

DUKE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

8TH MAY 2026

HEADLINES



What another busy and brilliant week we've had at Duke Street! Classes from Reception to Year 4 have enjoyed their visits to Blackpool Zoo. The children have returned to school full of information on animals and their habitats linking perfectly with our work in science this term. A huge thank you goes to Mr McGuinness who has organised these visits and to all the staff who have accompanied the children. It has been so pleasing to hear reports of children remembering their outstanding etiquette when out in the community and acting as true ambassadors for the school.

Miss Pierce has been busy making arrangements for next Friday's Bog-Eyed Jog. You still have a week to be gathering your sponsors ahead of this event. All money raised from this event will go towards funding the reading area wish lists that classes created during World Book Day (Further information is below).

Year 6 have a busy week ahead of them next week as we start SATs week. I am incredibly proud of all the hard work that the children have been putting in to preparing for their tests and for all the support they have received from staff in school and from grown ups at home too. When we work together like this we really do get the best from the children. To Year 6, I hope you all have a lovely weekend and get plenty of rest. You've worked hard and just remember that your best effort is always enough. Doors will be open slightly earlier next week for Year 6 and there will be breakfast available to start each day.

READING PERCENTAGES

- ACORN: 55% ↓
- ROSE: 60% ↑
- TULIP: 71% ↓
- ACER: 67% ↓
- SPRUCE: 52% ↑
- REDWOOD: 87% ↓
- MAPLE: 31% ↓
- BEECH: 72% ↓
- ROWAN: 42% ↓
- POPLAR: 62% ↓
- SYCAMORE: 86% ↓
- CHESTNUT: 89% ↑

Is your class reading percentage higher or lower than last week?

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

- ACORN: 92.9% ↓
- ROSE: 93.1% ↓
- TULIP: 98.9% ↓
- ACER: 90.3% ↓
- REDWOOD: 97.3% ↓
- SPRUCE: 96.3% ↓
- MAPLE: 97.0% ↓
- BEECH: 96.6% ↓
- ROWAN: 93.1% ↓
- POPLAR: 97.8% ↓
- SYCAMORE: 99.1% ↓
- CHESTNUT: 97.4% ↓
- OVERALL: 95.9%** ↓

School Target: 96%

Is your class attendance higher or lower than last week?



If in a school year, your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 MINUTES	3.5 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	20 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	7 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	41 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	55 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	14.5 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	82 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	22 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	123 LESSONS

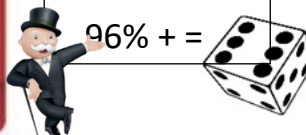
Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.

Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

We would love to see every class rolling the Classopoly dice next week!

Class Attendance

96% + =



Every moment in school counts, Did you know...

If your child's attendance during the school year...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
WAS 95%	9 DAYS IN SCHOOL	50 LESSONS
WAS 90%	19 DAYS IN SCHOOL	100 LESSONS
WAS 85%	29 DAYS IN SCHOOL	150 LESSONS
WAS 80%	38 DAYS IN SCHOOL	200 LESSONS
WAS 75%	48 DAYS IN SCHOOL	250 LESSONS

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.

Make sure your child doesn't miss out!



Award Winners

CLASS	MATHS	ENGLISH	ICARE
Rose	<i>Kylan</i>	<i>Safa</i>	<i>Whole Class</i>
Tulip	<i>Joella</i>	<i>Younus</i>	<i>Whole Class</i>
Acer	<i>Isla</i>	<i>Amal</i>	<i>Ale</i>
Spruce	<i>Juvaniya</i>	<i>Ryder</i>	<i>Zoe</i>
Redwood	<i>Elsie</i>	<i>Nina</i>	<i>Tommy</i>
Acorn	<i>Indie</i>	<i>Harry-George</i>	<i>Elizabeth</i>
Maple	<i>Will be announced</i>	<i>on Monday</i>	
Beech	<i>Zeynep</i>	<i>Grace</i>	<i>Daisy</i>
Rowan	<i>Phillip</i>	<i>Mason</i>	<i>Omar</i>
Poplar	<i>Harry</i>	<i>Billy</i>	<i>Joud</i>
Sycamore	<i>Charles</i>	<i>Teegan</i>	<i>Thomas</i>
Chestnut	<i>Sam</i>	<i>Grace M</i>	<i>Abu</i>

CLASS	Active Minutes
Redwood	515
Acer	455
Sycamore	305
Poplar	240
Maple	229
Rowan	205
Chestnut	188
Beech	120
Spruce	105

KS1 Numbots Highest Coin Earners

Harry W in Redwood

Reggie in Redwood



Wren in Redwood

KS2 T.T.R.S. Highest Coin Earners

Zeynep in Beech

Jake in Beech



Kosi in Beech

MACHINE OF DREAMS

K.S.1

Remie in Tulip
Ronan in Rose
Ivy in Rose
Evie in Spruce
Anya in Spruce

K.S.2

Emily in Maple
Delta in Sycamore
Xander in Rowan
Karim in Chestnut
Logan in Beech

Safeguarding/Outreach (239950 option 3)

There are some excellent family services in Chorley. Please take a look

- [Lancashire Family Hubs](#)
- [Children and Family Wellbeing Service](#)
 - [Home-Start](#)
 - [Inspire](#)
 - [Chorley Buddies](#)
- [Social Prescribing Service](#)
- [Lancashire SEND Information, Advice and Support Service](#)
- [Children and Young People's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing](#)
 - [Funded Childcare](#)
 - [NHS Healthy Start](#)
 - [Free School Meals](#)

<https://chorley.gov.uk/children-families-support/Children-young-people-and-family-support>

Safeguarding/Outreach

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

MANAGING EXAM STRESS

At some point in their education, most young people will encounter exam stress, which can affect their mental, emotional, and physical wellbeing. Mental health charity YoungMinds estimates that 87% of pupils experience exam-related stress. This highlights the importance of supporting young people to manage exam pressure effectively, maintain perspective, and protect their overall wellbeing during these periods.

1 PRACTISE WORKLOAD WISDOM

The build-up to exams can feel overwhelming, with competing demands on time and energy. Encourage young people to reflect on whether their workload is realistic and allows them time to rest and recharge. Support them in creating a manageable revision timetable that includes regular breaks and occasional days off. Remind them that plans can be adjusted if they feel overwhelmed, helping to reduce the pressure and prevent burnout.

2 CLEAR UP THE CLUTTER

A cluttered workspace can reduce focus and increase stress levels. Encourage young people to keep their study area tidy and organised, with clearly arranged notes and materials. A calm, dedicated space can support concentration and create a more relaxed mindset. Adding colour, mind maps, or creative elements can also make revision feel less daunting and more manageable.

3 MASTER THE MATERIALS

Revision can feel particularly stressful if young people are unsure where to begin. Help them confirm key study topics and materials, ensuring they're using accurate and relevant resources. Reducing uncertainty can help them feel more in control of their learning. Reassure them that they don't need to know everything perfectly, as building their understanding over time is what matters most.

4 GET CREATIVE WITH NOTES

Writing out detailed notes, rather than relying only on bullet points, can strengthen their understanding and retention. Encourage young people to turn these notes into flashcards for regular review and repetition. Feeling familiar with their material can boost their confidence and reduce anxiety during exams. This approach can help them feel more prepared and less likely to panic under pressure.

5 USE VISUAL MEMORY AIDS

Visual resources can make learning more effective and reduce their frustration when information feels difficult to grasp. Encourage the use of diagrams, videos, sticky notes, and colour coding to reinforce key ideas. Creating simple mnemonics can also make information easier to remember. Using a variety of methods can help prevent mental fatigue and keep revision feeling fresh and manageable.

6 BUILD A TECH TOOLKIT

Technology can be a valuable supporting tool during exam preparation when used in a balanced way. Educational websites, revision platforms, and subject-specific videos can help explain complicated topics clearly, reducing the risk of confusion or stress. Encourage young people to use these tools to support – rather than overwhelm – their learning, and to take regular breaks from their screens to protect their wellbeing.

7 KEEP REVISION ENJOYABLE

Revision is often more effective when it feels engaging and varied. Encourage young people to incorporate humour, real-life examples, or creative approaches into their learning. Mixing study methods, including light physical activity such as short walks, can also improve their mood and focus. Enjoyable revision experiences can help reduce stress and make the process feel more positive and sustainable.

8 USE ACTIVE STUDY METHODS

Active revision techniques can help young people feel more confident and in control of their learning. Strategies such as spaced repetition and active recall, including self-testing or explaining concepts aloud, can highlight both their strengths and areas for improvement. This clarity can reduce last-minute panic and support a calmer, more prepared approach to exams.

9 USE AI THOUGHTFULLY

AI tools can support revision by making learning more personalised and manageable. Young people can use them to generate practice questions, summarise information, or break down topics into simpler steps. Used carefully, these tools can reduce overwhelm and save time. Remind young people to check AI information with trusted sources to ensure its accuracy and build confidence in their understanding.

10 PRACTISE WITH ONLINE TOOLS

Online revision platforms can help young people test their knowledge and track their progress. Many offer quizzes, flashcards, and practice papers aligned with exam boards. Encourage regular self-testing – including timed activities – to build up familiarity with exam conditions. Becoming more comfortable with the format of exams can reduce anxiety and help young people approach them with greater confidence.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. Winner of Social Enterprise UK's 'One to Watch' award, the charity provides training and support to education organisations and local authorities. This guide has been written by Adam Gillett – a learning and development specialist who is also Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at a large secondary school.



See full reference list on our website

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DIARY DATES

Reading Cafes

(Make your way to the hall after dropping off your child – except Acorn class)

Yr 2: **Thursday, 21st May**

Yr 3: **Thursday, 18th June Please note time change to 3.00 pm**

Yr 4: **Thursday, 25th June**

Yr 5: **Thursday, 2nd July**

Class Assemblies

Rowan: Tuesday, 19th May

Bog Eyed Jog: Friday, 15th May

Sports Enrichment Day: Wednesday, 20th May

School Closes for Half Term: Friday, 22nd May

(Please note "Happy Shoes Day" will now take place in the Autumm Term)

Please scan the QR
code for quick access
to our website

