



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of the year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what a privilege it is to be part of our St James Lanehead family. This truly is a very remarkable school, where everyone is special in God's eyes and the children are at the heart of everything we do.

Your partnership in your child's education is invaluable and I want to thank each and every one of you for working alongside us to ensure the very best teaching and learning provisions. Working as a team – staff, parents, and children – we are able to ensure every child flourishes and reaches their potential. I am immensely proud of the dedication, creativity and care shown by our incredible staff team, who go above and beyond for the children we serve.

I often think of school being like a jigsaw puzzle; every person, from staff to parents to children, represents a unique piece and when we come together, we create a picture of unity, success and joy. I firmly believe, as Jesus taught us, that one person can make a difference and here at St James Lanehead I am pleased to say that every person makes such a huge difference to our school – thank you.

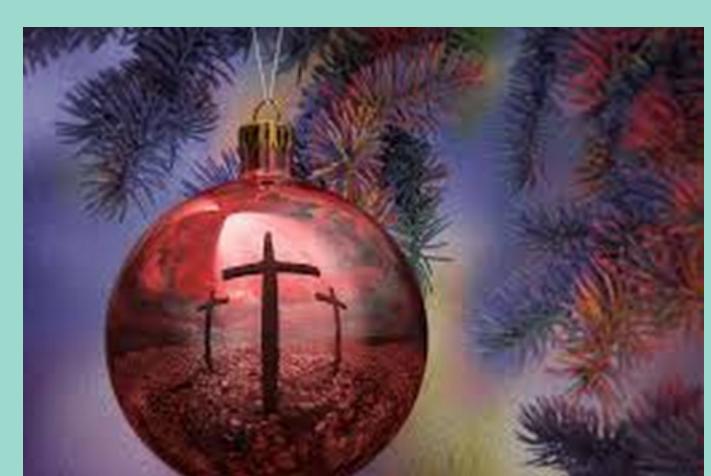
As we prepare for the festive season, let's take this time to reflect on what truly matters. Christmas is not about the presents we give or receive, but about the precious moments we spend with loved ones, family, friends and community. It is a season to cherish connection, kindness and gratitude.

Finally, I want to wish you and your family a happy, healthy and fulfilling 2026. May it be filled with hope, growth and new opportunities.

Thank you once again for your continued support and trust. The Governors, staff and I would like to wish you a lovely family Christmas and may the blessings of God's love be with you all throughout this festive period.

Warmest regards,

Mr M Elliott



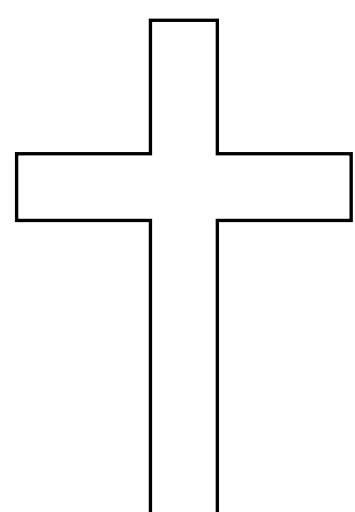


Collective Worship

This year in collective worship we are continuing to learn about Gods Big Story through the Blackburn Diocese Board of Education.

Next month we will be learning all about:

- The News Spreads
- A Kingdom of Kids and Camels
- St Peter the Rock
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer



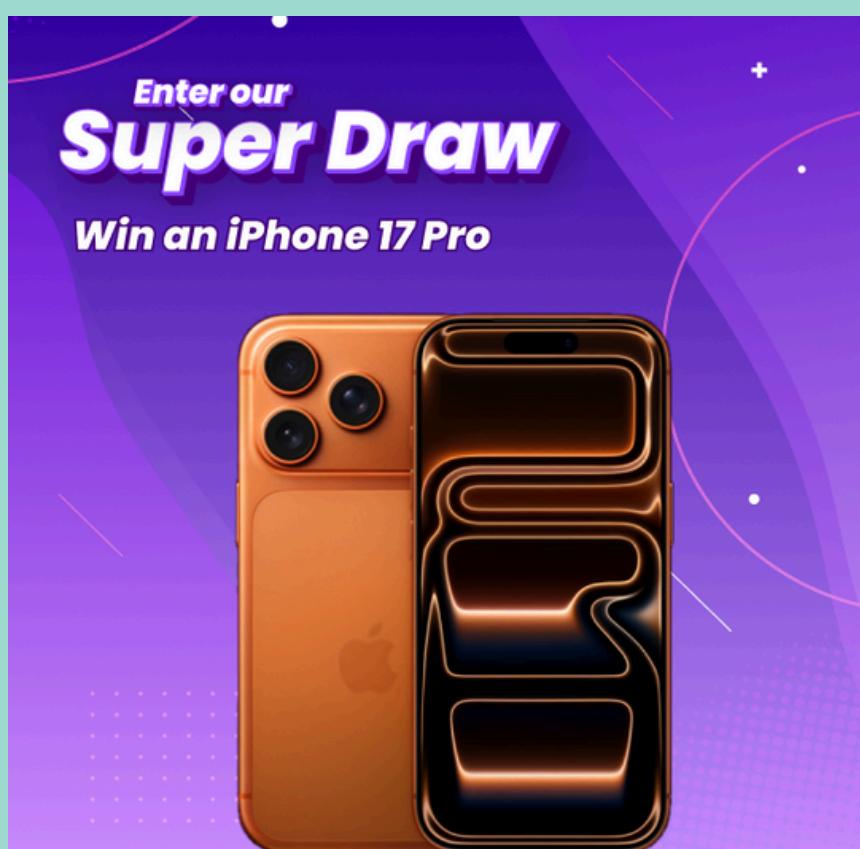
PTFA

The School Lottery is a brilliant resource for parents to sign up to. It provides funds for the PTFA and you can also win prizes weekly! If you haven't signed up yet visit our lottery here:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-james-lanehead-church-of-england-primary-school>

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our school lottery over the last month:

6 December Mrs D £9.25
29 November Mx M £17.50
13 December Mx N £9.25



easyfundraising

Support Our School at No Extra Cost!

We've partnered with easyfundraising and Parentkind to make fundraising simple. Every time you shop online with over 8,000 retailers—including Amazon, Tesco, John Lewis, and more—our school receives a free donation. It doesn't cost you a penny extra! Just sign up, shop as usual, and help us raise vital funds for resources and activities. Join today at easyfundraising.org.uk/parentkind and select 'St James' Lanehead Primary PTFA' make a big difference with your everyday shopping.





Nativities



A Magical Celebration of Christmas – Our Wonderful Nativities!

This festive season has been filled with joy and sparkle thanks to two incredible performances from our talented children.

Our EYFS children kicked things off with their heartwarming performance of Whoops-A-Daisy Angel. Their confidence and storytelling were truly inspiring, and every song and smile lit up the room. What a beautiful way to start the festive season!

Following that, our Prickly Hay Nativity was simply amazing! The children were so confident on stage, and it was clear how hard they had worked to bring this story to life. Their enthusiasm and energy made everyone smile and created a truly memorable experience.

A huge thank you to all the staff involved in both productions. Your dedication, creativity, and countless hours of preparation ensured that these performances were magical moments for children and families alike.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this Christmas celebration so special!





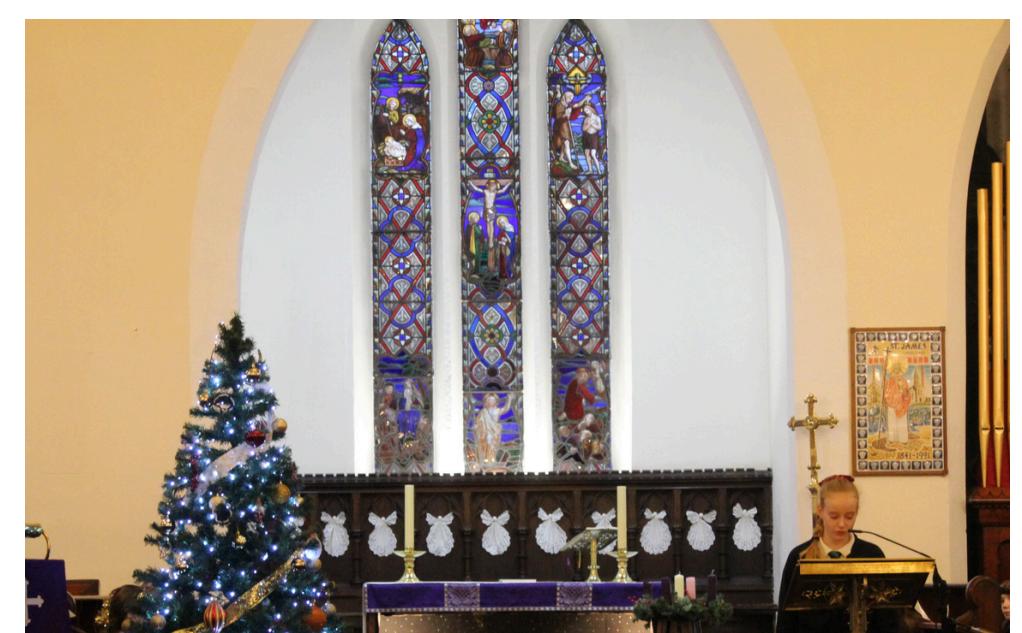
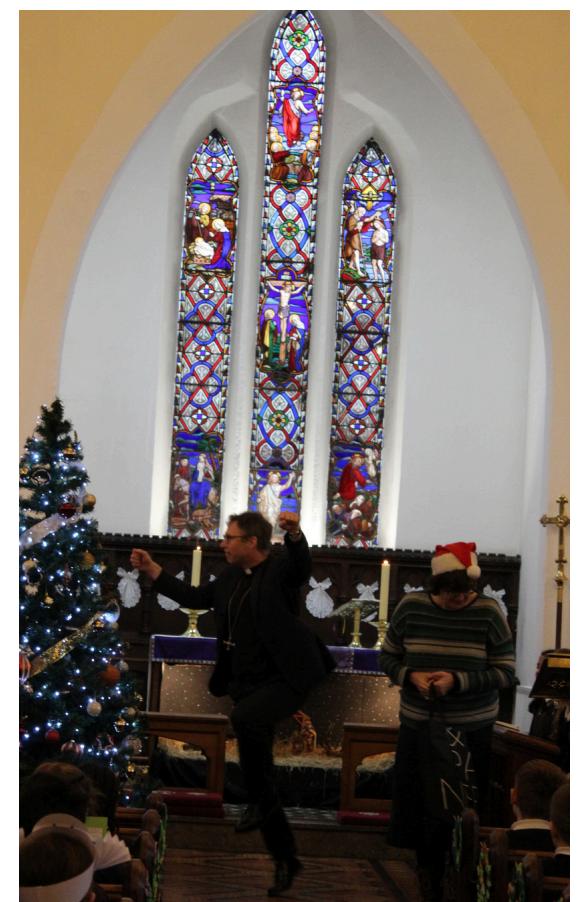
KS2 Carol Service

Our KS2 children filled St James' Church with festive cheer during their beautiful Carol Service. Their voices rang out as they sang a wonderful selection of traditional carols, creating a truly magical atmosphere for everyone who attended.

We would like say a big thank you to St James' Church for hosting this special event and to Mrs Hartley for kindly opening the church over the past few weeks, allowing the children to practice and prepare. Also, a heartfelt thank you to Lisa Fenton, our Diocesan Advisor, and Bishop Philip for leading such a joyful service that filled the room with laughter and warmth.

A huge thank you also goes to our dedicated staff for all their hard work and effort in preparing the children and making this event such a success.

What a perfect way to share the joy of Christmas together!



Christmas Treat

We're thrilled to announce that we won the C&S Coaches Christmas Raffle! Each child received a selection box as a prize. A huge thank you to C&S Coaches for this festive treat!





Visit from Father Christmas

A Magical Visit from Father Christmas and Mrs Claus

This week, our school was filled with festive cheer as we welcomed Father Christmas and Mrs Claus! They visited each class, spent time singing joyful songs, and handed out presents. It brought smiles to every face.



A Big Thank You to Our PTFA!

We would like to extend our thanks to our amazing PTFA for their generosity and support this festive season. They kindly funded the gifts that Father Christmas gave to each child during his visit. In addition, the PTFA also funded the DJ for our Christmas discos this week, ensuring the children had a fantastic time dancing and celebrating together. Your continued commitment to creating memorable experiences for our pupils is greatly appreciated!



Upcoming Events:

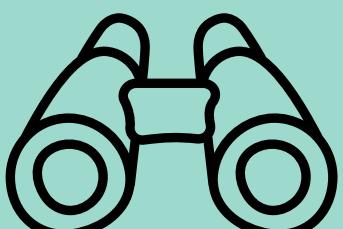
Monday 5th January

School reopens



Tuesday 13th January

History Workshop - Tudors HZL/RWN/SYC

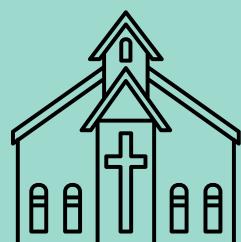


Thursday 22nd January

Explorers Workshop - ELM/BCH/WLW

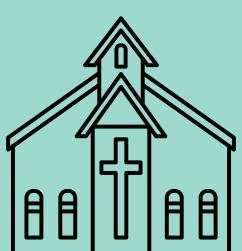
Friday 23rd January

Beech Class - Family Friday @ 2.30pm



Tuesday 27th January

Rowan Class Worship - St James' Church @ 2.30pm



Friday 6th February

Sycamore Class - Family Friday @ 2.30pm

Tuesday 10th February

Hazel Class Worship - St James' Church @ 2.30pm



Thursday 12th February

Oak Class - Knowsley Safari Park

Friday 13th February

School closes at 3.30pm - February Half Term



School Term Dates 2026/2027



School Term & Holiday Patterns 2026-27

Autumn Term 2026

Re-open to pupils	Tuesday 1 st September 2026
Mid Term Closure	Monday 26 th October to Friday 30th October 2026 (inclusive)
Re-open to Pupils	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Closure after school	Friday 18 th December 2026 at 1.30pm

Spring Term 2027

Re-open to pupils	Monday 4 th January 2027
Mid Term Closure	Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February 2027 (inclusive)
Re-open to Pupils	Monday 22 nd February 2027
Closure after school	Thursday 25 th March 2027 at 1.30pm

Summer Term 2027

Re-open to pupils	Monday 12 th April 2027
May Day Closure	Monday 3rd May 2027
Mid Term Closure	Monday 24 th May to Friday 4 th June 2027 (inclusive)
Re-open to pupils	Monday 7 th June 2027
Closure after school	Wednesday 21 st July 2027 at 1.30pm



PE & Forest School Timetable

Forest School Timetable - 2025/2026

Spring term

Date	Class
6/01/26	Willow
13/01/26	Hazel
20/01/26	Rowan
27/01/26	Willow
3/02/26	Hazel
10/02/26	Rowan
24/02/26	Willow
3/03/26	Hazel
10/03/26	Rowan
17/03/26	Willow
24/03/26	Hazel
31/03/26	Rowan

Summer term

Date	Class
14/04/26	Ash
21/04/26	Elm
28/04/26	Beech
05/05/26	Elm
12/05/26	Ash
19/05/26	Beech
9/06/26	Ash
16/06/26	Elm
23/06/26	Beech
30/06/26	Ash
07/07/26	Elm
14/07/26	Beech

PE Timetable - Spring 1

Ash Class - Friday

Elm Class - Wednesday & Thursday

Beech Class - Tuesday & Thursday

Willow Class - Monday & Wednesday

Hazel Class - Monday & Friday

Rowan Class - Monday & Wednesday

Sycamore Class - Tuesday & Thursday (Year 5 Only)

Hawthorn Class - Monday & Tuesday

Oak Class - Tuesday & Wednesday

Swimming will continue on a Thursday morning for Year 4 pupils.

