



# The St. James' Journal

## Newsletter

1st May 2026



### MR LEEMING'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been a wonderfully busy and enriching week in school, filled with hands-on learning, new initiatives, and moments that made us incredibly proud of our pupils.

#### Year 3 & 4 Outdoor Learning Day in Abbeystead

Our Year 3 and Year 4 classes enjoyed a fantastic trip to Abbeystead for a "Countryside Learning Day". The children explored woodland habitats, took part in team building challenges, and learned about the local environment through practical, real world experiences.

Their enthusiasm was infectious — they embraced every activity with curiosity and confidence. Staff at the centre commented on their excellent behaviour and teamwork, which is always wonderful to hear.

#### Mastering Numbers Across the School

This year, we have introduced Mastering Number sessions across the junior classes. These short, focused daily sessions are designed to strengthen children's number sense, fluency, and confidence. This week, our school governors visited sessions to see the approach in action. They were deeply impressed by:

- the children's strong understanding of number relationships
- their engagement and willingness to explain their thinking
- the positive, focused learning atmosphere in every classroom

It was a proud moment for staff and pupils alike, and we're delighted that the impact of the programme is already so visible.

Enjoy the bank holiday weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday.



**Thank you for all the chocolate donations received today for the Friends Chocolate Bingo, to be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May, KS2 Hall at 5pm!**



#### Update us

Have you moved or changed your contact details recently?

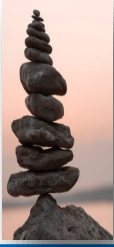
Please inform the office.

#### Attendance

It is vital that your child is in school on time every day. The classes with the best attendance this week were:



**OAK & HAWTHORN**



## Collective Worship - An attitude of gratitude

*"Give thanks in all circumstances"* 1 Thessalonians

This week we were learning about the dangers of negativity and grumbling. In the Bible the Israelites grumbled a lot after leaving slavery in Egypt. It is better for everyone if we are thankful and there are many health benefits too!

## Staffing News

At the end of this term, **Mrs. Gardiner** will be leaving us to take up an exciting new role as Deputy Headteacher at Bretherton Endowed C of E Primary School. Many of you will know just how much she has contributed to our school—not only as a class teacher but also as a key member of our senior leadership team. Her passion, high expectations, and unwavering commitment to our pupils have helped shape the school we are today. Although we will miss her greatly, we are incredibly proud of her achievement and know she will continue to inspire children and staff in her new role.

We will also be saying goodbye to **Mrs. Lawton**, who joined us on a temporary basis this year. She has secured a new teaching position at Ribchester St Wilfrid's CE Primary School and will be moving on at the end of term. We are grateful for the positive impact she has had during her time with us and wish her every success.

## Golden Ticket

Pupils who go **over and above** to demonstrate our school values will be awarded a 'Golden Ticket' and will be placed in the draw for prizes at the end of term. The following children have been awarded a Golden Ticket:



## STARS OF THE WEEK



### Acorn

James & Toby

### Ash

Harry D & Jack S

Birch Charlie & Lola

Rashid & Matthew

### Chestnut

Bertie K & Sofia S

### Rowan

Leah D & Cora H

© dak

### Oak

Harrison M & Willow O

### Willow

Vihan & Franklin

### Hawthorn

Oscar S & Elsie B

### Alder

Amy C & Mercy

### Sycamore

George & Axel

© dak

## Whole School Author Visit—Wednesday 6th May 2026

We will be hosting a visit from the award-winning Scottish author Stuart Reid for the whole school.

Stuart's first book won the Silver Medal at the Forward National Literature Awards, and his books are written to inspire children to read for pleasure. Stuart's last book 'Grandpa Jock and the Incredible Iron-Bru-Man Incident' was launched at the Edinburgh Festival.

Stuart's books are aimed at children aged 8–11 years as a self read as well as for pupils aged 5–7 years as a bedtime read with parents.



Books can be purchased on the day, all signed by the author, with a personal dedication to each child. Book prices are £7 each, two for £12, or a school special offer of four books for £20.

**Please bring cash into school on the day, in a named, sealed envelope, if you wish to make a purchase.**

## Jimmy's Out of School Club

Jimmy's out of school club is open for morning sessions from 7:30am to the start of school & afternoon sessions from the end of school to 6pm.

The cost of a session is £4 in a morning & £7 in an afternoon. Breakfast and afternoon snacks are included. £3 registration fee for new children. **Bookings must be paid for in advance.**

**Bookings can be made on an ad hoc basis as required.** To register, please go to:

<https://jimmysatstjames.kidsclubhq.co.uk/cust#/auth>

To contact Jimmy's in opening hours call 07864352507 or send a text or email.

**Get booked in early as some days are getting full. If bookings need changing, please change them on the booking system.**



## Friends' Chocolate Bingo is coming shortly, and it's even bigger & better!



Join us on Friday May 15th in the Junior Hall for fun and games of a chocolate sort and raising money for school.

NEW - let us sort tea, you can now treat yourself to a delicious slice of Steve's home-made plate pies (very popular at the Christmas Fair!), or enjoy a Hot Dog along with cold refreshments! Doors open & food served from 5pm...Eyes down at 6pm! You can bring your own food for tea if you'd prefer (though honestly the pies are delish!), drinks available to buy.

Bingo: £3.50 per adult/child. A slice of homemade pie & sides: £4 adult / £2 child. Hot Dogs: £2.  
NEW: Bundle & Save offer - Bingo + Pie for £7 / £5!

## Dates for the Diary

### Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May—Bank Holiday

Wedns 6<sup>th</sup> May

Mon 11<sup>th</sup>—Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> May

Wedns 13<sup>th</sup> May

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> May

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> May

### HALF TERM Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May—Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> June

Mon 8<sup>th</sup>— Fri 12<sup>th</sup> June

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> June

Wedns 10<sup>th</sup> June

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> June

Wedns 1<sup>st</sup> July

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> July

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> July

Wedns 8<sup>th</sup> July

Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> July

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> July

Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July

Whole School—Author visit

Yr 6 SATS

Reception Class 2026 Welcome Evening, 6pm

Friends Chocolate Bingo, KS2 Hall, 5pm. Ticketed event

Friends Chocolate Tombola, KS2 Playground, 3:15pm

INSET DAY

School re-opens

Acorn, Oak, Ash & Willow trip to Mrs Dowson's Farm

Alder, Rowan & Sycamore World War 2 Day

Yr 4 Multiplication Check

Yr 1 Phonics Screening Check

Parents Network Meeting, KS1 Hall, 9am with Mrs Sharp, Mrs Stephens & Guest speaker

School Nurse Drop In, 9am

Yr 6 Transition Prayer Space at Turret House

KS1 Sports Day, 1:30pm

KS2 Sports Day, Morning, time TBC

Yr 6 pupils to Ribblesdale Day Transition Day 1

Yr 6 pupils to Ribblesdale Day Transition Day 2

Friends Summer Fair & BBQ

Yr 6 pupils Bowland High School Transition Day

Upper KS2 Performance, 2pm at Church

Upper KS2 Performance, 5:30pm at Church

Yr 6 Leavers Service, 2pm at Church

Yr 6 Party 6pm—7:30pm

School Closes

## Do you shop online?

Did you know you can raise money for school for FREE when you do! Just become a supporter of Friends on Easyfundraising (a website/app that links to your favourite shopping websites) - over 8,000 retailers will make a donation to 'Friends Of St James' School, Clitheroe' on your behalf when you shop with them.

**Plus, sign up to support them before midnight this Sunday 3rd May and we could win a £1,000 donation!**

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/friends-of-st-james-school-clitheroe/G6723C/s2s/fDHVaHye/SE893/facebook/3>



The poster features the Easyfundraising logo at the top, followed by the 'Spring Supporter Boost' graphic which includes a blue cartoon character holding a megaphone. The main text is centered and reads: 'Your support could help us WIN one of two £1,000 donations'. Below this, a white pill-shaped button with a clock icon says 'Ends Sunday 3rd May'. To the left, it says 'Sign up today to give us a FREE entry' and 'All of these online retailers & more!' with a yellow arrow pointing to a grid of retailer logos. At the bottom, it says 'SUPPORT 'FRIENDS OF ST JAMES' SCHOOL, CLITHEROE'.

easyfundraising

**SPRING SUPPORTER BOOST**

Your support could help us WIN one of two **£1,000** donations

🕒 Ends Sunday 3rd May

Sign up today to give us a FREE entry

All of these online retailers & more!

**SUPPORT 'FRIENDS OF ST JAMES' SCHOOL, CLITHEROE'**

LANCASHIRE MUSIC SERVICE

# JAZZ DAY



SIGN UP!



**SATURDAY 16TH MAY**  
**10AM - 3:30PM**

**LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL**  
**EAST RD, LANCASTER, LA1 3EF**



#WHEREWILLMUSICTAKEYOU



**BURNLEY MUSIC CENTRE**

*Come and*  
**PLAY**

TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
2026

**SIGN UP!**



**PROGRESSION EVENT FOR CLARINET, FLUTE, TRUMPET, SAXOPHONE AND RECORDER!**

4PM START TIME WITH A PERFORMANCE AT 6.30PM FOR PARENTS

VENUE: ST LEONARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL, MOOR LANE, PADIHAM, BB12 8HT

CONTACT: VICTORIA.FLETCHER@LANCASHIRE.GOV.UK



**#WHEREWILLMUSICTAKEYOU**



**LANCASHIRE  
MUSIC SERVICE**