

# NEWSLETTER

Learning Together, Achieving Together

Friday 29th November 2024



## A SHOW STOPPING week at Mereside!

Wow - this week have been packed with achievement!

From No Pen Day, to success in indoor athletics and show stopping performances at the Winter Gardens. Our pupils at Mereside have really done us proud!

**Christmas** has also landed at the school and on Friday 6th December we look forward to hosting our annual Christmas Fair. To support us in setting up the event for the school community - we kindly ask for an early collection at 2pm. This will allow for us to be able to re open our doors at 2.15pm. Thank you to those who have contributed towards our various prizes and tombolas - we really appreciate your support. Any other donations will be greatly received - please drop off at the office. We look forward to seeing you all next Friday for some festive fun!

Kindest regards, Ms. Chapman and Ms. Richardson

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

This week our attendance was... **91.3%**

Oh no.... Let's get to... **96%**

**Every child** ✓  
**In school** ✓  
**On time** ✓  
**Every day** ✓

# THE MERESIDE WAY

## Mereside Way - Mereside Manner

There has been lots of polite manners being used across school this week. We discussed the importance of manners and the kindness and respect this shows. There have been discussions of manners being used at home too - we'd love to know if you have seen an improvement in manners at home! Next week there will be a whole school focus on respect.

### Above and Beyond!

Kian 4B

Alexa 4B

Oscar 1G

Rayna 3W

Naithan 3D

Shaun Paul 5D

Jaxson 5D

Laney 3D

Isabella 2HP

Ae'lana 2HP

## Important Reminders

Don't forget to come along to coffee morning!

Wednesday 4th December,  
in the children's centre 8:45-10.  
Free hygiene product giveaway



### Wednesday 4th December

- Its LKS2 turn to take part in the Blackpool Schools Athletics Competition. Letters will be coming home this evening. Good Luck!

### Friday 6th December

- Christmas Fair - from 2.15pm (raffle will be drawn approximately 3.45pm)

## Family Support Hub

Does your child have asthma diagnosed? If so, please fill in the link below ...

[Click Here](#)





## Year 4's Inspirational artist for R.E.

We have been learning all about the significant events in the Christmas story in R.E. this half term. We have also had great fun making Christingles and learning all about what Christingle means to Christians. Our class discussions made us think about Mary, Joseph and Jesus becoming refugees, leaving Bethlehem and travelling to safety in Egypt because of King Herod. We found some incredible artwork on this subject by an English artist called Nicholas Mynheer so we decided to email him.

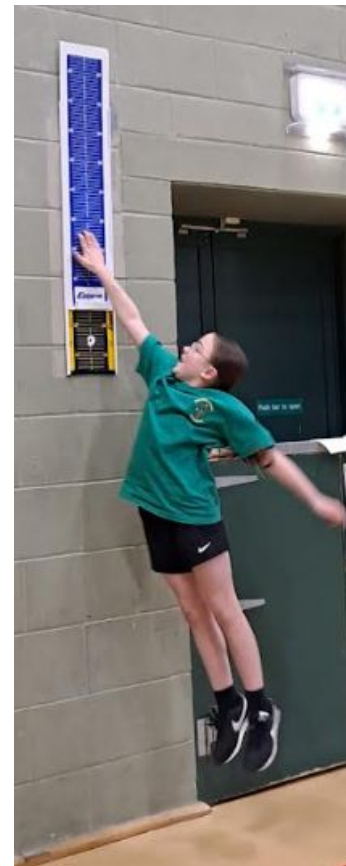
He not only responded to us but he sent us cards with his paintings on for each child to take home! We have sent him a thank you card and he has asked to see our versions of Jesus as a refugee, once we have painted them. We are all very excited to see what he thinks of our art work!





## Athletics Success in Year 6

On Wednesday morning some of our Year six pupils represented school in the Blackpool Athletics Competition Heats. The children were fantastic and demonstrated some exceptional skills in their individual events. This resulted in the team going through the the plate competition in February. We are incredibly proud of you all!



## Dance Festival 2024

Each year this wonderful event grows both within our school and the town. We were joined by 20 other schools at the Winter Gardens on Wednesday evening to perform to a sold out crowd! The standard from all the schools was wonderful and Mereside got the crowd singing! I think we were the only school to have from Year one to Year six pupils on the stage. It was an absolute pleasure to be involved once again and to see the confidence and joy on the performers faces. Next stop Schools Alive!



# OUR STARS OF THE WEEK

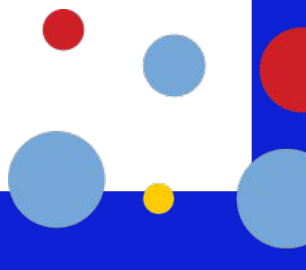
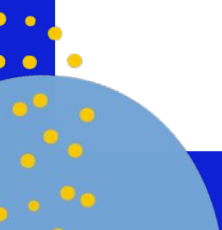


<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Prince</b> - for being focused and having a good week.
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Cash</b> - for excellent thinking and ideas during carpet time. <b>Ama</b> - for impressive 'busy time' independent writing and creations.
<b>1M</b>	<b>Darcie</b> - for fantastic contributions during carpet time. <b>Anai'yah</b> - for trying hard in maths.
<b>1G</b>	<b>Oscar</b> - for always going above and beyond and for his extra effort in phonics this week. <b>AJ</b> - for always being helpful and for being a caring friend.
<b>2JP</b>	<b>Kooper</b> - for being really helpful. <b>Boo</b> - for being an absolute superstar!
<b>2HP</b>	<b>Karlson</b> - for working hard to learn his lines for our production. <b>Halleigh-Mai</b> for coming into school everyday with a big smile on her face.
<b>3B</b>	<b>Bella-Rose</b> - for her beautiful handwriting and presentation. <b>Skylah</b> - for always trying her best in everything she does!
<b>3W</b>	<b>Rayna</b> - for always having an amazing attitude towards learning. <b>Naithan</b> - for his enthusiasm towards everything and everyone!

# OUR STARS OF THE WEEK



<b>4B</b>	<p><b>Hunter</b>- for showing our school values of pride and ambition, continually striving to improve his work across all areas.</p> <p><b>Poppy</b> - for being a fantastic example of the Mereside Way, Ready to learn, kind and respectful and safe and responsible. Super stars!</p>
<b>4D</b>	<p><b>Isabella</b> - for making the right choices in class and around school and being a kind friend to everyone. Well done!</p> <p><b>Nevaeh</b> - for outstanding P.E. demonstrations and helping her partner. You have both really impressed me this week!</p>
<b>5D</b>	<p><b>Amelia</b> - for showing the Mereside Way all week.</p> <p><b>Isaac</b> - for working hard in all subjects!</p>
<b>6FB</b>	<p><b>Evie</b> - for taking on feedback and demonstrating resilience.</p> <p><b>Riley</b> - for always demonstrating the Mereside Way!</p>

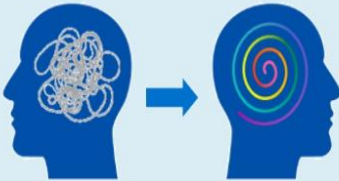


# Community Pages:

NHS Talking Therapies Service provides a range of FREE therapy options recommended by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) for common mental health problems such as depression and anxiety.

**NHS**  
**Blackpool**  
**Talking Therapies**

## FREE Courses Available



### MASTERING STRESS – Steps to Wellness

30min introduction 2pm Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December  
Followed 6 x 90min weekly online sessions. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup>  
24<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> January & 7<sup>th</sup> February.

*Learn new skills and coping strategies*



### 8-week Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy Course

60min introduction 10am Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January. Followed by  
8 x 2-hour session weekly online sessions.  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> January 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> February 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> March

*Learn to live in the present!*

A personalised link will be emailed and recordings accessible for 72hours

45min webinars, with recording available for 3 days

Resilience  
and Me  
10am Thur  
5<sup>th</sup> Dec

Anxiety and  
Worry  
1pm Fri  
13<sup>th</sup> Dec

Sleep and  
Relaxation  
1pm Wed  
18<sup>th</sup> Dec

Overcoming  
Low Mood  
1pm Mon  
7<sup>th</sup> Jan

Menopausal  
Wellbeing  
10am Fri  
24<sup>th</sup> Jan

AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE OVER 16 WHO LIVE, WORK OR STUDY IN LANCASHIRE OR SOUTH CUMBRIA

To self-refer, please call: **01253 955700** (Monday–Friday 9am–5pm)

email: [bfwh.talkingtherapies@nhs.net](mailto:bfwh.talkingtherapies@nhs.net)

[www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/talking-therapies](http://www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/talking-therapies)

Scan here to  
visit our website



Blackpool Talking Therapies is not able to provide reports for compensation, legal or benefits claims or prescribe medication. We do not offer 24-hour or weekend access, crisis or emergency treatment, treatment for alcohol or drug problems or treatment for severe and enduring mental illness.  
Please discuss these needs with your GP.



**Blackpool Talking Therapies**

for anxiety and depression

Service provided by Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

BO018 05



# COMING SOON

A New Performing Arts Academy for Young People  
Ages 7 - 18 | Officially Affiliated with Winter Gardens Blackpool

## Passionate about the performing arts?

Dreaming of a career on stage or behind the scenes? Encore Academy is your first step! Launching soon, our academy will offer young people (ages 7-18) the chance to develop their skills in acting, dance, musical theatre, and technical theatre.

### Why Choose Encore Academy?

**Perform with Encore:** Graduates can progress to perform in Encore Productions' shows.

**Winter Gardens Partnership:** Exclusive access to workshops, rehearsals, and performances at this iconic venue.

**Professional Training:** Learn from industry experts in real theatre settings.

**Inclusive Community:** Be part of a passionate and supportive group, all striving to excel.

Open to all experience levels – whether you're just starting out or ready to shine!

To register interest email [encoreblackpool@gmail.com](mailto:encoreblackpool@gmail.com)



# WHAT CAN YOU DO?

## WEDNESDAY 6 - 8.30PM

- Sessions in vocal technique, musical theatre dance and acting.
- Students will work towards a vast array of performances both 'in house' and external to the Winter Gardens.
- Performances will be both specific to the academy, within the larger company and beyond.
- Regular showcases, invited parent events, recital evenings, full scale musicals.
- Students will have the opportunity to study towards, and be examined in PPA - Performance Arts Awards. (RSL\_PAA\_MT\_Syllabus\_Guide-V2\_08Jun2023.pdf)



LOTTERY FUNDED



Supported using public funding by

**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT IN SESSIONS?

- **Vocal coaching** - vocal health, technique and training with various industry experts. This may form part of your warm up, or in small groups working on set pieces, recitals, musical numbers etc.
- **Musical Theatre Dance** - each session will involve a physical warm up and learning of dance material.
- **Acting** - this will be in small groups, as set characters, recital prep, workshops and confidence building within sessions.

**SESSIONS WILL VARY IN FORMAT** - this will depend on the performances being prepared. Sometimes the sessions will work on a carousel schedule whereby the cohort is split age dependent/performance dependent.

# WHAT WILL WE BE PREPARING FOR?

**RECITAL EVENINGS** - these are formal evenings held once per half term where every student will perform a selection of solo/duo recitals for parents and friends. These events will help the students to develop confidence, independence and a sense of ownership for their futures. They will be guided in selected pieces, given 1 to 1 sessions to develop these pieces and given feedback in the run up to the evening.

**SHOWCASES** - these will be bi-annual musical theatre showcases held in The Opera House alongside other local theatre schools to showcase a selection of work on one of the worlds largest stages!

**'ENCORE PRODUCTIONS PRESENT'**- these will be annual performances as Encore Productions, our full through ages company both in house and out in the wider world!

**MUSICAL THEATRE EXAMS** - this will be ongoing in session, as a brand new initiative we will enter our students in to exams as the full Academy (in age groups) if they wish to be examined. It is just another avenue to explore for them to receive feedback as they progress! (More information will be shared about these when we are fully set up)

**LAST, BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST.....**

## **OUR ANNUAL MUSICAL!!!**

This is set to be released in the coming weeks (before Christmas!) for May 2025. All Academy students will be invited to audition for the principal roles if they wish and at this point we will hold open auditions for this show.

Further information will be revealed in due course.... but, lets say, 'go big or go home!' is the best fit phrase for this one :)

