

St. James' Lanehead Church of England Primary School



"All Special in God's Eyes"

Our Church school seeks to inspire each individual to flourish, grow and learn with Jesus at the heart of all we do.

Psalm 92.13

John 10:10

As we continue to learn about perseverance 'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me' Philippians 4.13. We are all making good progress towards our personal goals, with the help of God and each other. Each staff member is learning something new and showing determination and perseverance. Each child has decided to challenge themselves with learning a new skill or self-improvement such as learning times tables, learning to knit or learning how to read tricky words in phonics lessons. Perseverance has been the key focus of our collective worships throughout this month and our Vision and Values pupils presented worship on this before the half term holidays, we are so proud of our children. As a school we have been continuing to look at the following poem:

Perseverance is....

Pressing on
Eager to continue
Running the race
Sticking with things
Encouraging each other to keep going
Valuing the support of others
Eyes fixed on the target
Reaching a goal over time
Aiming to complete the task
Not giving up
Commitment to keep going
Ending up where you want to be

The children in Key Stage 2 also received a visit from Bishop Phillip North of Burnley this month, he came into school and led worship. The children enjoyed this visit so much and have asked if he can come back to the school again. His enthusiasm was fantastic; the staff and children were all very happy to see Bishop Phillip in school again and look forward in anticipation to his next visit.

Mission Statement

Our Church school seeks to inspire each individual to flourish, grow and learn with Jesus at the heart of all we do.

We are very lucky to have a passionate group of children who work so hard to regularly lead worship within the school. The children were voted to do this role by their classmates, they enjoy this responsibility and demonstrate a good understanding. The children ensure that others understand the purpose of worship and the symbolism of the three candles to represent light and the Trinity. The children's worships contain a welcome, time for rejoicing, music, prayer and praise. Alongside, Bible readings, information, questions and presentations. The children also ask members of the school community to reflect upon the worships. The Vision and Values children are busy planning the prayer spaces and reflection areas of the school. They have also planned their next whole school worship. They are keenly working towards their Silver Worship Works awards where they plan and lead the worship. The children also weekly change the picture news boards in the hall and dress the altar and prayer areas around the school.

We are extremely proud to be a successful Church of England Primary school, with a strong distinctiveness within this area. Our mission and vision is firmly embedded and rooted in school life and permeates everything that we do. We as a school all work extremely hard to ensure that we fulfil our mission statement in the footsteps of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. At St James' Lanehead we pride ourselves in providing a family environment that the children and staff feel nurtured, comfortable and where they can flourish. We discuss the Big Questions with the children. We provide an environment to ask questions, search for answers and possibilities. We will encourage our children to celebrate some of these 'awe and wonder' places and moments in the school. We have developed areas within the school grounds and have plans in place to develop these even further. Our children are very fortunate to be educated in lovely surroundings where we can appreciate God's wonderful creations. The children at St James' Lanehead are given opportunities to flourish and we encourage prayer and develop their own reflection, we are working hard to develop the surroundings with the help of the Briercliffe Allotment society and the school gardening club 'The Mud Club'.

We take pride within the school and work hard to ensure we involve the children within decision making. We ensure that the learning environment within the school becomes the silent teacher for the children. The displays within the school are uplifting and they demonstrate how we challenge the pupils and how we develop the children to flourish. The learning environment demonstrates to the children the value of Thankfulness and how fortunate they are to be a child at our school, this reflects their thoughts and feelings alongside their personal resilience and wellbeing. At St James' Lanehead we believe that excellence within RE is supported by a mutual respect and reflective opportunities between teachers and pupils.

Our weekly Family Friday events this month have been very popular. We had an E-Online Safety talk presented by our ICT Subject Leader, Miss Flynn, which was very informative. We then held a Parents Forum where we introduced Mrs Hodgson, our new Family Support Worker. The final Family Friday of this month was a really fun event as it was a music afternoon for the EYFS children and their families! This was lots of fun for all involved, you could even hear the music in the school office! We are planning a WOW Worship day with the children, the vision and values team are busy planning these events.

Following on from the E-Online Safety Talk, St James' celebrated Safer Internet Day. Our Digital Leaders created a presentation on being safe online and delivered this to the whole school. Each class then completed activities which encouraged children to practice being safe online. As part of our school's aim to educate people on online safety, we send out notifications from the National Online Safety website via

Mission Statement

Our Church school seeks to inspire each individual to flourish, grow and learn with Jesus at the heart of all we do.

our school app. These include guidebooks on different websites and apps for parents to read through to ensure they are doing everything to keep their children safe online.

The Reception children have been very busy! They have been attending a Bikeability course, “Tots on Tyres”, throughout February. Here they learn how to ride on balance bikes with the help of a trained instructor. The main aim of the course is to teach the children how to balance and control a bike. This course lasts for 6 weeks and then the children build on the skills learnt in later years. Take a look at the children in action in the Wider Experiences section on our website. We are so pleased with how the children have demonstrated perseverance within their tots on tyres sessions. They have also been learning all about “Helpful Heroes” this term. They have had visitors from the Burnley Council in a bin wagon and police officers in a police car to name a few. The children have really enjoyed the visits and have learnt so much about the people who help us!

Earlier this month, the Year 1 and Year 2 children received a visit from Florence Nightingale and her friend, Sidney Herbert. They found out all about Florence’s life before dressing up and becoming nurses and soldiers themselves! The children examined real Victorian medical and cleaning equipment and compared it to what is used in hospitals today.

This month’s sporting events have been very exciting! We have had dodgeball, a gifted and talented competition, tag rugby and the Hartley Cup football tournament. The children have thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the event and showed brilliant sportsmanship. It was even better the week before half term as the sunshine came out a little for them!

The Senior Leadership Team and staff have reflected that they feel so truly blessed to work and lead a school where the children are simply wonderful.

We would like to say a very warm welcome Mrs Ann Hodgson who has joined the Pastoral team and say a huge Good Luck to Mrs Gregory, the Deputy Headteacher, as she commences her maternity leave. Mrs Irvine will be the acting Deputy Headteacher in Mrs Gregory’s absence. We also welcome Mr Stitcher to the team as acting Assistant Headteacher. We also would like to say a sad farewell to Mrs Smithstone who after 15 years has decided to move onto new things, she will always be a friend to the school and we wish her every success in her future.

As always, I am proud to be the Head Teacher of such a wonderful school, with highly skilled and a dedicated staff team, where everyone works hard together and as one team with the goal to inspire each individual to grow and learn with Jesus at the heart of all we do.

Yours faithfully,

Michelle Stott

Headteacher

Mission Statement

Our Church school seeks to inspire each individual to flourish, grow and learn with Jesus at the heart of all we do.