

# WESTHEAD LATHOM ST JAMES' CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK  
ENDING

16th October 2026



## SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Families,

What a busy and exciting week we have had in school! From exciting trips and sporting events to helping our local community, our children have been making us proud once again. Here is a look back at some of the highlights from the week.

Welcome

This week we welcome Miss Ella Wall into school to start her placement as a trainee teacher. Miss Wall will spend the next seven weeks with Busy Bees and is returning later in the academic year to spend time in Eager Beavers. I am sure you will all make her feel very welcome.

### Year 6 Visit to the Council Chambers

On Tuesday, two of our Year 6 pupils visited the council chambers to take part in their first West Lancs Pupil Parliament of the year. During their visit, they enjoyed a tour of the chambers, met the Mayor and took part in electing their Prime Minister for the year ahead. What a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to learn more about local democracy and how decisions are made within our community!

### Wise Owls Enjoy *Little Shop of Horrors*

On Monday, our Wise Owls visited Ormskirk High School to watch their theatre production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. The children absolutely loved the performance and had a fantastic morning enjoying the show. A huge thank you to Ormskirk High School for welcoming us and providing such a wonderful experience!

### Wise Owls Give Back to the Community

Our Wise Owls were busy once again on Thursday, this time heading up to church to help clean up the grounds. The children worked incredibly hard, and their efforts have made a real difference — the grounds are looking fantastic!

A huge well done and thank you to all of the children for their hard work, teamwork and community spirit. You should be very proud of yourselves!

## Girls' Rugby Festival

On Friday morning, some of our older girls visited Burscough Sports Centre to take part in a rugby festival. They spent the morning learning and practising new skills through a range of drills before putting them into action during some games.

It was a fun and active morning, and the girls represented our school brilliantly. Well done to everyone who took part!

## Christmas Card Designs

This week, your child will have brought home a Christmas card design and a leaflet from Arts Projects. If you would like to order Christmas cards featuring your child's very own design, simply scan the QR code on the leaflet and upload their design to place your order.

All profits will go towards our PTA funds, so this is a lovely way to share your child's artwork with family and friends while supporting our school. Thank you for your support!

### Spooky Disco – Thursday 22nd October

A little reminder that our Spooky Disco will take place on Thursday 22nd October!

Tickets can be purchased via School Gateway, so please make sure you get yours in time for what promises to be a spooktacular event!

This year, our wonderful PTA are hoping to raise funds towards a new iPad suite for school, which will provide our children with even more opportunities to learn and develop their digital skills.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support of our families and school community. Every contribution makes a difference, and we couldn't do it without you!

## Thank You!

It has been another wonderful week filled with learning, teamwork, creativity and community spirit. We are so proud of the way our children continue to embrace new opportunities and represent our school so positively.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you all have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to another great week in school!

Miss Clark

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Regular Dates/Events**

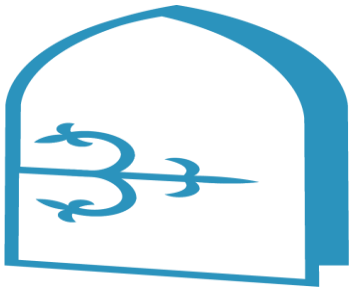
Tuesday Mornings- Rocksteady Music Lessons for those signed up.

Wednesday- PE for Years 1 to 6.

Friday- 3pm Celebration Assembly, families welcome to come along.

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| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> September                                                                                                                | Swimming lessons start for Eager Beavers for 9 weeks.                                                                               |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> October                                                                                                                  | 10.30am Harvest Festival at St James' Church                                                                                        |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October                                                                                                                  | Wise Owls' visit to Ormskirk School Theatre                                                                                         |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October<br>Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October<br>Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October<br>Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October | Governor Committees 4pm and 5:15pm<br>Annual Flu Vaccines 1pm<br>Open Day (Morning 9.30am-11am) Prospective parents<br>Spooky Disco |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October                                                                                                                  | 2:45pm Parents' Open Session<br>Break for Half Term                                                                                 |
| Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October- Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October                                                                                 | HALF TERM BREAK                                                                                                                     |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November<br>Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November<br>Thursday 5 <sup>TH</sup> November<br>Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November    | Individual School Photos<br>Mad Science starts for those signed up<br>Whole School Dropped at Church<br>Yr 1 Hearing Tests          |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November<br>Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November and<br>Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November                                     | New Winter Lunch Menu WK 3<br>Parents' Evening                                                                                      |

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| <p>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November</p> <p>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November</p> <p>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>Full Governors' Meeting at 4pm</p> <p>Non-Uniform Day – Children in Need</p> <p>Reception &amp; YR6 Height and Weight and Yr6 Questionnaires</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Swimming lessons start for Busy Bees for 9 weeks.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> December</p> <p>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</p> <p>Thurssay 3<sup>RD</sup> December</p> <p>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December</p>                                                                   | <p>Bikebility</p> <p>Busy Bees Cameo Singing</p> <p>Nativity Dress Rehearsal whole school drop off at church</p> <p>Non-Uniform for raffle Prizes</p> <p>Nativity at St James' Church 10.30AM</p> <p>Rocksteady Concert at church – Whole school. Drop at church.</p> <p>Santa Dash</p> <p>Pardoe Court Yr3/4</p> <p>Christmas Grand Raffle</p>                                |
| <p>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January</p> <p>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January</p> <p>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January</p> <p>Friday 5<sup>TH</sup> February</p> <p>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</p> <p>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May</p> <p>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June</p> <p>Friday 2<sup>ND</sup> July</p> | <p>2pm Finish for Christmas Holidays</p> <p>Inset Day</p> <p>Start of Term</p> <p>Mad Hair/ Non-Uniform Day £1 each</p> <p>Popcorn (Movie) Party</p> <p>Pizza Party and Beetle Drive</p> <p>Non-Uniform for raffle prizes</p> <p>Bake off and raffle</p> <p>Non- Uniform for Bingo Prizes</p> <p>Family BBQ</p> <p>Non-Uniform for Summer fayre prizes</p> <p>Summer Fayre</p> |



# St James Westhead

KNOWING JESUS | MAKING HIM KNOWN



## Church News

Sunday 10.30am

## 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             |
| 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

|                                  |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Ladybirds and Butterflies</b> | 85.4% |
| <b>Busy Bees</b>                 | 92.9% |
| <b>Eager Beavers</b>             | 94.4% |
| <b>Wise Owls</b>                 | 96.4% |

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     |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Reception/ Poppy Bear</b> | Aria E    |
| <b>Year 1</b>                | Jazmine C |
| <b>Year 2</b>                | Arlo R    |
| <b>Year 3</b>                | Serena L  |
| <b>Year 4</b>                | Vincent J |
| <b>Year 5</b>                | Blake T   |
| <b>Year 6</b>                | Harriet D |

## Christian Values Bears

| Class                        | Pupil       |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Ladybirds/Butterflies</b> | Iris L      |
| <b>Busy Bees</b>             | Charlotte M |
| <b>Eager Beavers</b>         | Sophie W    |
| <b>Wise Owls</b>             | Markus B    |