

WESTHEAD LATHOM ST JAMES' CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK
ENDING
02nd October 2026



SCHOOL NEWS

This Week at School

It has been another busy and productive week in school, with lots to celebrate and share. On Monday, we were delighted to welcome John from the Rotary Club, who came into school to meet our Year 6 children and tell them all about Junior Rotary. This is a great opportunity for our children to become involved in their local community, develop new skills and take on new responsibilities. A letter will be coming home this week with more information about how the programme works and details of how your child can sign up if they would like to take part.

Forest School

Forest School has continued this week for our Year 5 children and Butterflies. They have all been working incredibly hard on building their roundhouse, which is really taking shape and now looks fantastic! The children have particularly enjoyed having the opportunity to use the tools safely and develop their practical skills. It has been wonderful to see their teamwork, perseverance and enthusiasm as the project has progressed.

Celebrating Our English Work

On Monday, Mrs Lyon and I, in our roles as English Leaders, spent some time looking at the work the children have been completing in each class so far this year. We were incredibly impressed by what we saw.

The children are making a fantastic start with their phonics and independent writing, and the standard of handwriting and presentation across school was wonderful to see. We were particularly impressed to see just how many of our Year 3 children have already earned their Pen Licences! A huge well done to all of our children for the pride they are taking in their work – keep it up!

School Office

Please can we remind parents and carers that all absences and medical appointments should be reported through the school office, either via Gateway or by telephone. If your child has a medical appointment and needs to be collected early, it is important that the office knows in advance so that we know when to expect you and can make the necessary arrangements. Similarly, notifying the office of any absence ensures that this can be recorded correctly on our school system. Messages sent to Seesaw are often not seen until the end of the day. Please continue to use Seesaw for informal communication with your child's class teacher.

We would also really appreciate your help in making sure that children arrive at school each day with everything they need for the day, including any required equipment and their lunch where appropriate. We completely understand that things can occasionally be forgotten; however, bringing items into school during the day can cause interruptions to lessons, and office workload. A reminder that those accessing school dinners should book these in advance on the School Gateway app. The kitchen only sends what has been ordered so it is very difficult if children arrive with no packed lunch and no booking. Thank you for your help with this matter.

Family, Fun and Food – This Saturday

A reminder that Family, Fun and Food is taking place this Saturday from 4pm–6pm at the Village Hall. This is a free session, and everyone is welcome, so please do come along and join in! Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope all of our families have a lovely weekend!
Miss Clark

DATES FOR THE DIARY	
Regular Dates/Events Tuesday Mornings- Rocksteady Music Lessons for those signed up. Wednesday- PE for Years 1 to 6. Friday- 3pm Celebration Assembly, families welcome to come along.	
Friday 18 th September	Swimming lessons start for Eager Beavers for 9 weeks.
Sunday 11 th October	10.30am Harvest Festival at St James' Church
Monday 12 th October	Wise Owls' visit to Ormskirk School Theatre
Tuesday 20 th October Wednesday 21 st October	Governor Committees 4pm and 5:15pm Spooky Disco
Friday 23 rd October	2:45pm Parents' Open Session Break for Half Term

Monday 26 th October- Friday 30 th October	HALF TERM BREAK
Monday 2 nd November	Individual School Photos
Monday 9 th November and Thursday 11 th November	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 10 th November	Full Governors' Meeting at 4pm
Friday 27 th November	Swimming lessons start for Busy Bees for 9 weeks.
Friday 4 th December Sunday 6 th December Friday 11 th December Friday 18 th December	Non-Uniform for raffle Prizes Nativity at St James' Church Santa Dash Christmas Grand Raffle
Friday 18 th December Friday 8 th January Friday 5 TH February Friday 5 th March Monday 15 th March Thursday 25 th March Friday 23 rd April Friday 14 th May Friday 11 th June Friday 2 ND July	2pm Finish for Christmas Holidays Mad Hair/ Non-Uniform Day £1 each Popcorn (Movie) Party Pizza Party and Beetle Drive Non-Uniform for raffle prizes Bake off and raffle Non- Uniform for Bingo Prizes Family BBQ Non-Uniform for Summer fayre prizes Summer Fayre



Church & Christian Life

Church News <i>Sunday 10.30am</i> We warmly invite our school community to join us for our Harvest Festival at St James’ Church at 10.30am on 11th October. As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be collecting donations to support the Liberty Centre and Ormskirk Food Bank. We would be very grateful for donations of rice, pasta, other non-perishable foods, fruit and vegetables, tea, coffee, sugar, tins, cereals, long-life fruit juice or cordial, long-life milk, sponge puddings, soap, toothpaste and washing-up liquid. Any monetary donations received will be given to Global Action. Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity in helping us support these important causes at Harvest time.	Worship & Prayer
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Family Fun and Food (FF&F)

We invite all Children , Parents and Carers who live in Westhead and go to local Schools to



A Sports themed event on
Saturday 3rd October, 2026 4:00pm-6:00pm
at the Village Hall, Westhead L40 6HG



GAMES ACTIVITIES
BIBLE STORY
SONGS FOOD



For further information please contact:
admin@stjameswesthead.org.uk



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Every day in school is an opportunity to learn, belong and thrive.

Why attendance is so important

Regular attendance supports learning, friendships, routines and confidence. Missed days add up quickly, so please work with school to keep absence to an absolute minimum and share any concerns early.

The attendance picture

A full school year is typically 190 pupil days. These examples show how attendance percentages translate into approximate days present and missed. The RAG bands are an editable guide: align them with your school attendance policy.

RAG	Attendance	Approx. days in school	Approx. days missed	What this means
GREEN	97–100%	184–190	0–6	Strong attendance: learning is rarely interrupted.
AMBER	95–96.9%	181–183	7–9	Attendance needs attention: missed learning is beginning to build.
RED	Below 95%	180 or fewer	10 or more	Cause for concern: regular absence can significantly affect progress and routines.

How missed days add up

Attendance	Days in school	Days missed	Approx. weeks missed
100%	190	0	0
97%	184	6	just over 1
95%	181	9	nearly 2
90%	171	19	almost 4
85%	162	28	over 5

Working together: If attendance is becoming difficult, please contact school early so we can understand barriers and agree support.

CELEBRATING OUR PUPILS

Attendance

Ladybirds and Butterflies	97.9%
Busy Bees	99.1%
Eager Beavers	88.9%
Wise Owls	100%

Well done to Wise Owls for the best attendance this week. Each half term the class with the best attendance overall visit the Midstream Coffee morning at the village hall for a treat!

Stars of the Week

Class	Pupil
Reception	Paloma K
Year 1	Lucy C
Year 2	Tommy J
Year 3	Ada R
Year 4	Lenny H
Year 5	Charlotte B
Year 6	Summer Jayne B

Christian Values Bears

Class	Pupil
Ladybirds/Butterflies	Jeffrey B
Busy Bees	Penelope H
Eager Beavers	Pixie D
Wise Owls	Ethan N