

St James' Weekly News

St James' C of E Primary School
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Date: 11th July 2025



Doug Stitcher
Mr D Stitcher, Head Teacher

Dear Parents/Guardians,

What a week it's been!

Tuesday was our Nursery Graduation ceremonies! It was fabulous to see all the children in their gowns as they graduated pre-school and moved into 'big school'!

Thank you to everyone who attended and to Miss Kilshaw who led the ceremonies! Well done to everyone involved!

Also on Tuesday, we received our KS2 results for Year 6 SATs. We were absolutely thrilled with how well our children did in the end of year tests. The results are the highest the school has seen in many years. So, a massive well done to all the children and staff as well as to all the parents who have supported their children this year!

I have put a summary of the results here so you can see just how well they did!

Finally, just a reminder that we break up for the summer on **Thursday 17th July 2025 at 3:05 pm** and we re-open to children on **Wednesday 3rd September 2025**.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Stitcher



Well done Year 6!

Maths



Reading



Grammar



St James' C of E
Primary School

Headteacher: Mr D. Stitcher BA (HONS), PGCE (Dist), NPQH, NPQF
Deputy Headteacher: Ms V. Moore BEd (HONS), NPQH
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Diary Dates:

Thursday 17th July Church Service **KS1 at 10:30am**
KS2 at 11:00am

Thursday 17th July Year 6 Leavers Celebration at 1:30pm (Parents welcome)

Thursday 17th July School closure for summer

Wednesday 3rd September School reopens





Current Year 2 Transition to Year 3 (KS2)

Next term, your child will be moving into Year 3 (Key Stage 2). This is the transition from the infant part of the school to the juniors.

As your child moves into Year 3 there are some changes we need to make you aware of.

Please remember your child's entitlement to Universal Infant Free School Meals expired at the end of Year 2 and meals must be paid for in advance via School Spider, at a cost of £2.60 per meal. If you believe you may be entitled to free school meals, due to your financial circumstances, please ensure you apply as soon as possible.

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

Parents will continue to be able to book their child's meal on a termly basis, which allows your child their choice of meals. If a meal is not pre-booked your child will be receive the Kitchen Choice for the day.





School Meals - 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 school meals. School meals will 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.





Household Support Fund

Practical help and advice to support you with the rising costs of food, energy and other household bills

You may be aware that the Department for Work and Pensions has extended the Household Support Fund until 31st March 2026. Household Support Fund has been provided to local authorities to help those who are struggling to afford household essentials including energy and water bills, food, and wider essentials. In Blackburn with Darwen, an application portal has been created for eligible residents to access this support:

<https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/cost-living-support/household-support-fund>





PE Dates

Summer 2

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>Week 6</u> | <u>Week 7</u> |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Reception</u> <u>(RG & RW)</u> | Friday 6th June | Friday 13th June | Friday 20th June | Friday 27th June | Friday 4th July | Friday 11th July | n/a |
| <u>Year 1</u> <u>(1A & 1F)</u> | Monday 2nd June | Monday 9th June | Monday 16th June | Monday 23rd June | Monday 30th June | Monday 7th July | Monday 14th July |
| | Wednesday 4th June | Wednesday 11th June | Wednesday 18th June | Wednesday 25th June | Wednesday 2nd July | Wednesday 9th July | Wednesday 16th July |
| <u>Year 2</u> <u>(2K & 2W)</u> | Tuesday 3rd June | Tuesday 10th June | Tuesday 17th June | Tuesday 24th June | Tuesday 1st July | Tuesday 8th July | Tuesday 15th July |
| | Thursday 5th June | Thursday 12th June | Thursday 19th June | Thursday 26th June | Thursday 3rd July | Thursday 10th July | Thursday 17th July |
| <u>Year 3</u> <u>(3B & 3M)</u> | Wednesday 4th June | Monday 9th June | Wednesday 18th June | Monday 23rd June | Wednesday 2nd July | Monday 7th July | Wednesday 16th July |
| | | Wednesday 11th June | | Wednesday 25th June | | Wednesday 9th July | |
| <u>Year 4</u> <u>(4A & 4S)</u> | Thursday 5th June | Monday 9th June | Thursday 19th June | Monday 23rd June | Thursday 3rd July | Monday 7th July | Thursday 17th July |
| | | Thursday 12th June | | Thursday 26th June | | Thursday 10th July | |
| <u>Year 5</u> <u>(5B & 5R)</u> | Monday 2nd June | Friday 13th June | Monday 16th June | Friday 27th June | Monday 30th June | Friday 11th July | Monday 14th July |
| | Friday 6th June | | Friday 20th June | | Friday 4th July | | |
| <u>Year 6</u> <u>(6H & 6V)</u> | Monday 2nd June | Tuesday 10th June | Monday 16th June | Tuesday 24th June | Monday 30th June | Tuesday 8th July | Monday 14th July |
| | Tuesday 3rd June | | Tuesday 17th June | | Tuesday 1st July | | Tuesday 15th July |



HAF Summer Activities (0-8 years)

Free lunches also available at the Hubs and Hancock street children's centre. Ring 01254 585000 to register

Week 1

HAF groups Monday 28th July

Family Hub Livesey 10:30am- 11:30am- Fun in the Sun

Wensley Fold Children's Centre 1pm-2pm - Breastfeeding Support group

Highercroft Children's Centre 1pm- 2pm- Messy Madness

Family Hub Darwen 1pm-2pm- Minibeast adventure

Family Hub Livesey 1pm-2pm- Move and grove (0-5 years) Tuesday 29th July

Family Hub Darwen 10am-11:30am- Little potions

Family hub Livesey 1pm-2pm -Breastfeeding Support group

Family Hub Little Harwood 1:00pm- 2:30pm- Water fun

Wednesday 30th July

Family Hub Shadsworth 10:30am-11:30am- Build your own picnic

Family Hub Shadsworth 1:00pm- 2:00pm- Breastfeeding support group

Family Hub Livesey 1:00pm- 2:00pm – Outdoor explorers

Family Hub Darwen- 1pm – 2pm – Baby Sensory (0-9 months)

Thursday 31st July

Family Hub Shadsworth 10:30am-12pm- Multi-sports

Family Hub Little Harwood 12:30pm-1:30pm- Breastfeeding Support group

Family Hub Livesey 1pm-2pm- Water fun Family Hub Darwen- 1pm- 2pm- Move and Grove (0- 5 years) Family Hub Shadsworth 1:30-3.00- Early Years development drop in session

Friday 1st August

Family Hub Livesey 10am-11:30am- Puppet making (Please bring a spare sock)

Family Hub Shadsworth- Starting solids workshop Family Hub Little Harwood 10:30-

11:30- Fun in the Sun Family Hub Darwen 10am-11am- Breastfeeding support group

Family Hub Little Harwood 1pm-2:30pm- Little potions

Highercroft Children's Centre 1pm-2pm- Multi-sports





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.**





attendance ~~MATTERS~~



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

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

| | | |
|----|-------|---|
| RG | 99.2% | ① |
| RW | 95.8% | |
| 1A | 90.4% | |
| 1F | 95.5% | |
| 2K | 94.4% | |
| 2W | 95.0% | |
| 3B | 93.3% | |
| 3M | 98.3% | ② |
| 4A | 96.7% | |
| 4S | 98.0% | |
| 5B | 97.3% | |
| 5R | 96.3% | |
| 6H | 97.3% | |
| 6V | 90.3% | |

95%
and
above

90% -
94.9%

Below
90%

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





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 | | Everyone! | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--|
| RG | Aasiyah R. & Abdul Qadir A. | RW | Mohammed Abu Bakr O & Mohammad Momin J |
| 1A | Firdaus H & Aaisha P | 1F | Muhammad Adam B & Duha S |
| 2W | Aasiya C & Dulnitha E | 2K | Momina S & Emaan R F |
| 3M | Issa P & M. Dudhwala | 3B | Faris C & Fatimah R |
| 4S | Amelia A & Rayyan J | 4A | Layla B & Marius D |
| 5B | Mohmed Fahim K & Karim A | 5R | Fuzail S & Nabeeha M |
| 6V | Safiyyah E & Shujah A | 6H | Hadiya N & M. Fahim P |





Year Group Updates

Forest Pre-School & Nursery

Congratulations to all pre-school graduates this week 😊

Action

Please can all parents return lending library books by Monday.

Reception

Well done to RG on their class worship, what a fantastic job all the children did! We hope you enjoyed seeing and hearing about their work, and listening to their hopes and dreams for the future. The children have enjoyed practising for our song contest next week in school, and they have blown us away! We have also spent lots of time enjoying the discovery area, recapped rhyming words in literacy and teen numbers and in maths.

Action

This week we have been collecting all of the children's books in ready for the end of the year. As of next week your child will not need to bring their bookbag into school. Please however send in a strong carrier bag for any work to be sent home. Reports were given out on Thursday. Well done to all of the Reception children.





Year Group Updates

Year 1

In Science, we explored our local environment, looking at different habitats. We looked at urban, woodland and pond habitats and discovered what different animals live there. What habitats can you find?

Action

Next Tuesday 15th July, we are having a singing competition. Please can the children wear colourful clothing, bring a cap and sunglasses! We want them all to look cool! Please do not go out and buy additional items.

Year 2

What a busy week we have had! The children have written some incredible fantasy stories. They have also been working very hard preparing for the music competition on Tuesday. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow and being so enthusiastic and excited.

Action

Please can any reading books from school be returned as soon as possible. We will also be sending the children's work books home over the next week, so please send your child in with a carrier bag to make it easier for them to carry.

Thank you for all your support this year.





Year Group Updates

Year 3

Year 3 have been finishing off their writing in their information texts and fantasy stories. Everyone has come up with some brilliant ideas! We have also finished our Rounders unit in PE and played a competitive game between both classes.

Action

- No actions for Year 3.

Year 4

It's a very busy time in year 4 right now. Everyone is trying their best in swimming lessons, we are finishing off our RE topic about The Church and there are lots of rehearsals for our International Song Contest. In science we have been focused on climate change and we have also been debating whether hunting is a blood sport or a country pursuit. Mrs Stott and Miss Ahmed are very proud of the children who behaved impeccably during the Cathedral Trip, engaging in all of the activities and sharing knowledge. Well done year 4!

Action

Please return all school reading books on Monday.

Please send your child with a strong bag to carry their school books home in. Thank you.





Year Group Updates

Year 5

This week in Year 5, the children have been diving headfirst into the wonderful world of poetry. They explored different genres and unleashed their imaginations to write their own free verse poems inspired by Kit Wright's *The Magic Box*, thankfully, no actual boxes were harmed in the process! In maths, they've been bravely tackling negative numbers, proving that even problems with minus signs can have positive solutions. As if that wasn't exciting enough, the class is now buzzing with Eurovision fever as they rehearse for their big performance next week, watch out world, Year 5's got talent (and glitter)!

Action

Next week, please remember to bring a strong plastic carrier bag to take any completed exercise/workbooks home. Thank you!

Year 6

We are absolutely delighted to share some wonderful news, our SATs results are in, and we couldn't be prouder of our amazing pupils!

Action

Next week, it's our final week with year 6, 🥳.

A special outing to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 has been arranged, please send final letters and permission slips due by Monday. Please ensure children wear their PE kits for their trip.

Please check the timetable for their church service alongside their leavers assembly.





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



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.

