

WESTHEAD LATHOM ST JAMES' CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK
ENDING

09th October 2026



SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Families,

As the leaves turn golden and autumn is upon us, we are looking forward to celebrating one of the most special occasions in our school and church calendar — Harvest Festival.

Harvest is a wonderful opportunity for us to pause, reflect and give thanks to God for the many blessings in our lives. It is a time to appreciate the food we eat, the people who care for us and the beauty of God's creation. It is also a time to think about those who are less fortunate and consider how we can share what we have with others.

As a Church of England school, we encourage our children to live out our Christian values through kindness, generosity, compassion and service to others.

Join Us for Our Harvest Festival!

Sunday 11th October

10.30am

St James' Church

We warmly invite all our children, parents, carers, families and friends to join us for our Harvest Festival service this Sunday.

Together, we will celebrate God's goodness, give thanks for the gifts of creation and reflect on the importance of sharing with those in need.

We would love to see as many of our school families there as possible!

Our Harvest Appeal — Sharing What We Have

This year, we are delighted to be supporting three wonderful charities through our Harvest celebrations. Each charity helps people facing different challenges, both in our local community and further afield.

The Liberty Centre, Skelmersdale

The Liberty Centre supports people affected by domestic abuse, helping individuals and families find safety, support and hope for the future.

By supporting this charity, we can show compassion to people experiencing difficult circumstances and help them begin to rebuild their lives.

The Ormskirk Foodbank

Ormskirk Foodbank provides emergency food and practical support to local people and families who are struggling to afford everyday essentials.

Our donations of non-perishable food will help ensure that people in our own community do not have to face hunger alone.

Every tin, packet and contribution can make a real difference!

Global Care — Helping Children Around the World

Global Care is a Christian charity dedicated to supporting vulnerable children and young people around the world. Its work helps children facing poverty and disadvantage by supporting their education, wellbeing and opportunities for a brighter future.

We are collecting monetary donations for Global Care, allowing us to extend our Harvest generosity beyond our local community and share God's love with children in need across the world.

Every Gift Makes a Difference

Harvest reminds us that even the smallest act of kindness can make a big difference. Whether you are able to donate an item of food, contribute financially or simply keep these charities in your prayers, your support is greatly appreciated.

As we are reminded in the Bible:

"God loves a cheerful giver." — 2 Corinthians 9:7

Thank you, as always, for the generosity, kindness and wonderful community spirit that make our school such a special place.

We look forward to celebrating Harvest with you at St James' Church this Sunday.

With warm wishes and Harvest blessings,

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 Thursday 22 nd 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

Sunday 10.30am 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

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

Attendance	Days in school	Days missed	Approx. weeks missed
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	93.8%
Busy Bees	100%
Eager Beavers	98.1%
Wise Owls	97.3%

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/ Poppy Bear	Frankie R
Year 1	Luan L
Year 2	Isaac N
Year 3	Oliver H
Year 4	Isla B
Year 5	Zach E
Year 6	Pia P

Christian Values Bears

Class	Pupil
Ladybirds/Butterflies	Aubrey C
Busy Bees	Lyla H
Eager Beavers	Isabella H
Wise Owls	Xavier L