



*'I came that they may have life and live it to the full' John 10.10*



Friday 23rd January 2026

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Hargreaves

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been a perfect example of what makes our school so special: looking forward to the future while staying deeply rooted in our community.

On Wednesday, excitement was high as a film crew visited to record our students and staff demonstrating the benefits of AI and technology in the classroom. We are thrilled to share that this footage will be presented at Google in London next Friday.

However, the highlight for many of us came today. It was a true privilege to open our doors to the over-60s in our community for a fish and chips dinner. This event, led by Rev Alice as part of the Asda Fund to address loneliness and isolation, was a heart-warming success. The choir sang fantastically, making our guests feel truly welcome.

Please keep an eye on dates for your diaries as we have an Outward bound meeting coming up and a 'Natter' with Nadia', our new family support worker.

Have a restful weekend,

Mrs Harrison





# St Aidan's

Church of England Primary Academy  
A member of **CTDARI**

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## Dates for the Diary

**06/02– NSPCC Number day**

**W/C 09/02– Children's Mental Health week**

**10/02– Safer internet day**

**13/02– Outward bound parent meeting**

**13/02– School closes for half term  
3:20pm**

**25/02– Natter with Nadia 2-3pm**



## Talk and tales

Talk and tales year 1 and 2, this is an opportunity for parents/carers of children in year 1 and 2 to come into their child's classroom and enjoy the class story with them. A time to see oracy in action and engage with your child's reading. The session will take place on Tuesday 10th February at 3pm.

## Outward bound Parent meeting

On Friday 13th February we will be holding a parent meeting to discuss final arrangements and details of our Outward bound trip in March. The meetings will be held in the school hall at either 9am or 3pm and last approximately 20 minutes, please attend the session most suitable for you.





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## Natter with Nadia

Wednesday 25th February  
2026  
2pm-3pm

Come and meet our new pupil and family support worker  
Nadia.

Do you need help with getting free school meals? Finances?  
Parenting support? Attendance?  
Ask for Nadia Jones

No booking required - just turn up!





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## After school clubs

After school clubs have now restarted. Please see below for more information on the clubs we are running this term. Please remember that after school club finishes at 4:15pm and children will need to be collected from school unless agreed otherwise. Limited places available.



Club	Day	Starts	Finishes
Dodgeball	Tuesday	Tuesday 13th Jan	Tuesday 10th Feb
3D Printing	Tuesday	Tuesday 13th Jan	Tuesday 17th March
Lego club	Thursday	Thursday 15th Jan	Thursday 19th March



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### Christmas Pantomime

Our yearly trip to Blackburn Empire Theatre to watch the Peter Pan Pantomime is on Monday 7th December. The cost of this trip is **£7.00** per pupil.

It's great to see that some parents have already paid—thank you.

We appreciate that Christmas has only just been and gone and we know that you don't want to be thinking about next Christmas or you don't want to make any payment(s) until closer to December, when this is already a busy and expensive time for everyone, so with this in mind we have added the payment to Schoolmoney now to give you the opportunity to spread the cost into affordable weekly/monthly payments or alternatively, if you wish, you can pay the amount in full.



### House Statistics

ALWAYS following the school rights this week.



HODDER	CALDER	BLAKEWATER	RIBBLE
100%	96%	92%	100%



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## Free School Meals

### Free School Meals can benefit your child and our school

We are writing to encourage all eligible families to apply for **Free School Meals (FSM)**.

#### Why apply? The benefits for your family

**Financial Savings:** Registering can save you over £400 per year per child.

**Nutritional Balance:** Our school meals are designed to be healthy and balanced, ensuring children have the energy they need to focus and learn throughout the afternoon.

**Holiday Support:** In many areas, families registered for FSM will receive a meal in the school holidays from the Family Hubs/Children Centres and access to funded holiday club places



#### How it helps our school (The Pupil Premium)

For every child registered for Free School Meals, the school receives extra funding from the government known as the **Pupil Premium**. This money is vital and allows us to provide our school with more resources for your children.

## Are you entitled to Free School Meals?

Your child may be eligible if you receive any of the following:



- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- An income-related employment and support allowance
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit (PCGC) support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by Inland Revenue that does not exceed £16,190

#### How to apply

The application process is quick, confidential, and straightforward. You can apply via [School meals | Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council](#) or by booking an appointment to see our Family Support Worker Nadia.

Please rest assured that the system is **completely discreet**. Children receiving free school meals are not identified in the dining hall.

*Norfolk Street, Mill Hill, Blackburn BB2 4EW   Tel: 01254 53148   [www.staidansblackburn.co.uk](http://www.staidansblackburn.co.uk)*



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## Attendance Matters

Attendance is **NOT** optional

There is an expectation that children are in school **EVERY** day.



Overall School Attendance Target is **96%**

Actual Whole School Attendance is **94.48%**



Well done to **Year 1 and Year 4** who had the best attendance in the school last week!



### Weekly Attendance

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
92.53%	97.92%	92.8%	93.39%	97.92%	92.95%	94.94%

### Weekly Lates

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
14	1	0	11	5	7	1



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## Congratulations

Well done to the following children for being chosen to receive an award this week:



	Stars of the week 15.01.26	Value's In Practice award winners (V.I.P's) 15.01.26	Stars of the week 22.01.26	Value's In Practice award winners (V.I.P's) 22.01.26
<b>Reception</b> <b>(Miss Abbott)</b>	Arianna&Boritsefe	Usman	Aurora&Finley	Adam
<b>Year 1</b> <b>(Miss Kay)</b>	Ibby&Boris	Sabriya	Luke&Irtaza	Rowan
<b>Year 2</b> <b>(Miss Brindle)</b>	Arsam&Annabel	Laiyla	Nana&Lola	Lochlan
<b>Year 3</b> <b>(Mr Eccles)</b>	Zayan&Mia	Theo	Arya&Fraya	Mmasinachi
<b>Year 4</b> <b>(Mrs Har- greaves)</b>	Ikhlas&Alma	Lexi-Grace	Oliver&Ashleigh	Szebastian
<b>Year 5</b> <b>(Mrs Moss)</b>	Emily&Sampson	Willow	Precious&Darcee	Layla K
<b>Year 6</b> <b>(Miss Cornall)</b>	Abbie&Richelle	Mayada	Richelle&Amy	Anas

Kind Regards,

*K. Harrison*

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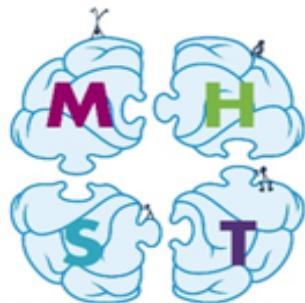
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**Mental Health Support Team**  
ELCAS | East Lancashire Child and Adolescent Services

## MHST in Schools

Dear parents/carers,

Mental Health Support Teams are here to help children with their feelings early on, before small worries turn into big problems. They also provide support to parents and carers.

**Are you interested in the following which the MHST team can provide to parents/carers;**

- Online Parent Webinars
- Parent led CBT for anxiety: 1-1 or in a group of up to 10 parents/carers
- A one off workshop for parents; Sleep Hygiene
- A one off workshop for parents; supporting your child with anxiety/low mood

If this would interest you, please see Nadia our Family Support Worker or message her on Class Dojo



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# St Aidan's Tots

A group for 0-4s and their grown-ups

@ St Aidan's Church, Mill Hill



Monday's in term time

10am til 11.30am

Toys, snack time, songs and  
a story from the Bible

Suggested donation - £1.50 per family



Kind Regards,

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WESTHOLME  
PREP | SENIORS | SIXTH FORM

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 26 February 2026  
17:00 – 19:00

[www.westholmeschool.com](http://www.westholmeschool.com)

Sign up via the QR code

QR code



WESTHOLME  
PREP | SENIORS | SIXTH FORM

YEAR 7  
TASTER DAY

5 March 2026 | 09:15 – 15:00

A New Chapter of Discovery

[www.westholmeschool.com](http://www.westholmeschool.com)

Sign up via the QR code

QR code

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