

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

This month we have been continuing our focus on the Words of Jesus. We have enjoyed reflecting on multiple scriptures as we have learnt about the words of Jesus but have all been keen to practice John 13.34-35; *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"*. This fed into our Oak Class Worship on Plastic Oceans and how we need to think about all living creatures on this Earth, and also be accountable for the destructive consequences of our behaviour in regards to plastic use and waste.

Miss Parkinson, Mrs Burnett and Mr Playfer and our children have been very busy arranging and attending the many sporting events that have taken place this month. We have had a Change 4 Life event, a Rugby World Cup Festival, Girls' Football Qualifiers, Hartley Cup Qualifiers and the first Angling Fishing session. We work hard to make sure that our sporting events are inclusive as we work with the children's interests and fitness levels to find a sporting event to suite each child. We also arrange transport where possible for any sporting events that take place during the school day.

Our Family Friday sessions have been very popular again this month! We hosted two Family Friday sessions on the first Friday of the month which saw the EYFS parents and carers join their child's class teachers for an introduction into Phonics and how this is taught in school. This was an excellent opportunity which helps to ensure that the children are receiving consistent information and parents now have a better understanding of what their children are doing in school and how they learn to read. We have also had a Parent's Forum this month which discussed homework and collection arrangements. This was a very interesting discussion, we really appreciated hearing the views of our parents and carers. Our School Business Manager, Mrs Bradley, was in attendance at this Family Friday session and will be taking the feedback from the discussion to a Senior Leadership Team meeting. Another one of our Family Friday sessions this month was actually on a Thursday and was our Harvest themed session with Mrs Towriess, our RE Subject Leader, and Father Paul. This themed session was excellent and the children and families in attendance loved the Harvest themed activities available to take part in, in particular the area where children could utilise a bale of hay to make a scarecrow with some school uniform, how exciting!

This month also saw the first of our open evenings in preparation for the new reception in 2020-21, where parents and carers brought their children for a tour of our school. The families were taken on tours by staff and our Year 6 pupils, this worked really well as they received views of both pupils and staff which gave them a full picture of what happens at St James' Lanehead. The open evening was very

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successful as we saw lots of new faces, as well as some familiar ones. There were quite a few families in attendance that also attend St James' Church Sunday School and it was lovely to see them again later in the month at the Harvest Festival Service.

The Harvest Festival Service was absolutely brilliant! The church was completely full with only standing room available and it was lovely to see such a large turnout of our pupils and their families. The school and church community were united that morning to sing some beautiful hymns, bring lots of donations for those in need and also bless the grounds of Briercliffe Allotments. After the service and the allotment congregation, lots of people then went to Briercliffe Community Centre for some coffee and cake. It really was a lovely morning with lots of community spirit.

The Forest School sessions have been going really well for Hazel class over the last four weeks and this week we saw the start of the Forest School sessions for Rowan class. It really is a fantastic opportunity for our children, they are thoroughly enjoying being outdoors and learning in the Forest School environment and we cannot wait to see the Forest School setting develop more and more in the coming months.

Two police officers from Lancashire Constabulary visited our school this month, they carried out an assembly for our Year 4, 5 and 6 children about the recent criminal activity in the area and the work they do to prevent this. The children were extremely interested in the talk and found it very thought-provoking as we had lots of hands in the air with questions at the end. Overall, it was a really positive experience for the children and helped to build their relationship with the Police as well as increase their understanding of their work in the Burnley area. We are looking at having Lancashire Constabulary in again soon with other classes in school as their assemblies can be delivered across school and adapted for different age groups.

We also had the Burnley Express in school earlier this week to take a photograph of our reception children! This will be going in their newspaper in November, around the middle of the month, along with Reception pictures from other schools in the area. Keep a close eye on the Burnley Express for our pupils!

We are currently collecting Aldi GB Stickers in school so please consider us if you have any on offer with your weekly shop! You should receive them if you spend £30 or more and if we collect £300 we have the chance to win a sports kit for school as well as the opportunity to be entered into a draw for £20,000. We currently have 150 stickers in school so every sticker helps! Please pass them onto school via the school office, we are very grateful each and every sticker we receive.

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.

Mrs Dugdale

Headteacher

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