

# ST JAMES' Newsletter

St James' Blackburn  
C of E Primary School  
Earl Street, Blackburn  
BB1 8EG  
01254 698335

Date: Friday 22nd March 2024



*Doug Stitches*

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

## Dear Parents/Guardians

The end of another very busy week in school! We finished with a bang today with our Multiplication Bee House Competition. It's very close at the moment between all four house teams so I'm sure the results today will impact on who the final winners of this term will be next week.

Please remember that as it is Good Friday next week, school will close for the Easter break at the end of the day on Thursday 28th March 2024.

We have some Easter activities planned for that week culminating with the Easter Raffle.

I am sure last year it took us

three hours to draw all the winning tickets; although Ms Moore assures me I am exaggerating!

Next week's key dates are:

26th March – Robinwood Residential Meeting for Y6 parents @ 3:15pm in KS2 Hall

28th March – Easter Church service

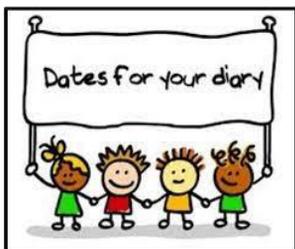
28th March - Easter Egg Raffle

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

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Stitches





## SPRING TERM DATES:

26<sup>th</sup> March – Robinwood Residential Meeting @ 3:15pm in KS2 Hall

28<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Egg Raffle

28<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Church service

28<sup>th</sup> March - School Closure at end of day @ 3:05pm



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



**All after school clubs are cancelled next week. The clubs will resume after the holidays on 22/04/2024.**



## “Pools to Schools”

### We are excited to announce that we will be having ‘Pools to Schools’ at St James’!



After all those years of children writing persuasive letters to Mr Stitcher to persuade him to get a swimming pool on the playground...he has listened!

In July, a 10m x 5m heated swimming pool will be set up on the KS2 playground! Year 4 and Year 6 pupils will have the chance to learn to swim and reach the end of KS2 Curriculum requirement of swimming unaided for 25m. Pupils will participate in daily swimming lessons with a registered swimming teacher and qualified lifeguard to help get the children water confident and educate them on water safety.

In preparation, please can pupils who are currently in Year 4 and Year 6 obtain the following the swimming kit:

- Swimming costume/ Swimming shorts
- Swimming Hat
- Goggles (if required)
- Towel
- Sliders/ flip flops (to be able to walk from the school building to the swimming pool on the playground)
- Old clothes/ dressing gown (to use as a cover up to walk back in to the school building after their swimming lesson to get changed)

If you would like to find out more, please visit the Pools to Schools website on: <https://prosportcoaching.co.uk/school-support/pools-to-schools/>

Further information on dates and timings will be sent out nearer the time.



## **UPDATED - ST JAMES' SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY PATTERN 2024/2025**

<p><b>AUTUMN TERM 2024</b></p> <p><b>INSET 1</b>            Re-open on            Closure after School            Mid Term Closure            Re-open on            Closure after school on</p> <p>Number of openings 75</p>	<p><b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024</b>            Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024            Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024            Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024 (inc)            Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024            Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024</p>
<p><b>SPRING TERM 2025</b></p> <p><b>INSET 2</b>            Re-open on            Closure after School            Mid Term Closure            Re-open on            Closure after school on</p> <p>Number of openings 60</p>	<p><b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>            Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025            Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025            Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025 (inc)            Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025            Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025</p>
<p><b>SUMMER TERM 2025</b></p> <p>Re-open on            May Day Closure            Closure after School            Mid Term Closure            Re-open on  <b>Closure after school</b>  <b>INSET 3, 4 &amp; 5</b></p> <p>Number of openings 60</p>	<p>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025            Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025            Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025            Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (inc)            Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025  <b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>  <b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025</b></p>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF OPENINGS – 195**



## CELEBRATING EASTER

On Thursday 28th March (the last day of term) we will be focusing on the Christian celebration of Easter. As part of this day we will be attending Church for services at 10:30 (Reception and KS1) and 11:00 (KS2). As part of this service 4J will be delivering a presentation about Easter. All parents are invited to join us in Church for this. Please notify the office if you wish to attend so that we can ensure adequate space.

We will be holding an Easter Egg raffle to raise money for school funds. This is always a really popular event supported by staff donations. Tickets will go on sale from Monday 18th March priced at 20p each.

We are also inviting pupils to decorate an Easter bonnet at home to bring in for a competition on the last day of term. An Easter bonnet is a hat which depicts Spring, Easter and new beginnings. Please see the pictures for some inspiration! We look forward to seeing all your wonderful designs. Thank you for your support.



# attendance **MATTERS**



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 4S WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

RS	93.6%
RJ	91.8%
1S	90.5%
1J	96.2%
2S	94.0%
2J	96.7%
3S	95.7%
3J	92.9%
4S	98.6%
4J	93.3%
5S	95.7%
5J	95.7%
6S	96.1%
6J	94.0%

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' 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

# 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		Rimsha F & Skylar-Mai B & Rayyan M & Mohammad Isa S	
RS	Zayn P & Yusha D	RJ	Naila N. & Rafia Z.
1S	Emaan F & Hawwa A	1J	Sireen B & Zara A
2S	Faris C & Maryam K	2J	Muhammad Sultan A & Rumaisa R
3S	Huda P & Hayam D	3J	Zoya A & Zara RM
4S	Areeba S & Malaika H	4J	Amaan M & Zainab H
5S	Aysha I & Eshal A	5J	Hasan S & Kimberley C.
6S	Dima F & Sarim A	6J	Abdullah I & Ehla S



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Forest Pre-School & Nursery*

"This week the children have been learning about the Life cycle of a Butterfly. We have been reading the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' to help support the understanding of the life cycle. The beanstalks are growing really nicely and some already have a shoot and a root. We will give these out next week for you to continue to care for them."

### *Action*

- Please see if your child can remember some facts about the life cycle of a butterfly.

## *Reception*

This week we have been exploring capacity, length, height and weight in maths. The children have loved comparing measure and trying to measure items using paperclips. In literacy we have been hot seating the characters from The Smartest Giant In Town to build our questioning skills. Our Discovery area renovations are beginning to take shape and we have even built a wig wam!

### *Action*

- "PE day is Friday, please make sure your child is wearing appropriate PE clothes and shoes. Every other day children should be wearing black school shoes, not trainers. "



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Year 1*

"Thank you to all the those parent who were able to attend 1J's Parent Worship. I hope you agree they all did amazing! This week we have explored Maths through famous Mathematicians, Art and PE. A set number of children were given the opportunity to show off their times tables skills in a quiz."

## *Action*

- If your child has achieved anything outside of school and would like to share it with us, please bring any medal, certificates or photos.

## *Year 2*

This week the children have enjoyed painting their vehicles in Design Technology and thoroughly enjoyed making bread in RE. We have also worked extremely hard whilst innovating our stories and have wrote amazing non-chronological reports on Florence Nightingale.

## *Action*

- Please remember to complete your homework and read at least three times a week.



# YEAR GROUP updates



## Year 3

It's been an extra-fun week in year 3 with lots of water involved in our maths unit, capacity and measure. The children have done a fantastic job completing their Lowry-based artworks and we have been exploring the stone age houses of Skara Brae in English. Well done to our times-table stars who represented their house teams brilliantly today.

### Action

- Please keep supporting your child to work on times tables at home and remember to record their reading in their planner.

Thank you.

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a good week. We have been looking at decimals in Maths and planning a persuasive text in English. Next week, we will be making bread as part of our DT Topic. Please can you send in a mixing bowl with your child so they are able to take the dough to bake the bread at home.

### Action

- Please send in a mixing bowl with your child for Tuesday.



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Year 5*

"In English, Year 5 have enjoyed reading their non fiction text and have started to write a diary entry based on Greta's perspective. In Maths, Year 5 have started percentages and are recognising the per cent symbol (%) and are beginning to understand that 'per cent' relates to number parts per hundred, they will now transfer these skills and write percentages as a fraction. In Science they are continuing exploring on 'Forces'. This week they looked at air resistance and made parachutes in which they identified the effects of this force."

## *Action*

"P.E will be on Monday and Tuesday, please make sure your child wears the correct kit. Thank you for supporting your child with Century Tech and their reading."

## *Year 6*

The Year 6 have been busy working on Statistics and how we can use different types of graphs. As well as writing biographies in English.

## *Action*

- Please keep helping your child with their SATS style homework, not many weeks left.



# 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.

