

ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 9th February 2024



Doug Stitches

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

Well, here we are again at the end of another very busy half-term!

Thank you to everyone who came to our coffee morning on Wednesday – it was lovely to see you and we hope you enjoyed the refreshments.

Thank you also to everyone for coming to Parents' Evening this week. Education is at its most effective when school and home work together and it was great to see so many smiling faces during the evenings. Thank you to all the staff who stayed late – it's always a team effort at St James'!

On my way into school this week, I noticed the sun beginning to rise

at around 7:10 am. It definitely getting lighter, and it won't be long before we are in the midst of spring and summer! It's amazing how quickly the time goes...

Just a reminder that school closes for half-term today (Friday 9th February) and re-opens to everyone one at normal time on Monday 19th February.

I hope you all have a pleasant break, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed in a week's time!

Have a lovely half term break!

Mr Stitches



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



SPRING TERM DATES:

Monday 19th February – School open

Tuesday 20th February -Stuart Robinson, a GB Para-Olympian visiting school



Contact the school office
immediately to inform us of **any**
changes to your **contact details** or
childs medical details



**Please can we remind all parents to book their child/ren
school meals for week commencing 19th February
prior to starting on the school day. Unfortunately, if meals
are not booked in advance, your child may not receive their
preference.**



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“Children who attend 100% are 5 times more likely to work at, or above, the expected standard”.

ATTENDANCE/ PUNCTUALITY

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time for registration.

The school gates are open from 8.30am till 8.40am. All children should be in class by 8.40am.

Arriving to school on time is important for your child so they don't miss important introductions to the lesson. Please make sure every effort is made to ensure that your child/ren arrive on time.

Any absences from school must be reported on the school spider app or the school answerphone each day of your child's absence .

EXTENDED LEAVE

Please refer to our Discretionary Leave Policy (available on the website) for further information and clarity around taking your child out of school during term time. Please be aware that parents who take their child/ren away in school time may be issued with a penalty notice, or may be removed from the school roll. All planned and unplanned leave must be discussed in advance, with Mrs Rehman.

APPOINTMENTS

Routine health appointments are better made out of school hours or during holidays. We are aware that this is not always possible, and request for appointments to be made at time where there is minimal disruption to your child's learning. The school office should be notified as soon as possible of appointments, and shown appointment letters, cards or text messages.



School Reading Books

We hope that everybody is enjoying school's reading books that we have invested heavily in. Please continue to read regularly with your children and discuss what has been read. Asking questions will help to develop understanding, comprehension and enjoyment. Please remember to read daily and sign reading records.

Please could we take this opportunity to remind both parents, carers and children to take extra care with home reading books as some have been damaged recently at home or in the school bag. These have included damaged and ripped pages as well as being damaged by getting wet. We would like to remind that we do not wish to fine parents and carers for damaged books as we want children to read and enjoy without limitations but there will be future charges for repeated damaged books.

I will treat school
property
with care.



Online Safety Posters

Well done to the winning Online Safety Posters. These will be displayed in school.

During Online Safety Day the children had the opportunity to discuss what online safety means and how they could change it for the better. If you have any questions about online safety, please speak to your class teacher.

Here are some useful website for guidance surrounding online safety:

https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en_uk/buildyourlegend/

<https://parentzone.org.uk/>

<https://www.childnet.com/>



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Half Term Activities

Neighbourhood Youth Offer

FREE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

MONDAY

Darwen Knott Street Youth Centre - Juniors
3:30pm until 5:30pm ages 8 - 12 years

Ivy Street Community Centre - Juniors
3:30pm until 5:30pm ages 8 - 12 years

Bangor Street Youth Club - Seniors
6:00pm until 7:00pm ages 13 - 19 years

Mill Hill Community Centre - Seniors
6:00pm until 8:00pm ages 11 - 16 years

Darwen Knott Street Youth Centre - Seniors
6:00pm until 8:00pm - 13 - 19 years

TUESDAY

Shadsworth Hub - Juniors
4:00pm until 6:00pm ages 8 - 12 years

Bwood Park Darwen End - Social Action
6:30pm until 8:30pm ages 11 - 19 years

WEDNESDAY

Livesey All Age Centre - Juniors
3:30pm - 5:30pm ages 8 - 12 years

Mill Hill Community Centre - Juniors
4:00pm until 6:00pm ages 8 - 12 years

THURSDAY

Bwood Park Strikers Lounge - Seniors
6:30pm until 8:30pm ages 11 - 16 years

FRIDAY

Darwen Knott Street Youth Centre - Juniors
4:30pm until 6:30pm ages 8 - 12 years

Darwen Knott Street Youth Centre - Seniors
7:00pm until 9:00pm ages 13 - 19 years

SATURDAY

Bangor Street Community Centre - Juniors
10:00am until 12:00pm ages 8 - 12 years

Audley Sports Centre - Juniors
1:00pm until 3:00pm ages 8 - 12 years

Audley Sports Centre - Seniors
1:00pm until 3:00pm ages 12 - 16 years

SUNDAY

Bangor Street Community Centre - Senior Girls
1:00pm until 3:00pm ages 13 - 19 years

Bangor Street Community Centre - Senior Boys
3:00pm until 5:00pm ages 13 - 19 years

Little Harwood Community Centre - Seniors
3:00pm until 5:00pm ages 11 - 16 years

Blackburn Rovers Community Trust

MONDAY

OLSJ Kicks Inclusion (SEND)
5:00pm until 6:00pm ages 8 - 16 years

Blackburn Rovers Indoor Centre (BRIC) Kicks
Due to re-open soon, 5:00pm until 7:00pm ages 8-19 years.

Troy Street Muga Kicks
6:00pm until 7:00pm ages 13 - 19 years

TUESDAY

Pleckgate High School Kicks - Boys
3:00pm until 4:00pm ages 14 - 16 years

Darwen Football Club Kicks
5:00pm until 6:00pm ages 8 - 17 years

Blackburn Youth Zone Kicks
6:30pm until 8:30pm ages 12 - 19 years

WEDNESDAY

OLSJ Kicks
5:00pm until 6:00pm ages 8 - 19 years

THURSDAY

DACA Kicks
5:00pm until 6:00pm ages 13 - 19 years

Witton Park Kicks
8:00pm until 9:00pm ages 13 - 19 years

FRIDAY

Pleckgate High School Kicks - Girls
3:00pm until 4:00pm ages 11 - 14 years

OLSJ Kicks
5:00pm until 6:00pm ages 8 - 19 years

Blackburn Youth Zone Kicks
5:00pm until 7:00pm ages 8 - 12 years

brc_tnyo @brc_tnyo @BrfcOffer

Sessions subject to change, please follow our social media channels for updates.

Professional Footballers' Association Blackburn Rovers Kicks RAO newground together budley.com YOUTHER

Community Trust

FREE Kicks Sessions...

TERM TIME OFFER

No booking required, consent form to be completed on arrival.

Sessions subject to change, please follow our social media channels for updates.

Professional Footballers' Association Blackburn Rovers Kicks RAO newground together budley.com YOUTHER



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Half Term Activities

Smithills Farm

Slip on your wellies, discover how ice cream is made, enjoy a tractor ride, pet & feed the animals. Please bring lunch.

AGES 8-12 Years
COST £7pp
TIME 10:00am - 3:00pm
MEET Darwen End carpark

10 places available.

[CLICK TO BOOK](#)

WEDNESDAY 14TH

PL Kicks Tournament at Blackburn Youth Zone

Six-a-side football tournament at Blackburn Youth Zone. Please bring refreshments and shin pads.

AGES 8-12 Years
COST FREE
TIME 12:00pm - 3:00pm
MEET Meet at Blackburn Youth Zone reception.
EMAIL daniel.green@brfctrust.co.uk

12 places available.

Princess Live Theatre Show

Watch Princess Live and all the magic at the Blackburn Empire Theatre. Meet and greet the princesses at the end of the show. Spending money and snacks optional.

AGES 8-11 Years
COST £6pp
TIME 12:30pm - 2:30pm
MEET Blackburn Empire Theatre

10 places available.

[CLICK TO BOOK](#)

THURSDAY 15TH

Bowling & Mini Golf

Enjoy a game of bowling and mini-golf at Chorley Escape centre.

AGES 11 - 16 Years
COST £7pp
TIME 4:30pm - 7:30pm
MEET Darwen End Carpark

10 places available.

[CLICK TO BOOK](#)

PL Kicks Wigan Tournament

Take part in a PL Kicks tournament hosted by Wigan Athletic at the academy training facility. Please bring refreshments and shin pads.

AGES 15 - 17 Years
COST FREE
TIME 5:30pm - 8:00pm
MEET Darwen End carpark
EMAIL daniel.green@brfctrust.co.uk

10 places available.

FRIDAY 16TH

Art Workshop

Calling all artists, come and join us for a half a day art workshop with a local artist. Use paint to create a group canvas that will be displayed in an exhibition.

AGES 8 - 12 Years
COST FREE
TIME 11:00am - 3:00pm
MEET Darwen Youth Centre
EMAIL harriet.waters@brfctrust.co.uk

15 places available.

PRESTON NORTH END vs BLACKBURN ROVERS MATCH

Play a seven-a-side fixture against Preston North End Kicks team. Experience the matchday thrill at Deepdale to watch Preston North End v Blackburn Rovers. Please bring snacks and refreshments.

AGES 11-16 Years
COST FREE
TIME 1:30pm - 7:00pm subject to change.
MEET Darwen End Carpark
EMAIL daniel.green@brfctrust.co.uk

10 places available.



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**Blackburn Rovers
Community Trust**
"Inspiring change in our community - together"

NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH OFFER

WHAT'S ON THIS HALF-TERM?

10TH - 18TH FEBRUARY >>>



SATURDAY 10TH

Blackburn Rovers vs Stoke City Fixture

AGES 10-13 Years
COST FREE
TIME 12:30pm - 5:00pm
Subject to change
MEET BRIC Reception
EMAIL daniel.green@brfctrust.co.uk
10 places available.

Play a seven-a-side fixture against Stoke City's PL Kicks team in the BRIC. Experience the matchday thrill at Ewood Park to watch Blackburn Rovers v Stoke City.




Old Trafford Stadium Tour & Fixture

AGES 11-16 Years
COST FREE
TIME 1:30pm - 7:30pm
Subject to change
MEET Darwen End carpark
EMAIL daniel.green@brfctrust.co.uk
10 places available.

A stadium tour of Old Trafford followed by a fixture against Manchester United PL Kicks team. Please bring a packed lunch and shin pads.

Skiing and Tubing

AGES 11-16 Years
COST £10pp
TIME 12:00pm - 4:00pm
MEET Darwen End carpark
10 places available. [CLICK TO BOOK](#)

Learn how to ski and tube with a qualified instructor at The Hill in Rossendale. Go home with an accredited snow sports booklet. Please bring warm clothes & lunch.

MONDAY 12TH

Mini Medics Course

AGES 8 - 12 Years
COST £5pp
TIME 10:45am - 2pm
MEET Darwen Youth Centre
13 places available. [CLICK TO BOOK](#)

Complete a 3 hour basic first aid course, take home a certificate and a mini med pack. Lunch is included.

TUESDAY 13TH

Gaming Tournament

AGES 8 - 12 Years
COST FREE
TIME 12:00pm - 3:00pm
MEET Darwen End Reception
12 places available. [CLICK TO BOOK](#)

Play a FIFA tournament in the games room at Ewood Park. Winner takes home a prize and certificate. Please bring a packed lunch.



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GB WHEELCHAIR RUGBY PLAYER **STUART** **ROBINSON** is visiting this school

 @LeglessRobbo  raf.reg.t.robbo

Most
important
role
model?

My son George

Greatest
high?

Winning Gold at the
Tokyo 2020 Paralympics

Top tip
for life?

Never tell anyone they
can't, they will prove you
wrong

Favourite
book?

Legacy by James Kerr

What are you
most grateful
for?

The ability to take my
life forward after life
changing injuries

Who would
you like
to meet?

Denzel Washington

Most
important
subjects at
school?

Science, Maths, and
English. Obviously, P.E.
too!

Stuart Robinson

Stuart grew up with a love for sports and was involved in many different activities from a young age, but he especially loved playing rugby. While serving as a corporal in the Royal Air Force, Stuart sustained an injury and from then on could no longer take part in able bodied rugby. Determined not to give up playing the sport he loved, Stuart discovered Wheelchair Rugby and has been playing at various levels ever since.

Some of Stuart's achievements include:

- ★ 2020 Tokyo Paralympics - Gold
- ★ 2019 IWRF Championships - Gold
- ★ 2017 IWRF European Championships – Gold
- ★ 2017 Invictus Games Wheelchair Rugby – Silver
- ★ 2016 Invictus Games Wheelchair Rugby – Bronze
- ★ 2014 Invictus Games Wheelchair Rugby – Gold



Tuesday 20th February 2024
Stuart Robinson, a GB Para-Olympian
visiting school

on the
TUESDAY
20th FEB



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re:fresh
your health and wellbeing



Family Hub



Darwen | Little Harwood | Livesey | Shadsworth

DANCE

ACTIVITIES WITH MAKATON

WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY
10:00AM - 11:30AM

FAMILY HUB SHADSWORTH
SHADSWORTH ROAD
BLACKBURN,
BB1 2HR

50P MEAL AVAILABLE AFTER SESSION!

FREE!
ALL AGES WELCOME!
NO BOOKING REQUIRED



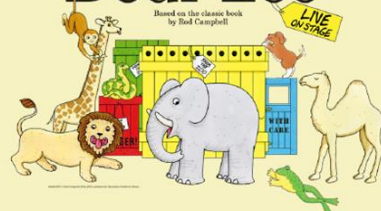
Family Hub



Darwen | Little Harwood | Livesey | Shadsworth

READ WITH US!

Dear Zoo



WEDNESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY
12:30PM - 1:30PM

FAMILY HUB LITTLE HARWOOD
ROBINSON STREET,
BLACKBURN,
BB1 5PE

50P MEAL AVAILABLE 11:30 - 12:30!

FREE SESSION / NO BOOKING REQUIRED / ALL AGES WELCOME



Family Hub



Darwen | Little Harwood | Livesey | Shadsworth

Mini Farm Event



50P MEALS AVAILABLE AFTER SESSION

Join us for a fun-filled day at the farm!

Tuesday 13th February

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Livesey Family hub,
Andrew Close, Blackburn
BB2 4NU

PET SMALL ANIMALS:

- **CHICKENS**
- **GUINEA PIGS**
- **RABBITS**
- **TORTOISES**

FREE SESSION / NO BOOKING REQUIRED / ALL AGES WELCOME



Family Hub



WILD ONE ADVENTURES

Darwen | Little Harwood | Livesey | Shadsworth

Come and embrace the wild with us!

FAMILY HUB DARWEN
MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY
12:30pm-2pm

50p meals available. 11:30am - 12:30pm

Free Activity / all ages welcome / No booking needed.



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in Aid of
MERCY TO
HUMANITY
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TURKEY
EARTHQUAKE
APPEAL

My name is Nazir. I am 9 years old and my mum is going on a Humanitarian Aid visit with a charity called Mercy to Humanity before Ramadhan to distribute food packs to the displaced Syrian refugees who were affected by the earthquake that took place in Turkey.

A year on from the devastating earthquake, where millions lost their lives and households, many are still suffering – living in tents and camps.

I would like to help raise as much funds as possible and I bought sweets from my savings which I will be selling at our fundraiser which is taking place on Sunday 18th February at Bangor Street Community Centre. My aim is to raise money for the needy and help my mum reach her target of £5000.

Please can you support me by coming to the event and see if you can help in any way. Your support and donations will be much appreciated!

Thank you





attendance ~~MATTERS~~



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 3S WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

95% and above	RS	92.7%
	RJ	96.2%
	1S	97.1%
	1J	92.5%
90% - 94.9%	2S	93.7%
	2J	95.3%
	3S	98.3% 
	3J	96.4%
Below 90%	4S	92.3%
	4J	89.7%
	5S	93.3%
	5J	93.0%
	6S	98.1% 
	6J	94.0%

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		Mustafa S & Haider R & Hiba H & Ahmad P & Adam A	
RS	Amara A. & Aaliya P.	RJ	Muhammad P. & Rafia Z.
1S	Sarim A & Amyra M	1J	Amaya S & Faiza M
2S	Faris C & Fatima K	2J	Amelia M & Aisha C
3S	Ibrahim P & Haleema M	3J	Maariyah P & Haris A
4S	Lubabah B & Safa M	4J	Zakariyya F & Zainab L
5S	Yusuf A & Issa P	5J	Safiyyah E & Hira M
6S	Kubra M & Zara I	6J	Essa F & Maira G



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YEAR GROUP *updates*

Forest Pre-School & Nursery

This week the children have been learning the story of 'The Little Red Hen'. The children have been joining in with the repeated phrases and have learnt about the value of friendship through the use of this story. It is amazing to hear the children discuss the different ways to show friendship.

Action

- Ask your child to tell you how to show friendship and talk about why they like their friends.

Reception

The children have had a very exciting last week of term, we have learnt about the Chinese New Year, made lanterns and even tasted some Chinese food. We have read the story 'The Colour Monster', discussed different feelings and what we can do if we're feeling sad, angry or upset. Ask your children all about it!

Action

- Please continue reading with your child at home over the holidays and enjoy the break.



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 1

"Ni hao! This week we have been learning about Chinese New Year! The year of the Dragon! The children learnt to say hello (ni hao), My name is (wo de ming zi shi) and goodbye (zai jian). As well as some of the names of the animals for the Chinese zodiac. We also had an interesting / amazing Internet Safety Day on Tuesday 6th February. Please take some time to talk to your child about Internet safety at home and discuss what they do on the Internet. See some useful links below for guidance surrounding Internet Safety! Lets make the Internet safer and happier place to explore! It was lovely to see you all this week and discuss the outstanding progress your child has been making. If you have any question following Parent Evening, please speak to one of the Year 1 team. :)"

Action

- "Online Safety guidance for parents and carers. <https://parentzone.org.uk/https://www.childnet.com/> We hope you have a lovely break during the half term and we look forward to seeing you spring back into action in the new term!"

Year 2

Year 2 have had a brilliant week before half term! We have completed lots of exciting tasks all about Safer Internet Day. On Thursday, we had some visitors in class who told us lots about Chinese New Year this Saturday. We made lots of interesting masks and even made a dragon! Have a relaxing half term!

Action

- Please read with your child over the half term.



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 3

Wow, what a fantastic half term we have had! This week Year 3 visited the children in the Reception Classes to complete some market research for Design Technology. We enjoyed finding out about what the children enjoyed playing with and then designing our own moving toy. In maths, we have been using our multiplication knowledge to work out trickier timestables and word problems.

Action

- Over the holidays, remember to read and practise timetables. Have a great half term!

Year 4

"What a great term! Year 4 have had a very busy few weeks. There has been a talent show, a spelling bee and an Online Safety Day. In English, we finished the week writing our own biographies and looked at how to group information. We also had a focus on spellings and had our very own spelling bee in class. In Maths, we continued to look at the perimeter of rectilinear shapes. We hope you have a lovely break. "

Action

- Thank you for signing planners.



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 5

This week we have finished looking at multiplication and division. We will be focusing on fractions after the holidays. In English we wrote a persuasive text on why women should be allowed to vote. We looked at technical vocabulary to help us write a strong argument.

Action

Please help your child with their timetables for speed and accuracy. Homework is on century tech. Have a lovely holiday and stay safe :)

Year 6

End of a busy half term. The children have been working hard towards their end of year test. The work is becoming more and more challenging and they have persevered well. We hope you all have a lovely weeks holiday.

Action

- Maths: Pg 40 - 41, 42 - 43, 44 – 45
- SPaG: 28-29, 30-31, 32-33
- Reading: 26 and 27, 28 and 29
- Century Tech



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**

Y4 Multiplication Club

Year 6 SATs Booster Club

- **Tuesday**

- Year 1/2 STEM Multi-skills club

- Year 1 Phonics club

- Year 5/6 Girls' Football Club

- **Thursday**

KS2 tag Rugby

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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