



Newsletter Friday 24th October 2025

Joy - Psalm 100:1-2:

"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs."

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic, yet long and busy, half term we have had! The children have embraced every challenge, from our focus on attendance and oracy to mastering new topics in the classroom. Thank you, parents, for your continued support in getting the children in school and on time every single day—it truly makes all the difference.

As we look toward the break, we have a bittersweet farewell. We say a huge thank you and goodbye to Miss Thompson, who is moving on to a new opportunity. Miss Thompson has been a wonderful presence at GMSJ and we wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.

Keeping the Learning Momentum

While rest is essential, please do encourage your children to keep their minds active. Even a small amount of continued practice makes a huge difference. Please prioritise daily reading and a few minutes of revision on their assigned maths homework over the next week.

We wish all our families a wonderfully safe and restful half-term break. Get plenty of sleep, enjoy time together, and recharge fully. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 3rd November, refreshed and ready for the exciting run-up to Christmas!

Warm Regards,

Mrs M Underwood



A Note About PE Kits and Footwear

Just a quick reminder that PE kits are coming home this week for a wash! Please remember to pack them back in their bags for the first day back on November 3rd. While you're at it, please check your child's PE pumps during the break to make sure they still fit comfortably and correctly. We still seem to have some children who are regularly borrowing items from the school office, please would you ensure that your child has all the correct items in their PE bag.

School Nurse Drop in Sessions

Our next Drop in session with the school nurse is being held on Tuesday 18th November. These are 10 minute one to one sessions available to everyone. Please take advantage of these amazing readily available appointments whilst they are there.

A reminder to all parents and carers:

Our school is strictly **nut-free**. Please ensure that **no nuts or nut products** are brought onto school grounds at any time. This policy is essential for the safety of our students with severe allergies.

Lateness and Absences

Lateness has started to become an issue once again with children regularly arriving at school late. Can we please remind all parents and carers that children should be at school by 8.45am when the whistle goes ready to start their day. The late door situated at Year 3/4 cloakroom entrance is open until 8.55am. Any children arriving AFTER 8.55am should come through the school office. Please be prepared to inform the office staff the reason for the lateness and disruption to the school day.

Important Notice Regarding Paper Towels in Visitor Toilets

We regret to inform you that we will no longer be stocking paper towels in the visitor toilet dispensers. Despite clear signage, the green paper towels have continued to be disposed of in the toilet, leading to frequent and costly blockages. Please be assured that all other essential amenities, including toilet roll and hand soap, remain available. We ask for your cooperation in keeping our facilities functioning properly.



Dates for your Diary

Whole School	School re-opens 8.45am	Monday 3rd November
Reception	Phonics and Reading Session	Wednesday 5th November 3.45pm
Whole School	Bonfire Disco	Thursday 6th November
Parents	Friends Meeting	Tuesday 11th November 3.30pm
Reception	Little Lancashire Village	Tuesday 18th November
Year 1	Blackburn Museum	Wednesday 19th November
Year 5	Kensuke's Kingdom	Wednesday 26th November
Year 5	Oliver - Burnley Youth Theatre	Tuesday 9th December



Rhyme Time



Lets Go Sing



LGS visited
our school to
introduce the
songs for this
years LGS
concert at
Blackburn
cathedral





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Year 1
visited
Marsden
Park last
week to
look for
signs of
Autumn.





This week, the children in Reception have absolutely been loving our outdoor learning activities! We've been making the most of the fresh air while working on our gross motor skills—the big movements that are so important for their development.

The children have been using their bodies and brains to:

Count with Hopscotch: Learning numbers and practicing sequencing while jumping and balancing.

Build in the Construction Area: Developing problem-solving skills and teamwork as they lift, carry, and arrange materials to create amazing structures.

Practice Balancing: Showing off fantastic coordination and control as they navigate different surfaces and equipment.

It's wonderful to see them so engaged and active outside!





Last week, some of our students were fortunate enough to visit the impressive Gaia installation at Blackburn Cathedral. It's on display until November 16th. We've also received these wonderful photos of student work from a parent who visited the exhibition over the weekend!



Join us for our Monthly School Nurse Drop-in sessions

These will be held in the hall and Mrs Lawton's office on a first come, first served basis. Allowing approximately 10 minutes per person to discuss your child's health and wellbeing in the privacy of Mrs Lawton's office. Drinks will be offered to those waiting.

Dates available:

Tuesday 21st October - 9am until 10am

Tuesday 18th November - 9am until 10am

Tuesday 16th December - 9am until 10am

For more detailed information please refer to Mrs Lawton's letter which was sent out via Class Dojo.



New School Nurse Drop-In Sessions for Parents/Carers

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of my new role in school, I'm setting up different support groups and drop-in sessions for the whole school community.

I'm pleased to announce the first of these: **a monthly School Nurse Drop-In**. This is a great opportunity to get direct support from our staff nurse.

Session Details

A private, 10-minute slot for you to discuss your child's health and wellbeing with the school nurse in the privacy of Mrs Lawton's office.

Dates & Times:

October 21st: 9.00am – 10:00 am

November 18th: 9.00 am – 10:00 am

December 16th: 9.00 am – 10:00 am

The School Nursing Team can offer advice and support on a range of topics, including:

Toileting and Continence

Sleep

Low-Level Emotional Wellbeing

Behavioural concerns

Public Health Needs (e.g., diet, dental care, puberty, hygiene)

School Readiness

Please get in touch with me directly or contact Mrs Fletcher through the school office with any queries.

Regards,

Mrs Lawton

Please note: The school nurse cannot prescribe medication or diagnose medical conditions.



Bonfire Disco



Thursday 6th
November 2025
KS2 5-6.15PM



Cost £2.00



**Includes..... Hot dog,
sparkler and a drink.**



Tuck shop available.



Maximum needed £3.00

**Tickets available before
and after school.**



Bonfire Disco

Thursday 6th

November 2025
KS1 3.45-4.45pm

Cost £2.00



Includes..... Hot dog,
sparkler and a drink.



No further money
required.

Children in KS1 may come to school in their
disco outfits.

This includes children who are not attending
the disco.

Tickets available before and after school



Mini Marsdens

Stay and Play Baby & Toddler Group

Every Tuesday
8.45am until 10am
All are welcome

