

ST JAMES' Newsletter

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

01254 698335

Date: Friday 13th Dec 2024



Doug Stitche

Mr D Stitche, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

What a festive week it's been! Thank you to everyone who has come to school to support our performances. I do apologise if you've heard me say 'We're not expecting a fire drill today...' four times this week!

All the performances were amazing – we started the week with our KS1 Carol Concert, then on Tuesday, it was the turn of Years 3, 4 and 5. On Wednesday, Reception put on their beautiful nativity performance and then our week culminated with the Year 6 Pantomime!

I'm sure you'll agree that the children were brilliant – they worked really hard to put these performances together, And of course, it wouldn't be possible without the hard work, dedication and boundless

enthusiasm of our staff. You'd be surprised at how seriously teachers take putting on the Christmas performances and this year was no exception.

We only have one week left. Just a reminder, that school closes at the usual time on Friday 20th December 2024, and re-opens to children on Tuesday 7th January 2025. The last week before the holidays is always fun in school with lots of events planned, so please make sure your child is in every day so that they don't miss out!

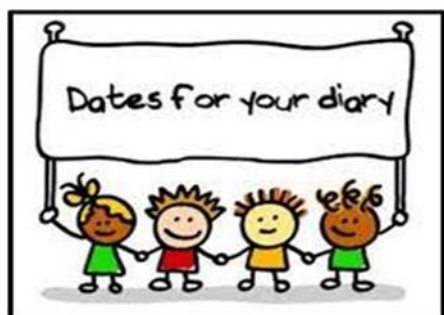
Have a lovely weekend! I've got to drive to Durham to pick my daughter up from university to bring her home for Christmas!

Mr Stitche



St James' Blackburn
C of E Primary School

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



Monday 16th Dec	EYC Christmas Carol Concert @ 11:00am in EYC
Monday 16th Dec	EYC Christmas Carol Concert @ 2:30pm in EYC
Monday 16th Dec	KS2 Parties
Tuesday 17th Dec	EYC & KS1 Parties
Thursday 19th Dec	Church Service at 10:30am (KS1) and 11am (KS2)
Friday 20th Dec	School closure @ 3:05pm
Tuesday 7th Jan 2025	School re- open
Tuesday 28th Jan	International Lego Day special lunch
Tuesday 11th Feb	Internet Safety Day and special lunch
Wed & Thurs 12-13 Feb	Parent meetings in school
Wednesday 2nd Apr	Eid Lunch



FREE Winter lunches

Monday 30th December

Tuesday 31st December

Thursday 2nd January

Friday 3rd January

11:30 – 1:00

at

Family Hub Livesey

Family Hub Darwen

Family Hub Shadsworth

Family Hub Little Harwood

**To register please phone 01254 585000 or
drop in to one of our Family Hubs/Childrens Centres**



Family Hub

Darwen | Little Harwood | Livesey | Shadsworth



Scan me



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Family Hub



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Parent Group Leader *Training opportunity*

Empowering Parents Empowering Communities (EPEC) is a parenting programme delivered by parents who live in their own community.

Parent Group Leader training equips parents to facilitate *Being a Parent* group/course in their own communities, with continued support from specialist EPEC Supervisors.

Being a Parent helps parents to learn practical skills for everyday life and bring up confident, happy and co-operative children. The programme supports parents to develop positive parenting strategies, learn effective communication skills and supports them to understand their children's behaviour and development.

Parent Group Leader training is voluntary and is delivered 1 day per week over 10 weeks. This will be from Tuesday the 14th January at Family Hub Shadsworth

Once trained parent group leaders will deliver the programme for 2 hours a week in an 8 week block, this will be delivered alongside another parent group leader, the programme does not run during school holidays.

Contact Laura Mckelvey 01254 666536 laura.mckelvey@blackburn.gov.uk for an informal chat and to find out some more information.



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EMPOWERING PARENTS EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

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NURSERY & PRE-SCHOOL PARENTS

REMINDER OF CODE DATES

Code Validity Dates – Spring Term

Statutory guidance requires all parents to apply/reconfirm their working families entitlements for the Spring Term by **31st December**. We cannot accept code start dates after this date for the Spring Term.

Free Early Years Education



RECOMMENDED TIME TO APPLY FOR YOUR CODE

- codes **must** be reconfirmed every three months to remain eligible

when your child turns 2 years or 3 years	when they can get Free hours from	Recommended time to apply
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	15 October - 30 November (no later than 31 December)
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	15 January - 29 February (no later than 31 March)
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	15 June to 31 July (no later than 31 August)

Your code may need reconfirming before your child commences a Early Years place if you apply too early.

Free Early Years Education

HOW MANY FREE HOURS YOU CAN GET PER WEEK

	2 year olds	3-4 year olds
Working families	15 Hours Now 30 hours Sept 25	30 hours Now
Families receiving additional Government support	15 hours Now	N/A
All families	N/A	15 hours Now

*Refer to Childcarechoices.gov.uk for Full Criteria & Eligibility & to apply



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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 suitable INSIDE clothing, including pumps.

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

	<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>
Reception (RG & RW)	Friday 1st Nov	Friday 8th Nov	Friday 15th Nov	Friday 22nd Nov	Friday 29th Nov	Friday 6th Dec	Friday 13th Dec	Friday 20th Dec
Year 1 (1A & 1F)	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
Year 2 (2K & 2W)	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
Year 3 (3B & 3M)	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	
Year 4 (4A & 4S)	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	
Year 5 (5B & 5R)	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		
Year 6 (6H & 6V)	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 4S WHO ARE THE ATTENDANCE WINNERS FROM LAST WEEK!

WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS NEXT WEEK?

RG	91.9%	
RW	94.2%	
1A	90.8%	
1F	95.5%	
2K	83.7%	
2W	99.0%	🥈
3B	89.0%	
3M	89.3%	
4A	93.0%	
4S	100.0%	🥇
5B	96.3%	
5R	93.3%	
6H	93.0%	
6V	94.3%	

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.



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		Fatimah I & Hassan S	
RG	Farhan I. & Zohan S.	RW	Sebastian C & Ayman P
1A	Muhsin P & Nasr A	1F	Aashir A A & Melissa F M
2W	Sienna S & Faiza M	2K	Mubarak Hassan A & Unathi N
3M	M. Haashir & M. Isshaq	3B	Uzair M & Anaya P
4S	Hosina S & Muhammad ibraheem J	4A	Salma A & Huzaifa M
5B	Abubakr I & Mohmed Fahim K	5R	Veronika H & Zakariyya F
6V	All of Year 6	6H	All of Year 6



YEAR GROUP *updates*

Forest Pre-School & Nursery

The children have been getting ready for their Christmas Concert next week. They can't wait to perform and show off their amazing singing.

Action

Please see Family App for updates.

Reception

"What another fantastic week. Reception gave an amazing performance in their nativity. We are so proud of them all, and of their hard work. They were all so confident and their efforts really shone through. Also, thank you for your support. It was lovely to see such a great turn out."

Action

- Thank you for all of your support this term.



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 1

What a wonderful week we have had! The children performed an amazing carol concert. We are so proud of them! In Geography, we have been learning about the four countries of the United Kingdom and comparing their physical and human features. For maths, we have been learning the days of the week and the months of the year and thinking about which day or month comes 'before' and 'after'.

Action

- All reading books will be collected on Monday so please could you ensure that your child brings their books in to school. We will be having a Christmas party on Tuesday 17.12.24 and your child has a letter requesting what food item they would like to bring. A great big thank you, in advance.

Year 2

The children did amazingly well on Monday afternoon having learnt 9 songs and lots of lines. We were really proud of them!

Action

- "Tuesday 17th is party afternoon, please can your child bring food. Thursday morning 2W are doing a short sketch in church: parents and carers are more than welcome to come. Either 10:30 or 11:00 starts."



YEAR GROUP updates



Year 3

What an amazing performance by Year 3 in their carol concert this week! They sang and danced very well and we are proud of the effort they have put in. Also this week, the children have been writing their own adventure story. They have also learnt to multiply by 10.

Action

- Homework is now paperless. We are trialling a new way of sending homework. Please see the letter your child will send home today. Any questions or problems let us know.

Year 4

It has been another busy festive week in year 4! We're sure you will agree that the children performed superbly in the Carol Concert on Tuesday. We have still managed to fit in some school work though... we have explored the features of pyramid, considered how different features of poetry affect our emotions and practised the eight different ways to make the ay sound. Do you know them all?

Action

- We will be holding our Christmas parties on Monday afternoon. Please ask your child about their class plan for bringing in party snacks or drinks. Thank you



YEAR GROUP *updates*



Year 5

Well done to Year 5 on a fantastic Carol Service performance. You have wowed everyone with your brilliant singing. This week we have started learning on Century Tech and have found it to be a very valuable and engaging resource. For English we have explored the poem 'The Highwayman' and have found that very interesting. In Maths we have continued our learning on Multiplication and Division.

Action

"Continue to read at least 3x a week and don't forget to sign planners."

Year 6

"Year 6 have been fabulous performing and presenting their pantomime in front of all the children, staff, parents and guardians. They have been absolute super stars from rehearsal to the actual show. A big thank you to all the parents and guardians who helped supporting their child with either their costume or any props we may have needed for our panto."

Action

- On Monday we have our Christmas party. Please send package food with them. Children can come in their festive clothes.



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



**All after school clubs
cancelled next week and
will resume after the
Christmas holidays on
week commencing
Monday 13th January 2025**

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.

