

ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 8th March 2024



Doug Stitches

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

You've got to love World Book Day! We've all had a fabulous time this week really throwing ourselves into it.

A big thank you to everyone who took time to put together a costume. There were some really imaginative takes on our themes of Roald Dahl in KS2 and Julia Donaldson in KS1.

I chose to come as Grandpa Joe from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – something I soon regretted after I tried to dye my beard grey in order to add 30 years to my appearance. That is the trouble with looking so youthful!

In all seriousness, World Book Day is much more than just dressing up. It's a day where we really celebrate the power of reading and the joy books

can bring us. We hope your child enjoyed it as much as we did.

We are now only three weeks away from the Easter holiday so just a reminder that school closes at 3:05 pm on Thursday 28th March 2024 and re-opens on Monday 15th April 2024 for the longer summer term.

And finally, we would like to wish all those observing from next week, a very blessed Ramadan.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Stitches



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

“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.



PRICE INCREASE OF BREAKFAST CLUB & SCHOOL MEALS

We would like to advise that from **Tuesday 3rd September 2024** there will be a price increase to the cost of breakfast club and school meals. The current price for breakfast club is £1 per day, this will rise to **£1.50** 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 from **£2.35** to **£2.40** per day for a nutritionally balanced two-course meal. It should be noted that a school meal still provides 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 the recommended charge per day. 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 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 contact the school office. Please be reassured that, we will continue to assess the meals to ensure that their quality is maintained.





SPRING TERM DATES:

10-11th March – Ramadhan commences

17th March -St Patrick's Day

21st March – World Poetry Day

26th March – Robinwood Residential Meeting @ 3:15pm in KS2 Hall

28th March - Easter Egg Raffle

28th March - School Closure at end of day @ 3:05pm



Are your
**CONTACT
DETAILS**
up to date?

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



To keep your 30 hours place
check your details are up
to date every 3 months.
gov.uk/childcareaccount

Childcare
Choices


HM Government



Moved address?
New email address?
Have a new mobile phone?



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Fasting during Ramadan

As Ramadan is approaching, we are aware that some older children in **Years 5 and 6**, may want to fast from the 10th March 2024. We cannot, however, support younger children fasting during the school day.

All normal school activities will continue during this time, including PE lessons. As the days are getting longer, we encourage you to consider whether your child wishes to fast during the school day as part of their observance of Ramadan.

If your child is in Year **5** or Year **6** and you have decided that you would like your child to fast, a letter has been sent home with the pupils, so please sign and return to school as soon as possible.



Fox Foundation Football | Year 4 - 6 Girls ONLY sessions

At Fox Foundation Football we are launching a girls only session to children currently in Years 4,5 & 6.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on the details provided.



The Family Hub

Exciting news! The new Family Hub webpage has been launched by Blackburn with Darwen council. Please see the link below to access the new webpage for the Family Hubs which details the services and support for you and your family can access

<https://familyhubsbwd.org/>



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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	83.2%	
	RJ	89.9%	
	1S	97.2%	
	1J	98.1%	②
90% - 94.9%	2S	92.7%	
	2J	96.0%	
	3S	98.7%	①
	3J	97.9%	
	4S	97.9%	
	4J	96.7%	
Below 90%	5S	93.2%	
	5J	96.3%	
	6S	96.8%	
	6J	96.0%	

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		Halima L & Sidra & Abeeha R & Mishal I & Meela B	
RS	Haleema A & Ayaan M	RJ	Saarah P. & Muhammad Ruhan P.
1S	Unathi N & Raabia H	1J	Fatima Noorah S H & Shifa P
2S	Gamar A & Noor H	2J	Amelia M & Mohammed Eisa A
3S	Inaaya A & Zoya H	3J	Athar G & Muhammadibraheem J
4S	Hamza C & Joudy A M	4J	Fatima P & Subhana S
5S	5S and Fahim P	5J	Liyanah P & Tinashe M.
6S	Mehreen K & Hashim I	6J	Inaaya F & Mariam J



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YEAR GROUP *updates*

Forest Pre-School & Nursery

"What a busy week we have had in Pre-School and Nursery! We started the week learning a new class text 'Japer's Beanstalk'. We have also been planting potatoes in our outdoor area and next week we look forward to more planting, where the children will have their own individual plant to care for. Thank you for all the effort that went into World Book day costumes. The staff and children had a really fun day decorating the classroom and learning more Julia Donaldson stories. "

Action

- Please ask your child to tell you how to take care of a plant. Can they remember the things a plant needs to survive?

Reception

This week we have been making beanstalk pictures using colour mixing to make green! We are now going to attach different collage materials to make our pictures extra special. In literacy we have been acting out the story of Jack and The Beanstalk using character masks, we definitely have some fabulous actors in Reception! We are continuing to explore teen numbers in maths, and we have begun planting vegetables for our outdoor area. Well done to RJ for a fabulous class worship.

Action

- "Please continue reading with your child as often as possible.
- RS class worship is on Wednesday 13th March at 8.55am. "



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 1

"Let's open a book and explore a new world! This week, during World Book Day, we have explored a book written by Julia Donaldson called, 'Cave Baby'. Why not listen to the story at home, see the link

below <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DXI2hk-Nhk> It was great to see so many children dressed up as a character from a Julia Donaldson book. As we are currently in Lent, the children have been learning about the Easter story and have sequenced the key events."

Action

- If your child has done anything outside of school that they would like to share with us, please bring it in. We would love to hear all about it!

Year 2

What a busy week of learning we have had this week in Year 2! We impressed each other with our home made costumes which celebrated all the wonderful characters from the Julia Donaldson stories and enjoyed reading and creating freeze frames for Tabby McTat. It was a purrrfect day! On Friday we celebrated British Science week and observed how jelly sets over time using different methods and fruits. We cannot wait to continue our amazing learning journey next week!

Action

- "On Wednesday 13th March we will be making hot cross buns. Please can you provide your child / children with a medium sized plastic container. A gentle reminder for the children in 2S (group 2) to bring / wear suitable footwear for their church garden visit on Thursday 14th March."



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 3

What a busy week it has been in Year 3! We began a new unit on division in maths and have been acting out parts of our latest book, Cliffhanger by Jaqueline Wilson in English. We have been getting creative by make pneumatic toys in Design Technology, and enjoyed had a fantastic World Book Day on Thursday. Thank you to families for your support with costumes.

Action

- "Our PE days are Wednesday and every other Monday. Please send your child in their PE kit with trainers. Earrings should be removed for PE. Please read at least 3 times per week with your child and ask them questions about the text."

Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant week. In English we have been writing stories and in Maths we have been adding fractions. It was lovely to see the children dressed up for World Book day. Thank you for your help with all the costumes.

Action

- Please ensure children are reading regularly and reading diaries are being signed



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 5

"Year 5 have had a very busy week, they have started to plan and write a fantasy story. They have thoroughly enjoyed their activities during World Book Day, especially their tasks around our book by Roald Dahl, 'Charlie and the chocolate Factory. 'In Maths, they have started a new topic-Decimals and Percentages. They are connecting their understanding and the relationships between decimals, fractions and percentages."

Action

"Please keep supporting your child with their Century Tech assignments. Please listen to your child read and sign their planners. Lastly, Ramadhan Mubarak for those who will be observing during this blessed month."

Year 6

Year 6 have had a really busy week: finding the area of different shapes, writing setting descriptions, looking at reaction times and learning from the BFG!

Action

- Please continue to help your child with their homework!
- Thank you.



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
KS1 Well Being 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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