

St James the Less Splash News  
Week Beginning 14th July 2025

Headteacher : Mr G. Hall  
Parish Priest: Father Stamp

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## GOODBYE—Academic Year 2024— 2025!

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our final Splashnews to all of you at St James the Less for the academic year 2024-2025. We celebrate those leaving our school.

We say GOODBYE to our fabulous Year 6 who have been a wonderful group of children. They've been a joy to teach in every year, and brilliant buddies to our reception class. We will miss them, and the many families who leave us this final time.

We say GOODBYE to Mr Emmott (Y4 teacher), and Mrs Blakelidge (25 years our cook), as we thank them for their great service.

Finally, I say GOODBYE to all of you, as I take my final bow and leave this beautiful school community. It has been my utter privilege to serve our families with my amazing colleagues. My final thanks is to all of you for trusting us to love, care and educate your children. Thank you, and goodbye. A.M.D.G.

Mr Gary Hall / Headteacher SJTL 2011 - 2025

### Farewell Mr Hall

After 14 years, it's hard to imagine the school without Mr Hall at the helm. He has transformed not just the building and the grounds but the very heart of our community.

Whether it is building shelves or watering the plants, Mr Hall has never been afraid to roll his sleeves up! He has made our pupils time at school truly memorable – from organising skiing lessons to dressing as the fat controller on book day (a look none of us will forget in a hurry!), creating memories that will last them a lifetime!

Most importantly, Mr Hall has led with heart. He has supported staff with patience and kindness, been a steady presence through life's challenges and offered guidance and encouragement when it was needed most. He has stood by families through difficult times, always putting the children at the centre of everything he does.

Now, as he trades assemblies for sky dives (because what better way to relax than jumping out of a plane?), we hope his next chapter is filled with as much excitement- although maybe fewer risk assessments! He leaves behind a school that is stronger, happier and more confident because of his leadership and he will be truly missed by all of us.

**Thank you for everything, Mr Hall.**

Mrs Langan Deputy Headteacher

## Year 6 Leavers Assembly

18.07.2025 Year 6 Leavers Assembly will start at 2.30pm with doors opening at 2.15pm.

### Sports Afternoon

This is rescheduled for Thursday 17th July. All details remain the same. Gates open at 1.15pm—start asap.

### End of Academic Year Mass

A big thank you to all who attended our celebratory mass. Thank you to Father Stamp, Canon Lupton and Canon McBride for an uplifting mass. Thank you to all our volunteers who kindly helped to walk our children back to school.

### Inhalers

Inhalers in school will be sent home with pupils this Friday. Please ensure they are returned on the first day back in September. Expiry dates on inhalers must be checked by parents/guardians before they are returned to school. Thank you.

### PE Kits

Please send your child's PE kit into school with them on their return on Wednesday 3rd September. Thank you.

### Uniform

**Please, Please, remember to put names in school uniform and book bags. Every year we have upset children and parents as uniform has been "lost."**

### Important

**We are a nut-free school. Please ensure all packed lunches & snacks do not contain nuts. Please note this includes pesto sauce. Thank you.**

### Summer Holiday

School closes on Friday 18th July at 3.15pm and re-opens on Wednesday 3rd September at 8.35am in readiness for a 8.45am start.

### New Reception Class 2025

#### Dates for your Diary

26.09.2025 Coffee morning in school straight after 8.45am drop off.

04.10.2025 Welcome disco in the afternoon



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### PPTA Noticeboard

#### Coffee Morning

Thank you to all who baked, served and supported our final coffee morning of this academic year. We raised £99.57.

#### Non-uniform Day

Thank you to all who contributed. Your generous donations raised the sum of £428.10.

#### Summer Fair/Duck Derby

Thank you to all who helped and supported us on our stall. A special big thank you to our pupils who were a great help.

**We raised the fantastic sum of £324.49.**

#### Ice Cream Van

A huge THANK YOU to our PPTA who arranged for the ice cream van to visit school and treated EVERYONE to a whopping cone/lolly.



#### Year 6 Meal

A huge THANK YOU to our PPTA who fund our Y6 leavers' meal. Our pupils had a wonderful event at Ninos restaurant in Rawtenstall.

#### Thank You

A huge THANK YOU to our PPTA who work so hard in so many aspects supporting our school. They are generous with their time and we are grateful for all your hard work and support. Enjoy a great summer holiday.

#### Birthdays during August

Happy birthday to Joey-Jack (Y3), Harry (Y1), Emily (Y1), William (Rec), Finlay (Y3), Hughie (Rec), Maia (Rec), Tommy (Y5), Harper (Y6), Josey (Y6), Rose (Y5), Albi (Y2), Jesse (Y2), Eddy (Y1), Jessica (Y4), Hattie (Y3), Frankie (Y3) and Paisley (Y4).

We hope they have a great day.

#### Summer Fair/Duck Derby

##### Raffle Tickets

Thank you to all bought tickets. £225 was raised from the sale of raffle tickets through school.

##### Thank you

Thank you to all who supported our parish duck derby. A total of £6,381 was raised.

##### Dance Troupe

Our dance troupe had 2 performances last weekend, one at the Rossendale Relay for Life event and another performance at our parish summer fair.

The performances has been uploaded to our sports fb page, please take a look!! A big thank you to our dancers, their very supportive families and staff who were in attendance at both events. The children had a super time and their dance routines were a big hit!

##### The Old School Charity Shop

Our parish charity is now open for business. Opening hours are Tuesday-Friday 10am-4pm, Saturday 10am-1pm, Sunday and Monday closed. Our shop is also accepting donations of goods so please donate.

##### School Dinners

Booking for September dinners closes on 25th August. Please ensure dinners are booked. If dinners are not booked children will be on the jacket potato/sandwich option for the month of September. Thank you.

##### Caritas Award Winners

Our Caritas Award Winners, sharing love in our school community.

