

ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 4th Oct 2024



Doug Stitches

Mr D Stitches, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

Here we are at the end of another busy week! I hope you've all kept warm as the temperatures begin to drop – we've given in and put the heating on in school!

This week has seen the start of Black History Month which we will be celebrating throughout October as each class researches a person of historical significance and great achievement. They will then be presenting on what they've learned at the end of the month – we will send you more information about this shortly.

One of our school priorities this year is working with the Diocese on promoting Equity, Diversity and Justice in everything we do. Staff had training on the first day back in September and we are continuing to learn and develop as we make sure that as a school, we are 'courageous advocates'.

We will share more of our work with you as it develops over the year.

Can I please remind everyone to be respectful and polite to our staff. We have had an increasing number of incidents where parents have been unnecessarily confrontational with teachers and support staff. We know things don't always go as planned, and that sometimes you may feel frustrated, but please remain calm and polite. We have processes in place if you need to escalate a complaint but let's all do our best to be kind to each other!

And finally, I'm thrilled to say that our statutory attendance (for those children aged 5 and above), is still at 97%! This is an excellent start to the year, and I really hope we can maintain this!

Have a lovely weekend! My mother-in-law is coming to stay with us tomorrow...

Mr Stitches



St James' Blackburn
C of E Primary School

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

In loving memory

We were all deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Sadiq Patel, who served as a governor at St James' until 2021.

He worked tirelessly as a Governor here at St James' for a number of years and helped us develop our understanding and interfaith connections.

He was held in extremely high regard in the local community and achieved tremendous things to help those in need.

He was loved by many.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

“When someone who’s loved becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure”





Poppies will go on sale in school from Monday 7th October. If your child would like to buy a poppy, or any of the other items on sale, please send a minimum of 50p donation. Snap bands, wristbands, keyrings are on sale for £1 each.



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APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL ARE NOW OPEN FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL

Applications for school places in 2024/25 are now open 🎓

Make sure you get your applications in on time. The deadline for Secondary school applications is 31 October 2024 and the Primary schools applications closing date is 15 January 2025 📅

For more information and to apply go to ➡️
<https://blackburn.gov.uk/school-admissions>



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attendance **MATTERS**



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 5B WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FROM LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

RG	89.2%
RW	94.5%
1A	92.8%
1F	97.6%
2K	97.9%
2W	100.0%
3B	95.7%
3M	99.3%
4A	97.7%
4S	99.0%
5B	100.0%
5R	95.0%
6H	95.7%
6V	98.0%

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.



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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		Rayyan M and Fatima I	
RG	Ahmad P. & Andreea D.	RW	M. Ali Sheikh & Meela B
1A	Saarah P & Zala M	1F	Melissa F M & Juwarriya M
2W	M. Hussain F & M. Sarim A	2K	Anastasia G A & Momina S
3M	M. Taha I & Ibrahim M	3B	M.Issa H & Safia S
4S	Inaya M & Alesha A	4A	Anayah G & Yusuf V
5B	Muhammad Zayn B & Sulayman H	5R	Noor Fatema P & Zainab L
6V	Arianna A & Afraz M	6H	M. Ali & Khadija K



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Forest Pre-School & Nursery

"This week in EYC we've been having lots of fun in the variety of weather we've experienced! Please make sure you send your child with a warm coat every day. We have started a new topic in RE called 'I am Special'. We read a story about how God made everything in the world, including us, and we made some little books showing the Creation story. We have also been making leaf print pictures and crunching lots of leaves when we've been playing outside."

Action

Please book a parents' evening slot if you haven't already. Please complete and return the Flu Vaccination form, even if you wish to say no. There is a section on the back for this.

Reception

The children have been working on their speaking and listening skills this week. Please continue this skill at home, taking turns with speaking and listening. In maths we have been learning numbers up to 10, please play games such as counting steps and ordering numbers to 10. We have enjoyed spending time outside in the discovery area this week, making self portraits with natural materials and making food in the mud kitchen.

it.

Action

- Please attend our phonics meeting, look out for the letter and date soon. In the meantime continue to read with your child and speak to your child on a regular basis.



YEAR GROUP updates



Year 1

"This week we have been innovating the story of the Gruffalo by changing some of the characters. Why not ask the your child if they can retell their story to you!In Maths, we have been we have been adding 2 single digit numbers together. We can always count on the children to try their best :) "

Action

- "1A - please can you practice rehearsing your child's lines ready for their class worship.Class worship is on Thursday 10 October. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible. :)"

Year 2

Thank you to all parents who are reading with their children each week, it makes such a difference to their progress. This week we have been finishing our work on letter writing as well as making small finger puppets.

Action

- Please make sure your child comes with a waterproof coat so they can go out to break when its drizzling.



YEAR GROUP updates



Year 3

Year 3 have had a super week showing resilience when adding 2 and 3-digit numbers with a formal written methods. We have read a interesting non-fiction text all about plastic and began to write our own too!

Action

- PE will be on 9th, 14th, 16th of October for the rest of this half term.
- 3M have a class worship on Thursday 10 oct @ 9am. We look forward to seeing you all.

Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant week. In Maths this week we have been adding 4 digit numbers with exchange. In English we have started to read 'The Trapper.' Thank you for your donations for the harvest!

Action

- Please ensure children are reading regularly at home and children are wearing the correct uniform.



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 5

We've had another brilliant week of learning in Year 5. The children have worked extremely hard in Mathematics to use known facts to calculate 2 step word problems and solve missing number equations. In English we have begun to read our new non - fiction text, 'Earth Shattering Events' and cannot wait to expand our knowledge on the natural disasters which take place around the world.

Action

Please continue to read at least 3 times per week and remember to complete your homework, ready to be handed in on a Wednesday morning. Thank you :-)

Year 6

In Maths we have been looking at squared and cubed numbers, long multiplication and multiplication problems. In English we have looked at determiners, planned our flashback story and have started to write our story. It isn't easy changing tenses throughout a story but we have done really well.

Action

- Please help your child with timetables. This isn't just for accuracy but for speed also. Your child must read 3x a week at least and get their diaries signed. Spelling tests are every Friday.
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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

- Year 1 & 2 Multi Skills club (Thurs – 3:05-3:50pm)
- Phonics Club (Mon – 3:05 – 3:35pm)

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.

