



# St James' Church of England Primary School Newsletter

## Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

At St James' Church of England Primary School, we focus on our 'Core Values' of **Endurance, Forgiveness, Friendship, Koinonia, Peace, Thankfulness** and **Trust**.

Our School Motto is based on Matthew 13 – Parable of the Sower,  
'Growing in God's love, learning as we go.'

We take part in  
Operation Encompass



Dear Parents

We are now approaching the end of term so this will be our final newsletter until January. We have had a very busy week with the wonderful EYFS and Key Stage 1 Nativity – Baarmy Bethlehem – being a huge hit as the children had great fun telling the Christmas story and celebrating this special time together.

A big thank you to everyone who donated, supported or attended the Christmas fair today, your generosity is much appreciated – the funds go to all the wonderful activities and additional experiences we plan for our children over the year. Thank you.

Moving forward to next week, we have Christmas parties on Tuesday, Christmas dinner on Wednesday and our Carol Service in Church on Thursday. We will take all of your donations to the foodbank at the Church during this time and also donate to the Blackburn Foodbank who supported our school with the individual advent calendars for our children. Thank you for your support with this endeavour. It will help so many people to ensure they are not hungry in the coming weeks. Our final celebration assembly is on Friday with an early finish at 1.30pm for everyone.

A big thank you to Miss Sutton who leaves us to return to Australia and a very fond farewell to Mrs Molloy who has been such a wonderful member of our school family. We wish them both every health and happiness for the future. We therefore welcome Mrs Fawcett who starts with us in January – some of you will have already met her as she has attended some transition sessions with us already.

Finally, a very big thank you to all our wonderful staffing team who are so dedicated and who care so deeply for our children. They have all worked so hard this term and earned their festive break – I wish them all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

All the best to our school families for a safe and happy break ahead from 1.30pm on Friday 19th December. We look forward to seeing you all on 5th January from 8.45am. Happy New Year – all the best for 2026!

Best wishes

Frances Brady, Headteacher



## St James' Super Stars

Star of the Week	Writer of the Week	Speaker of the Week	Kindness/Golden Tie
Rec Kulsooma Year 1 Lilly Year 2 Alinah Year 3 Musa Year 4 Misha Year 5 Zayan Year 6 Sophie	Rec Zachahriya Year 1 Zishan Year 2 Eylel Year 3 Samson Year 4 Zack Year 5 Sufyaan Year 6 Tahira	Rec Akeeb Year 1 Cyrus Year 2 Maddisyn Year 3 Yousef Year 4 Jenson Year 5 Daaniya Year 6 Rayan A	Rec Rayyan Year 1 Muaz Year 2 Harissa Year 3 Dennis Year 4 Jake Year 5 Reagan Year 6 Zakir

The School's Attendance Target is	
96%	
Class	Attendance
Reception	90%
Year 1	94%
Year 2	86%
Year 3	87%
Year 4	92%
Year 5	99%
Year 6	93%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92%</b>
This week's winner is...	
<b>Year 5</b>	

### Picture News

An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the waist down is planning to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski. If he succeeds he will break the world record. Darren hopes his challenge will raise money for charity and show that his injury does not limit what he can achieve. Use the think together and talk to support your discussions.



### Think together and talk

- What does the word 'challenge' mean to you?
- Can you think of a time when you challenged yourself? What happened? Why was it challenging?
- How do you feel when you are asked to do something you know will be difficult or challenging? What helps you get started?



### Key Dates for your diaries



December			
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup>	1pm	Christmas Parties and a visit from Father Christmas
Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	12pm	Christmas Lunch
Thursday	18 <sup>th</sup>	9.05am	Carol Service in Church-everybody is welcome
Friday	19 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm	School Closes for Christmas Holidays

  

January 2026			
Monday	5th	8.45am	School re-opens



### Baarmy Bethlehem

WOW!! What a show! I am sure you will agree that our EYFS and KS1 children and staff worked incredibly hard to produce and present an amazing show for you all. We are all so proud of all of our wonderful children for learning all their lines, actions and timings on and off the stage. I already can't wait for next year's show!



Reception are the tidiest class this week!



### Ideas to support healthy lunchboxes

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>



### CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** is party day. You can come to school in your party clothes and bring an item of food to share with your friends. We will not be accepting hot food at the office-only packet items please e.g crisps, savoury snacks, biscuits, cakes etc.

The Dojo Shop is open next week. If you have 50+ points you can come along and choose a prize.



### Staff Shout Out!

This week we are celebrating Mrs Morton for going above and beyond and being a fabulous person to be around.



### Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone for your support at our Christmas Fair today. It was a huge success and everyone had a wonderful time. It was great to see so many families together celebrating the start of the festive season.