



The St. James' Journal Newsletter

16th October 2026



MR LEEMING'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents & Carers,

A Wonderful First Half Term!

As we reach the end of our first half term, we want to take a moment to celebrate all that we have achieved together as a school community. It has been a truly fantastic start to the year, filled with energy, teamwork, and joy.

We began the term by strengthening our partnership with parents through our **Meet the Teacher** events, where families had the chance to hear about the exciting year ahead and how best to support learning at home. It's been equally lovely to welcome parents each week to our **Friday Celebration Assemblies**—your encouragement means so much to the children. This week, our **Parents' Evenings** gave us another opportunity to talk about your children's progress and share how proud we are of their efforts and achievements.

Our pupils have also shone beyond the classroom, representing our school with great determination in our **cross-country competition**.

Today, our **Harvest Service** at church was a real highlight—a heart-warming celebration of thankfulness, community, and generosity. The Faith Leaders, Alder Class & Ash Class led the service brilliantly and should be very proud. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this special occasion.

Above all, what makes every day in our school so special is the inspiring teaching and learning that takes place in every classroom. Our children approach their learning with curiosity, creativity, and enthusiasm, and our staff continue to make lessons engaging, challenging, and full of joy.

Thank you to everyone—children, parents, staff, and governors—for making this half term such a success. Please remember that we break up **next Tuesday (20th)**. We hope you all enjoy a well-deserved rest over the break, ready to return on **Tuesday 3rd November** refreshed for another exciting term ahead!

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:

ASH





Collective Worship

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."

Colossians 3:23

This week we thought about the joy that a clean and tidy school environment brings. We saw that looking after our school is everyone's responsibility.

An Amazing Response to Our Harvest Appeal!



What an incredible response we have had to our Harvest Shoebox Appeal! We have been so proud to see the enthusiasm, kindness and generosity shown by our children and families.

This really is St. James' at its very best: a community that cares for others and puts love into action. Your generous donations will make a real difference to people in our local community who need the support of the Ribble Valley Foodbank.

To all our children, parents and carers who have donated so kindly, thank you. Your generosity means such a lot.



Nurse Drop-In Service, Tuesday 20th October 2026

9am – 10:00am

The School Nurse can help with a range of medical conditions:

- Sleep, Bed wetting & Constipation
- Behaviour – parental support
- Emotional health and wellbeing – anxiety, worries, friendship and resilience etc.
- SEND
- Healthy lifestyles - diet, weight, exercise, fussy eating etc.
- General health – dental, hearing, sight etc.
- Specific health conditions – Asthma, Diabetes, allergies etc.



Light Up Re-usable Toy Sale - Thursday 5th November, 3.15pm

Get ready for Bonfire Night with our flashing toys sale, all battery run to keep going for the year and fab prices too! Flashing foam Batons, fibre-optic wands, light-up rings and more, see you on the junior playground. Cash or card payments taken.



 **SALE of**

LIGHT UP TOYS!

£1.50

LED Foam Flashing Batons

£2

Magic Wands

£2

Thursday 5th November 3.15pm

Cash & Contactless Payments taken

Spooky/Pirate Flashing Rings

£1

Friends have organised another exciting **Christmas Design Project!** Our budding artists can again design their own festive picture to then be professionally printed on Christmas cards, mugs, tags, wrapping paper & more, whilst helping raise money for Friends too!

Next week the children will bring home an A4 sheet of paper on which to create their own Christmas design at home, over half term, along with an order form for you to order a range of products (each form has a unique code). Friends will receive from 50p to £4 from the cost of the products you choose, so you can create a lovely keepsake and enhance your child's school adventures too! We had some beautiful designs last year as the pictures show.

Please hand back your completed art work & order form into class by Thursday 5th November. All items will then be delivered & handed out in class in early December.

If you have anyone else in your family who would like to create their own artwork, we do have some spare forms available. Have fun getting creative!





WAYMAKERS

Kids' Club



Tuesday
6-7.30pm



St James
Church

School years
3-6.



Games



Bible story



Fun
activities



Snacks



Prizes



Contact;

Helen Potts

Helenpotts@stjamesclitheroe.co.uk



Fun with friends and making different artworks are just some of the inspiring activities your child will enjoy in our Create Club at St James' CE Primary School. Your child will experience a fantastic range of cool and funky activities within the theme...

All About Me



Our national programme for Create Clubs is underpinned by pedagogy to encourage independent thinking and problem-solving please see <https://thecreationstation.co.uk/create-club/> for more details. Our founder, Sarah Cressall, received an OBE in 2024 in recognition of opportunities provided for children by The Creation Station over the last 24 years. We bring in other subjects to our themes and encourage the children to share what they know already or have been learning in school.

This half-term, we will continue on our self-inspired artistic journey:

- Poppy print-making for Remembrance
- Wild about animals: pet rock decorating
- Story of my name - string & foil embossing
- Let's play: design a squishy
- Dream Big! Who do I want to be?
- Christmas Craft Spectacular!

EXPLORING
OBSERVATION DEVELOPMENT ATTENTION
COMMUNICATION LISTENING INVESTIGATION
IDEAS BALANCE STYLISTIC PROBLEM SOLVING THINKING
SENSORY MATERIALS CONFIDENCE
CONCENTRATION
MOVEMENT SHARING UNDERSTANDING
MAKING FRIENDS PATIENCE
AWARENESS HAND EYE CO-ORDINATION
JOY AND ORGASM
CREATIVITY

Who: Create Club is open to all year groups and abilities; we will adapt the activities accordingly.

When: Monday 9 November – Monday 14 December 2026 3.15pm – 4.30pm

Cost: All materials are included. The half-term cost is £36.00 (6 sessions)

How to book: [Autumn 2](#)

I look forward to creating with your child and here's to an inspiring time!

Jo Troughton 07494 770521

email: jotroughton@thecreationstation.co.uk



If you are looking for award-winning arts and crafts sessions in the holidays, search Clitheroe on our website for Holiday Create Club at Trinity Community Hub and Family Fun at Holden Clough Nurseries www.thecreationstation.co.uk



Clitheroe Castle Museum



OPEN DAILY



DAILY

OCT 2026

11am - 4pm

AUTUMN CRAFTS

Create your own castle cat in celebration of wool month or enjoy decorating a Halloween tealight holder in our craft area. No need to book, drop in any time. From £2 whilst stocks last.

DAILY

OCT 2026

11am - 4pm

CASTLE CATS HUNT

Search the museum for the mischievous cats hiding in the galleries with their balls of wool. Find them all and you might be our lucky monthly prize winner.



FRI 30

OCT 2026

From 4:30pm

SPOOKY QUEST

Dare to explore the museum after dark and join our spooky Halloween quest. Meet some witches, try the yucky dip, enjoy fun games and treats. £6 per child, adults free. Booking essential.

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.

