

# ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

Date: Friday 18th Oct 2024



*Doug Stitcher*

Mr D Stitcher, Headteacher

## Dear Parents/Guardians

That's the end of this half-term! Doesn't time fly!

A huge thank you to everyone who came to Parents' Evening this week – it was lovely to see so many of you and hear such positive comments.

I also need to mention all the staff who stayed late with some not getting home until 7:30 pm! It's quite a long day. And a special thank you to Mr Manzoor and our site team who kept the building open, clean and safe throughout.

A few parents have mentioned the attendance letters they have received this week. I'm sure you'll all be aware that there is a massive push by the government on attendance and this means we need to monitor how often children are off school and take action when we see trends. Sometimes, this might mean that your child is off school genuinely too ill to attend and you still receive a letter. I want to reassure you that we are not attempting to penalise

families where there are genuine reasons for absence. However, we do have a duty to follow up absences and ask questions. You may recall our attendance has been sitting at 97%... We have now dropped to 96%. So, we do need to stay on top of this to really see the benefits of higher attendance in school.

We will continue to monitor attendance and get in touch with parents when it drops, but we will always apply a common-sense approach.

School closes tonight for the half-term break. A reminder that we are back in as normal on Monday 28th October and we look forward to seeing everyone then.

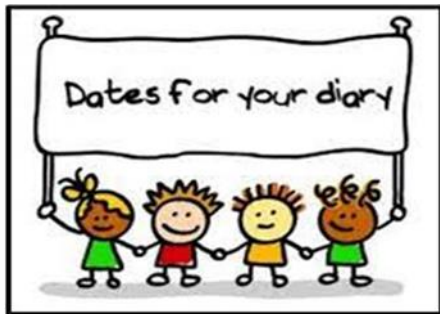
Have a lovely weekend and an enjoyable half-term.

Mr Stitcher



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



Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October - School re-open @ 8:35am

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November – School Winter Warmer @ 2pm in KS2 hall – children staggered finishing times, more information to follow.

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December - Year 1 & 2 Carol Concert @ 2:15pm in KS2 hall

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Year 3, 4 & 5 Christmas Carol Concert @ 2:15pm in KS2 hall

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec - Reception nativity @ 2:15pm in KS2 hall

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec – Year 6 Pantomime @ 2:15pm in KS2 hall

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec – EYC Christmas Carol Concert @ 11:00am in EYC

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec – EYC Christmas Carol Concert @ 2:30pm in EYC

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec – School closure @ 3:05pm



## New Lunch Menu – November 2024 – February 2025

The Autumn/Winter school lunch menu is available now on the School Spider app.

Please order your child's lunches for the full term to ensure they receive the meal of their choice each day.



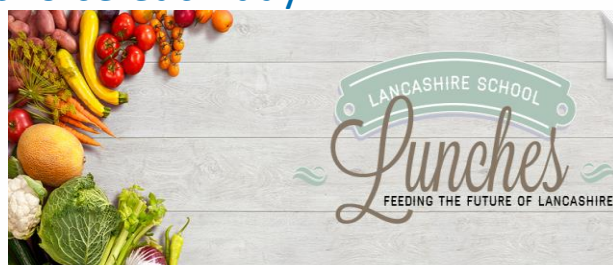
**CHRISTMAS Lunch**

Roast Halal Chicken & Vegetarian Sausage  
or  
Roast Quorn Fillet & Vegetarian Sausage  
Served with  
Sage & Onion Stuffing  
Roast & Mashed Potatoes  
Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy  
~  
Iced Vanilla Sponge

lancashire.gov.uk

**Lancashire County Council**

The poster features a festive red background with white snowflakes and a yellow star. It includes illustrations of Santa Claus, a snowman, a reindeer, and a penguin. The Lancashire County Council logo is at the bottom right.



**Free Christmas Cracker**

**Christmas Lunch Menu  
Tuesday 3rd December**



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# Flu Clinics

## Flu Vaccine Catch-Up Clinic!

Has your child missed your flu vaccine at school? No worries! IntraHealth, your school vaccination team, is holding catch-up clinics on the following dates and locations:

\* **Date:** 22nd October  
**Time:** 9 AM to 3 PM  
**Location:** Lancashire Digital Technology Centre, Burnley, BB10 2TP

**Date:** 23rd October  
**Time:** 9 AM to 3 PM  
**Location:** Shadsworth Children Centre, Shadsworth Road, Blackburn, BB1 2HR

Don't wait—book your spot today! Call **0333 358 3397**, then select **Option 2**.

Stay healthy this flu season!



Lancashire (inc. Blackburn & Darwen)  
School Aged Immunisation Service



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## PE Dates

### Autumn 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.

As this half term your child will be doing Dance in PE, they will need to wear PE Uniform including pumps.

A reminder that when it is your child's PE day they must **NOT** wear earrings to school.

Week 1 will start from Monday 28th October 2024

	<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>Week 8</u>
<b>Reception</b> <b>(RG &amp; RW)</b>	Friday 1st Nov	Friday 8th Nov	Friday 15th Nov	Friday 22nd Nov	Friday 29th Nov	Friday 6th Dec	Friday 13th Dec	Friday 20th Dec
<b>Year 1</b> <b>(1A &amp; 1F)</b>	Monday 28th Oct	Monday 4th Nov	Monday 11th Nov	Monday 18th Nov	Monday 25th Nov	Monday 2nd Dec	Monday 9th Dec	Monday 16th Dec
	Wednesday 30th Oct	Wednesday 6th Nov	Wednesday 13th Nov	Wednesday 20th Nov	Wednesday 27th Nov	Wednesday 4th Dec	Wednesday 11th Dec	Wednesday 18th Dec
<b>Year 2</b> <b>(2K &amp; 2W)</b>	Tuesday 29th Oct	Tuesday 5th Nov	Tuesday 12th Nov	Tuesday 19th Nov	Tuesday 26th Nov	Tuesday 3rd Dec	Tuesday 10th Dec	Tuesday 17th Dec
	Thursday 31st Oct	Thursday 7th Nov	Thursday 14th Nov	Thursday 21st Nov	Thursday 28th Nov	Thursday 5th Dec	Thursday 12th Dec	Thursday 19th Dec
<b>Year 3</b> <b>(3B &amp; 3M)</b>	Monday 28th Oct	Wednesday 6th Nov	Monday 11th Nov	Wednesday 20th Nov	Monday 25th Nov	Wednesday 4th Dec	Monday 9th Dec	Wednesday 18th Dec
	Wednesday 30th Oct		Wednesday 13th Nov		Wednesday 27th Nov		Wednesday 11th Dec	
<b>Year 4</b> <b>(4A &amp; 4S)</b>	Monday 28th Oct	Thursday 7th Nov	Monday 11th Nov	Thursday 21st Nov	Monday 25th Nov	Thursday 5th Dec	Monday 9th Dec	Thursday 19th Dec
	Thursday 31st Oct		Thursday 14th Nov		Thursday 28th Nov		Thursday 12th Dec	
<b>Year 5</b> <b>(5B &amp; 5R)</b>	Friday 1st Nov	Monday 4th Nov	Friday 15th Nov	Monday 18th Nov	Friday 29th Nov	Monday 2nd Dec	Friday 13th Dec	Monday 16th Dec
		Friday 8th Nov		Friday 22nd Nov		Friday 6th Dec		
<b>Year 6</b> <b>(6H &amp; 6V)</b>	Tuesday 29th Oct	Monday 4th Nov	Tuesday 12th Nov	Monday 18th Nov	Tuesday 26th Nov	Monday 2nd Dec	Tuesday 10th Dec	Monday 16th Dec
		Tuesday 5th Nov		Tuesday 19th Nov		Tuesday 3rd Dec		Tuesday 17th Dec



# attendance **MATTERS**



CONGRATULATIONS TO CLASS 4A WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FROM LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

RG	<b>85.6%</b>
RW	95.4%
1A	91.2%
1F	95.8%
2K	96.6%
2W	94.8%
3B	97.7%
3M	97.2%
4A	99.3%
4S	97.9%
5B	96.2%
5R	98.1%
6H	95.2%
6V	87.3%

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.



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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		Emir B, Mohamed Rayyan P, Skylar-Mai B & Mustafa S	
RG	Khadija C. & Noman A.	RW	Haniya B & Sadiyah S
1A	Syed Nasr A & Amnah H	1F	Unaysah R & Ayaan M
2W	Faiza M & Amaya F	2K	Humaira M & Amna A A
3M	Aiza R. & M. Eisa A	3B	Noor H & Mahir K
4S	Khadija B & Ulfah R	4A	Huzaifa M & All of 4A
5B	Shanzay J & Umar V	5R	Ayesha Q & Nazir S
6V	Angel R & Adan Farooq	6H	Aazim S & Haadiya A



# YEAR GROUP *updates*



## *Forest Pre-School & Nursery*

"This week the children have been learning all about Black History month with a focus on significant figures. We have learnt about Garret Morgan inventing the traffic light. The children have loved creating their own traffics and used them whilst playing outside. The children have also explored how Alfred Cralle invented the ice-cream scoop. They have played in our new ice-cream shop, served ice-cream to their friends and sang our new ice-cream song. The children have started to listen to two new stories this week called 'My Skin, Your Skin' and 'My Hair'. This has been a great way to start a discussion with the children and they have really enjoyed reading these stories. The children have then started to draw pictures of themselves, only using half of their face and talking about their skins, hair and what makes them special."

## *Action*

Have a lovely break next week.

## *Reception*

The children have had another fantastic week learning about astronaut Mae Jemison. We have also had a nursery rhyme themed week in class and the children have loved making stick puppets, singing, dancing and performing their favourite nursery rhymes.

## *Action*

- If you work in a profession that 'helps people' and would be available to come in to school to speak about it, please get in touch. Thank you for your support during the first term of school. Enjoy the break together.





# YEAR GROUP updates



## Year 1

"We have had a very busy final week. On Tuesday we visited Corporation park to observe the changes of autumn for our science topic. 1A finally performed their Parent worship and they were amazing. We are so proud of them! It was also great to see so many parents during parents evening and share your child's learning journey so far.

## Action

- "A gentle reminder for parents to return your child's consent form for our trip to Mrs Dowson's farm along with any contributions by Friday 29th November 2024. PE will continue to be on Monday and Wednesdays so please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit for those days and that ear-rings have been removed or covered with plasters. Please continue to read with your child over the holidays at least three times a week. Have a lovely half-term break!"

## Year 2

In English the children have all successfully written their own shape poem all about a 'raindrop'. We have started a new topic in maths learning about shapes, which we will carry on after half term. Finally, we had a messy science lesson! We learnt about the importance of brushing our teeth by mashing banana and chocolate biscuits onto building blocks to act like teeth. Then, we gave them a clean using toothpaste and toothbrushes. The children had lots of fun!

## Action

- "It was lovely to talk to the parents and carers who attended Parents Evening this week. We hope you have a lovely half term. Stay safe, have fun, and don't forget to read!"



# YEAR GROUP updates



## Year 3

This week, Year 3 have continued to work on the exchanging within subtraction during their maths lessons. They have worked extremely hard and have their learning objectives in this. For English, the children have written their own Information text all about 'Giraffes'. We can't wait to read them

## Action

- Enjoy the holidays. Continue to read and practice your 2, 5 and 10 times tables

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant first half term! This week we have finished writing our newspaper reports and completed our Maths topic of 'Addition and Subtraction.' Hope you have a lovely break!

## Action

- Please practise times tables and ensure your child is reading.



# YEAR GROUP *updates*

## *Year 5*

Well done Year 5 on a fantastic first half term. We hope you have a lovely break and remember to keep safe. We look forward to sharing our Black History Month learning with you on Thursday 31st October. See you then!

## *Action*

Please remember to read at home over the holidays and practise your timetables.

## *Year 6*

"Year 6 have worked very hard this term, in all areas of their learning. Next term they will be starting a new class book and perform a poem in English. In Maths they will continue practicing on long division and then go on to fractions as their new topic."

## *Action*

- "Please ensure your child reads regularly at home, they re-cap their timetables and complete their homework in their books as well as Century Tech. Thank you for your continued support. See you all after the half term."



# 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)
- Clubs will resume after Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- NO CLUBS WILL RUN IN THE FIRST WEEK!

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.

