

Our HSA Newsletter

Brimming with useful information!

Friday 16th October 2026

Autumn 1



Pictures: Some of year 5 at swimminng and year 4 at Upbeat!



Page one news

YEAR 5

How the weeks have flown in year 5!

The children are loving their Friday visit to Palatine Leisure Centre for their swimming lessons, and they have made some real positive strides in their competency and confidence in the water. Regardless of water proficiency the children are all making progress through listening, taking instructions and of course the willingness to learn. Let's just say it is going swimmingly!

‘The most valuable lessons aren’t taught, they’re experienced.’ Anonymous

In science the children have been discovering about life cycles, specifically of birds and reptiles. They have been fascinated to learn both the similarities but also the differences between the species.

Meanwhile, in their art lessons, the children have been exploring the exciting world of expressive colour. Rather than painting objects in their natural colours, such as green grass or blue water, artists use colour creatively to communicate moods, emotions and ideas. They may also experiment with bold, gestural brushstrokes and expressive marks on paper or canvas, adding energy, movement and personality to their artwork.

The children are keeping their focus on learning and embracing the opportunities in class.

POPPY APPEAL

Next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during the school breaktimes we will be selling poppies and poppy appeal merchandise in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. All items are offered as a donation of your choice, no fixed price.

If you would like your child to donate to the Royal British Legion appeal, then please send your cash into class with your child. If you drop it in at the office, please bear in mind it may not reach your child in time for the sale.

TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY

On the **16th November** Tempest Photography are in the academy to take individual (and sibling) school photos of our children. These will be available to purchase through Tempest. Information on how to do this will be sent out after the photography session.

We will check with Tempest if they are still able to offer photos with siblings that do not attend the academy. This will be clarified and information sent out nearer the time.

On the day of the photographs, **16th November**, we ask children come into school in their *school uniform* regardless of whether it is their PE day or have a sporting activity after school.

EXPANDED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

You may recall the letter sent out in summer, in addition to other notifications recently, about the expansion of Free School Meal eligibility. If you claim Universal Credit you could well be entitled to Free School Meals for your child.

What is the difference between Free School Meals and Universal Free School Meals? Free School Meals are based on whether you claim benefit, in particular Universal Credit/UC. Universal Free School meals are free meals (regardless of benefits) for children in Foundation, Year 1 and 2. When your child enters year 3 their dinners will be charged for unless it has been identified you are eligible for Free School meals.

If you claim UC (Universal Credit) you could get free school meals. Just ask at the office for a form and we can check.

Our Values Nominations are in!

RECIPIENTS OF VALUES CERTIFICATES

KS1: Aleksander, Behishta, Jude, Arley and Vinnie-Paul

KS2: Elsie, Adey and the whole of 4S

Celebrating Punctuality & Attendance

The class with the best *attendance* this week is **1H with 98.8%**. Whole Academy Attendance 95%

The class with the *best punctuality* was **6H**.

Quick links:

[Calendar](#)

[Term Dates](#)

[Latest News](#)

[Family Support](#)

[Event Feedback](#)

*Been to an event at Hawes Side?
Your feedback is valuable to us!*

Recent letters/info home
Please check your emails and your child's school bag

Confirmation of club spaces will **only** be sent to those that have a place. Email confirmation by end of day, Tuesday, next week.



Pictures: Learning in our academy

Page two news

MENU!

Mellors catering team have new menu's for our yummy school lunches.

[Click here to be directed to our webpage.](#)

PARENT & GUARDIAN CONSULTATION EVENINGS

Next week letters will be going home about our upcoming Parent and Guardian evenings, where you can make an appointment with your child's class teacher. At these appointments you can discuss how your child is settling in, areas of focus and raise any queries you may have.

The dates for these evenings will be 11th and 12th November.



OPEN EVENTS

Does your child start school for the first time in September 2027? Come and visit us on one of the dates below to find out more about our academy and see what we have to offer.

- 19/10/26: 5pm to 6pm
- 7/11/26: 10am to 12 midday

PRIMARY MENTAL HEALTH

The Primary Mental Health worker is in the academy on the 4th November 2026. If you would like to 'drop in' for a session, please get in touch with Miss Ward or Mrs Fleckney via the academy office.

FLU NASAL SPRAY

The school vaccination team are coming into the academy on the 3rd November to undertake the flu nasal spray programme. Please refer to the information previously sent home by email and letter.

[Click here](#) to find out more about the vaccination programme

Questions or queries? You can contact the NHS school vaccination team on 01253 951984.

Other News

USEFUL INFO!

TT KIDZ FESTIVAL
MONDAY 26 OCT 2026
5:45pm to 7:45Pm
Blackpool Table Tennis Club
(Blackpool Sports Centre, West Park Drive, Blackpool FY3 9UA)

For children aged 9-11. The festival will be packed with activities, fun games and plenty of table tennis, all led by our experienced coaches and activators. No previous experience needed and all equipment is provided!

Come and join in THE FUN!
SIGN UP NOW! >
Closing date 16 OCT

£5 sign-up fee, each child will receive a t-shirt and kit bag containing a bat, balls and activity booklet on the day

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS – SEPTEMBER 2027

PRIMARY APPLICATIONS

If your child was born between **1st September 2022** and **31st August 2023**, you must apply for a Primary School Reception place for September 2027. (Applications are required for all children with a 4th birthday between 1st September 2026 and 31st August 2027).

SECONDARY APPLICATIONS

If your child is in the final year of primary education (Year 6), you must apply for a Secondary School Year 7 place for September 2027. (Applications are required for all children who are in their final year at a primary school).

If you live in Blackpool (pay council tax to Blackpool) –

APPLY FOR A SCHOOL PLACE ON-LINE AT:
www.blackpool.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Before you complete and submit your application you are advised to read Blackpool Council's guide for parents at: www.blackpool.gov.uk/schooladmissions

The on-line system offers a quick and secure means of applying for places. Paper applications and information booklets are available from schoolaccess@blackpool.gov.uk or telephone 01253 476637.

CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2027
PRIMARY APPLICATIONS – BY 15TH JANUARY 2027
SECONDARY APPLICATIONS – BY 31ST OCTOBER 2026

Applications received after the closing dates will be processed after all those which are received on time. If you apply late this may reduce your chances of an offer for one of your preferred schools.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!

If you pay your council tax to Wyre or Fylde then you will need to access Lancashire's on-line application system at www.lancashire.gov.uk. You can still express preferences for Blackpool schools on Lancashire's application system.

www.blackpool.gov.uk BlackpoolCouncil

A message from our Vice Principal, Mrs Sarah Kitching



As we approach the final week of this half term, it is lovely to reflect on the many opportunities our children have enjoyed and the progress they continue to make. From developing confidence in the swimming pool to exploring creativity in the classroom, it is wonderful to see our children embracing new experiences with such enthusiasm and determination.

Our academy values continue to shine through in so many ways, and I would like to congratulate this week's Values Certificate recipients. It is always a pleasure to recognise children who demonstrate our values through their actions and attitudes.

Looking ahead, our Parent and Guardian Consultation Evenings in November will provide a valuable opportunity to celebrate your child's achievements and discuss their next steps in learning. We look forward to welcoming you.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. I hope everyone enjoys a lovely weekend as we look forward to a positive final week before the half-term break.