproduce.

## Action

"Please try to read each week and sign and date planner. See details on newsletter regarding Sports Day."

## Year 6

Year 6 have worked incredibly hard this week as they tackled their SATs with determination and resilience. Each day, they approached their tests with focus and a positive attitude, showing just how much effort they have put into their learning throughout the year. Whether it was maths, reading, or grammar, every pupil gave it their best, demonstrating not only their academic progress but also their perseverance and maturity. The whole school is proud of how dedicated and hardworking they have been – they truly gave it their all!

## Action

"Next week is Sports day on Tuesday afternoon on the 20th May. The children have earned a well rested weekend and we can't wait to see you next week where we can learn and enjoy the sun at the same time."



# 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.



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