



The St. James' Journal Newsletter

22nd May 2026



MR LEEMING'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of Summer Term 1, we want to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful learning, achievements, and community spirit that have filled our school over the past few weeks. The children have worked incredibly hard, embraced new challenges, and brought so much joy and energy to school life.

Year 6 Bikeability – Confident, Safe Cyclists in the Making

This week, our Year 6 pupils took part in their Bikeability training, and what a brilliant job they did. They learned how to ride safely, navigate roads with confidence, and develop the skills they need to be responsible cyclists. The instructors were full of praise for their enthusiasm and determination. We are very proud of them.

PTA Chocolate Bingo – A Sweet Success

A huge thank you to our amazing PTA for organising the fantastic Chocolate Bingo event. It was a wonderful evening full of laughter, excitement, and plenty of chocolate prizes. Events like this bring our school community together, and we are incredibly grateful for the hard work that goes into making them happen. Thanks to everyone who attended and supported the event — together, we raised over £700 that will go directly back into enriching school life for our children.

Do try to read with your children over the holidays—this really helps them to make progress.

We hope all our families enjoy a restful and happy half term break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Tuesday 2nd June**, ready for an exciting last term!

Update us

Have you moved or changed
your contact details recently?

Please inform the office asap.

Attendance

It is vital that your child is in school on time every day.

The class with the best attendance this week was:

WILLOW & HAWTHORN



Building Culture: Building Lives: Building Hope



For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's building. 1 Cor 3 v 9

Collective Worship

We looked at the story of Nehemiah and how he and the Israelites worked hard to rebuild Jerusalem's walls. We want to have the same kind of pride in our school. We are so privileged to be part of part of such a fantastic community that works so hard for our wonderful school. We learned that we can all play our part.

Class Photos— Monday 8th June

The school photographer will be in school to take class photos. Please ensure children are in full school uniform.



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:

**Rory, J, Connor B, Adela S & Otis W
(Chestnut)**



STARS OF THE WEEK



Acorn

Gabriella & Arthur

Ash

Marley & River

Birch

Harvey & Zach

Chestnut

Hazel & Godson

Rowan

Rose W & Cian P

Oak

Grace & Lucas

Willow

Bailey & Etty

Hawthorn

Amazing Grace & Anna

Alder

Elowyn & Savannah

Sycamore

Rosa & Soli

© dak

© dak

Year 6 had worked so hard last week and should be incredibly proud of the way they approached each test with positivity and determination. On Friday they had a lovely post-SATs celebration morning, enjoying ice cream from 3C's and playing together.



Well done to our Y6 representatives, who competed in the Johnson Matthey STEM Challenge Final at The Grand on Wednesday. They took part in a series of STEM challenges across the day, competing against other local primaries. Well done and thank you for representing our school so brilliantly!



CLASS NEWS:

There has been a lot of exciting learning going on this week.....

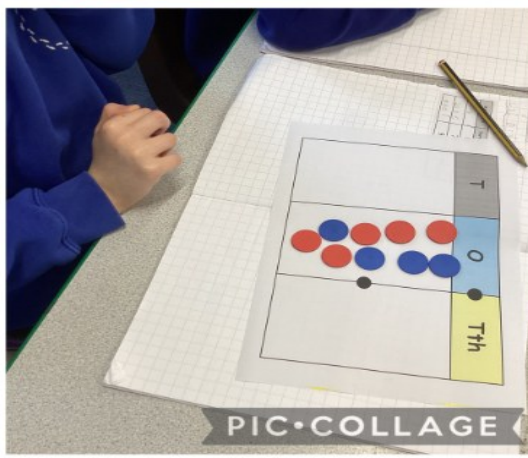
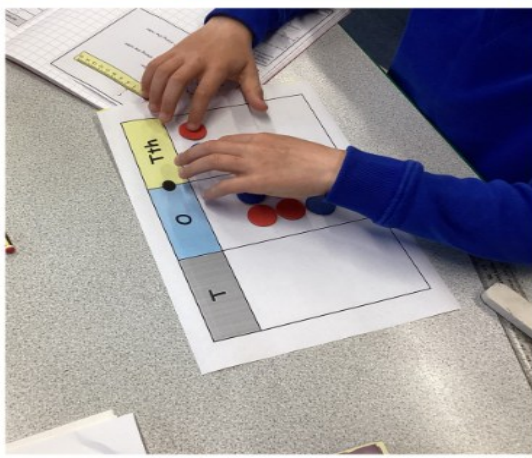
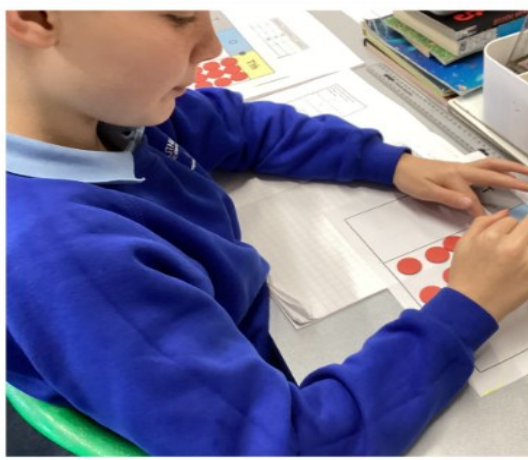


Children in Acorn Class are showing a love of reading! Enjoying books together and sharing favourite stories.



Birch class are now all experts at telling time!





In Chestnut we've started our work on decimals. Everyone has been so enthusiastic and did an amazing job of dividing with place value charts!

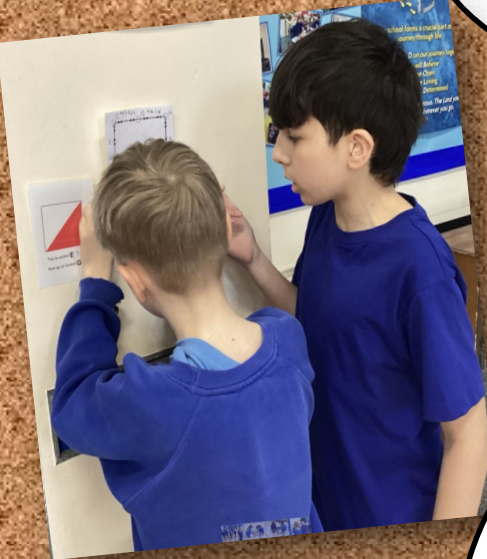


Rowan class have been exploring artists who use photography to record and observe. They composed a close-up photograph of a natural form and then made decisions about cropping, editing and presenting their images in the style of Edward Weston.



In Oak Class we have been learning about germs in Science.

We used a special gel that glows under a UV light to demonstrate how germs spread. We have been doing some fieldwork in Geography, sampling a small area on the school field and looking carefully at what was there. In PE we have been learning about teamwork and tactics.



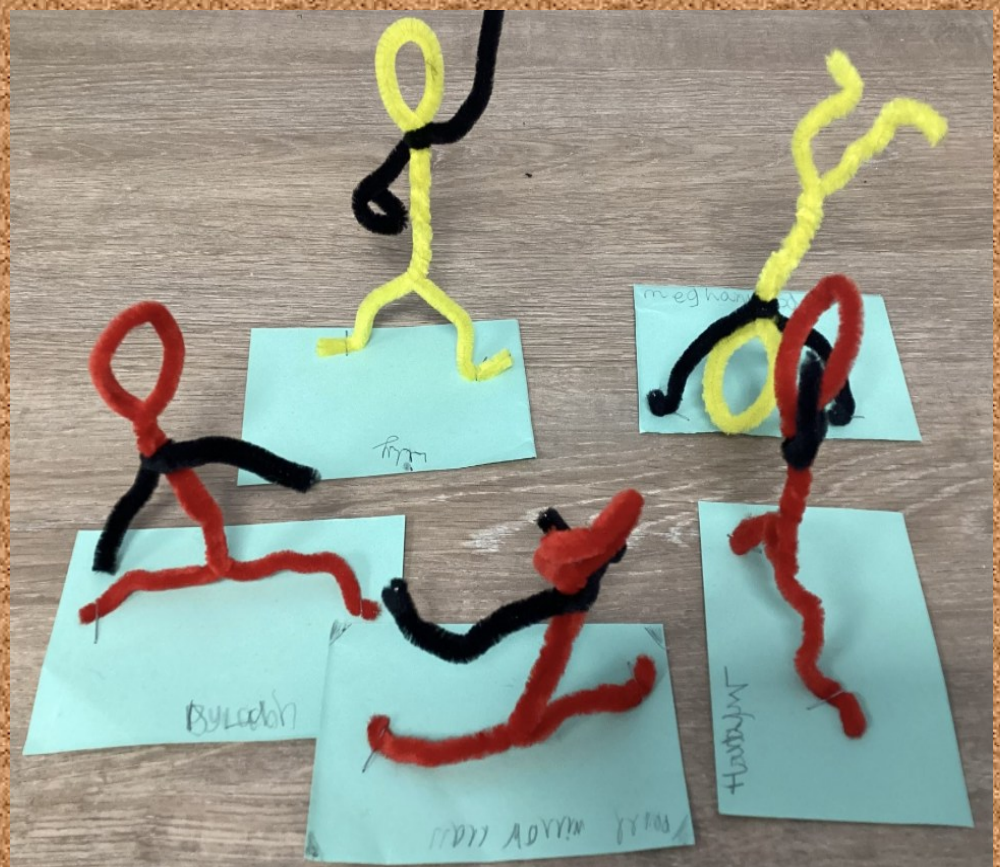
Alder Class: In our PE lessons, we have started to explore Orienteering. We have compared different maps, started to learn how to orientate a map and use controls.

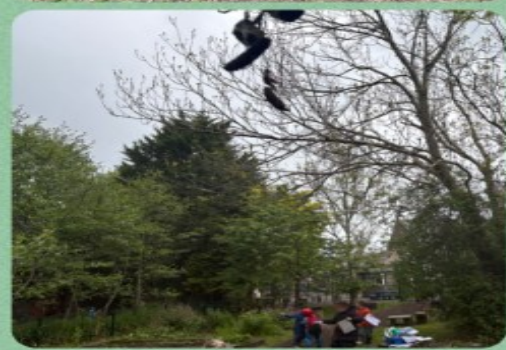




Hawthorn Class
have been
enjoying handling
coins to help them
learn how to add
and subtract
money. They have
had lots of fun
pretending to be
shopkeepers and
figuring out how
much change they
owe!

Willow Class have
been have been
making figures and
posing them like
superheroes. Aren't
they fantastic?





Ash Class have thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School sessions.



Year 6 have had a fantastic week taking part in Level 1 & Level 2 Bikeability training, developing their confidence and road safety skills. The children first practised key techniques and manoeuvres on the school playground before progressing onto the roads around Clitheroe, where they showed great maturity and awareness.



Calling all budding artists or anyone who has a pebble stash at home... We'd love some painted pebbles to use in our playgrounds so over this half term we challenge you to get busy with your paint brush & let your imagination run wild! Please use Acrylic paints, see poster for full details and there will be prizes for our favourites. Friends will then varnish them so your artwork lasts. So ready steady, let's get busy!

PAINT A PEBBLE CHALLENGE!

Use **ACRYLIC** paints please!

Get creative over **HALF TERM** and create some pebble art to be used in our playground!

PRIZES TO BE WON!

You could paint...

- Characters for Storytime
- Insects
- Vehicles
- Food for a Mud Kitchen
- ...or anything that sparks your imagination!

PEBBLES SHOULD BE:

- ✓ Clean, dry and ready to paint
- ✓ Any size or shape
- ✓ Pop your name on the back if you can!

HOW TO TAKE PART:

- ★ Paint your pebble(s) at home using acrylic paints.
- ★ Be as creative as you like!
- ★ Hand your finished pebble(s) in to school after Half Term.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Friends will varnish all the pebbles to make them strong, shiny and ready for play!

Let's fill our playground with colour, creativity and joy!

Thank You!

to everyone who helped make
Chocolate Bingo a fantastic night!

We've raised an amazing...

£725.18!

so far...

Special thanks go to our amazing Chef Steve
(our delicious pie baker & maker of the red
cabbage!), & helped with pie ingredients kindly
donated by Clitheroe Market Sellers - Sue's Deli
(cheese), D.Bolton (meat) & Burney's Veg



Clitheroe Castle Museum EVENTS

DAILY

MAY 2026

11am - 4pm

THE LOST SWORD HUNT

The Knights of Clitheroe Castle have lost their miniature swords. Find them all hiding in the museum galleries and you might be the lucky winner of a fabulous bag of souvenirs from the gift shop. Free with museum admission.



DAILY

MAY 2026

11am - 4pm

MAKE SOMETHING AMAZING

Design your own magnificent wooden shield. Create your own family crest, be inspired by the De Lacy lion or invent something unique. Whatever you choose you can finish it as a badge or magnet to display with pride. £2 each while stocks last.



Coming up...

JULY

2026

ARCHAEOLOGY FESTIVAL

Keep an eye on our events page to secure your spot on one of our Junior Archaeologist sessions in July. Find out more and book now at <http://tiny.cc/EventsAtClitheroeCastle>

Open Daily, all kids go free

Find details of all our activities and events on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit our website at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/museums/clitheroe-castle-museum/> or via the QR code.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE FAMILY



ANNIE JR.

Sat 20th – Sun 21st June
Tickets From £10

Following on from last year's incredible Aladdin performance, ESAA is bringing everyone's favourite little redhead to the stage with Annie Jr.

Set in 1930s New York City, this beloved musical tells the heartwarming story of Annie, a brave young orphan determined to find her family.

Expect a professional-level show brought to you by some of the most up-and-coming stars in the local theatre scene.

LIVE AT THE CASTLE

Sat 27th June · Free Tickets

Completely free and designed for all ages, Live at the Castle is a gift from Love Clitheroe to our town. Offering top-tier live music, engaging arts and crafts plus some incredible local food and drink, Live at the Castle is already shaping up to be a real highlight of the summer.



CHURCH AT THE CASTLE

Sun 28th June · Free Tickets

Church at the Castle is the vibrant Sunday finale to our festival weekend, and the invitation is open to everyone. We are creating a relaxed space in the iconic grounds of Clitheroe Castle, where the whole community can gather to experience worship and be inspired.

