



Newsletter— 19th September 2025



Learning, growing and caring as part of God's family.



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.
John 15:5

Our Christian value for this half term is LOVE

 Time to Shine 	
Name	Teacher's & Children's Comments
Esther Sudell Y1	Esther is kind, caring & the best friend ever. She is a superstar.
Ottillie Aldren Y2	Ottillie is an amazing writer & loves maths. She is kind & a great role model.
Wilf Gornall Y3	Wilf is an interesting conversationalist. He is full of ideas & good at creating games.
Lotty Eden Y4	Lotty is polite, resilient, respectful, sporty & has a great sense of humour.
Mary Makinson Y5	Mary has a happy nature & always has a smile. She is a positive role model.
Amy Ludlow Y6	Amy is a great friend & always cheers you up. She is independent & loyal.

 Writers of the Week 	
Name	Reason
Felicity Treasure Y1	For keeping her letters on the line & making them a good size.
Emily McKiernan Y2	For fantastic punctuation.
Yasmin Yu Y3	For super descriptive writing using interesting adjectives & precise nouns.
Adam Sowerby Y4	For fantastic use of conjunctions to extend sentences!
Rosie Britton Y5	For her efforts & huge improvement in joining up her writing.
Aya Aquino Y6	For being keen to write independently, even during our residential!

Harvest
<p>This year's Harvest service will be held in school on Thursday 2nd October and will be led by Rev Catherine and the Worship Team. Due to space, only invited parents will be able to attend. We would really value donations of food - tinned or packets, which will be taken to The Olive Branch at some point after the service. Please give generously as every little helps the charity to help those in need. If you are unable to contribute due to your own circumstances, do not feel obliged. And if we can be of any help, please talk to either Mrs Walsh or Miss Flynn. We have lots of contacts with people who may be able to help you.</p>

Worship in School
<p>We have continued thinking about our Christian Value of Love this week. On Monday we returned to our British Values and the new Worship Team helped us make links between the values and love. The British Values are Tolerance and Mutual Respect, Individual Liberty, Democracy and Rules of Law. The Worship Team thought that if we loved each other and the world, the British Values would happen naturally. Bishop Philip's video on Tuesday invited us to live out God's Big Story and on Wednesday we continued singing our song about what Jesus said about loving God and our neighbours. Rev Catherine (our now permanent vicar) talked about God's love for us on Thursday. Please note that Friday Family Worship will be starting at 3pm from today rather than 2.45pm due to the later school finishing time.</p>

Celebrating Life in School
<p>The Nursery children have been thinking about what is inside our bodies. They have learnt about bones and how strong they are. Y3 have been finding out about how God calls to us by reading the story of Samuel.</p> <p>Have a look at the school blog to find out what other things the children have been up to in school: Scotforth St Paul's C of E Primary & Nursery School (scotforth-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk)</p>

Parent Consultations 8th October
<p>Each child has been given a letter today—please ask/check their bags if you haven't been given it! There is a form at the bottom where you can indicate your preference time. This SHOULD be returned to the class teacher no later than Monday 29th September.</p>

Photographs (1st October)
<p>There will be the opportunity for siblings in school to have their photographs taken together during the day. If, however, anyone has a sibling NOT in school or a nursery child who does not come on a Wednesday and you would like to have their photo taken, the photographer will be here from 8.30-9.00am to take family photos.</p>

Dates for the Diary

Date	Time	What	Who
Mon 22 Sep	3.35pm	Scot4All Meet & Greet (see attached poster)	Every-one
Fri 26 Sep	Morning	Class Photograph (email sent to parents)	YR
Fri 26 Sep	3.25pm	Scot4All Doughnut Friday (poster attached)	Every-one
Mon 29 Sep	Morning	Flu vaccinations	YN-Y6
Wed 1 Oct	Morning	Individual photos (see separate box)	YN-Y6
Thu 2 Oct	2.45pm	Harvest Festival (see separate box)	
Tue 7 Oct	Morning	Visual Screening Check	YR
Wed 8 Oct	1.15-6.30pm	Parent consultation (no children)	Every-one
Wed 22 Oct	3.25pm	Close for half term break	Every-one
Mon 3 Nov	8.45am	Re-open after half term break	Every-one

Parent Governor

As another of our parent governor's term of office has ended, we say thank you and goodbye to Natalie Miller. Please think carefully about whether this is a role that you would be interested in and talk to one of our school governors or Mrs Walsh to find out more about it.

There are usually between six and nine meetings a year held at either 4pm, 5pm or 5.30pm depending on the committee.

Parents who are governors are:

Rachael Rigby
Mark Hammond
Jess Walker
Helen Patchett
Reuben Larbi

We will be sending out more information in due course, but wanted to provide parents with time to think about whether they could commit to this very important role.

School Equipment

There are some toys kept in the playground—scooters, bikes, trikes, balls, etc but these are **NOT TO BE USED** by children at the end of the day when parents are collecting children.

General Reminders

Water Bottles These should be clear/see through and only contain water.

Jewellery Children should not be wearing any jewellery in school.

Drop-Off Please remember to use the one-way system when bringing children to school in the morning.

Lateness Please arrive on time to drop off and pick up as children get anxious if they are not dropped off or picked up on time. If you arrive after the bell at 8.55am, please remember to come into the office to use the electronic sign in system.

Dinner Money Please ensure this is up to date. Reminders will be sent out on a regular basis but is time consuming. If you haven't already done so, you can sign up to the online Scopay system—ask at the office for more details.

Naming Belongings This is the best way for us to return lost belongings to children—please just spend a few minutes naming your child's belongings.

Absence Any absence should be reported to school by 9.30am at the latest. If your child has a medical appointment, please provide evidence of this (as per new government guidelines).

Bishop Philip's Challenge

Bishop Philip has set himself the challenge of visiting all the Deaneries in the Blackburn diocese in one day! He will be visiting Scotforth St Paul's Church at 8.32am for a 13 minute visit (very tight schedule!). All parents and children are welcome to attend the visit and parents **MUST** stay with their child and walk them to school afterwards.

I would specifically like to invite the Worship Team and am happy to supervise those children and bring them back to school with me. A separate invite has been sent to their parents.

Welfare Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a mid-day welfare assistant. 1 hour 15 minutes per day.

Supporting the children while eating lunch and when playing outside to ensure all are safe and happy.

If you want to work with children or in the caring profession, this is a good starting point. Many of our Welfare Staff have used their experiences in school to help them further their careers.

If you would like to know more or would like to collect an application form, please pop into the school office.

Closing date - Friday 26th September

Medical Forms

All children, except Y6, have been given a medical form for you to complete—again ask/check bags if you haven't been given it. Please complete and return to school as soon as possible ensuring all details are complete, in particular your child's NHS number.

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

In conjunction with governors and staff, the School Improvement Plan (SIP) has been created by the Senior Leaders in school (Mrs Walsh, Miss Huddleston and Mrs Atkinson) for the upcoming year. Please find it on the school website - [School Improvement Plan | Scotforth St Paul's C of E Primary & Nursery School](#) If anyone would like a paper copy, please pop into the office. Please be aware that it does get adapted during the year and added to.

As you will see, we are investigating AI and the use of it for staff and children. It is certainly more widely used and is something we want the children to know about - it's benefits and negatives - as we believe it will be part of their lives as they grow up. We are also relooking at our assessment methods and making sure they are fit for purpose (to help children learn), consistent across school and linked to the most important parts of the curriculum we want the children to remember.

There are three mini topics that will be spread across the year.

We want to simplify the maths calculations children use in school to make sure they do not become confused with too many methods, but also giving them enough options to find what works for them. The school vision will also be a focus this year. It was created a few years ago so we need to make sure it still relates to where the school is now and all members of the school community understand it. The last mini theme is to create a walking curriculum. We value outdoor learning and want to plot what we are doing already and add extra walking into the children's lives.

If you have any expertise in any of these areas and would like to be involved in school improvement, firstly, please consider becoming part of our Governing Body team and if you cannot commit to this, and still want to help, just talk to Mrs Walsh.