



St Aidan's

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



'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





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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



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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 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Reception (Miss Abbott) | Arianna&Boritsefe | Usman | Aurora&Finley | Adam |
| Year 1 (Miss Kay) | Ibby&Boris | Sabriya | Luke&Irtaza | Rowan |
| Year 2 (Miss Brindle) | Arsam&Annabel | Laiyla | Nana&Lola | Lochlan |
| Year 3 (Mr Eccles) | Zayan&Mia | Theo | Arya&Fraya | Mmasinachi |
| Year 4 (Mrs Hargreaves) | Ikhlas&Alma | Lexi-Grace | Oliver&Ashleigh | Szebastian |
| Year 5 (Mrs Moss) | Emily&Sampson | Willow | Precious&Darcee | Layla K |
| Year 6 (Miss Cornall) | Abbie&Richelle | Mayada | Richelle&Amy | Anas |

Kind Regards,

K. Harrison



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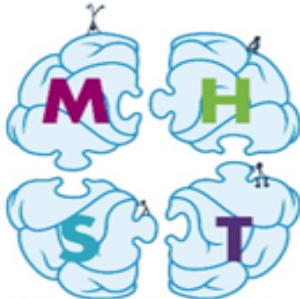
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Mental Health Support Team
EICAS | East Lancashire Child and Adolescent Services

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,

K. Harrison

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WESTHOLME
PREP | SENIORS | SIXTH FORM

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 26 February 2026
17:00 - 19:00

www.westholmeschool.com



Sign up via the QR code

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Headteacher

Norfolk Street, Mill Hill, Blackburn BB2 4EW
Tel: 01254 53148


WESTHOLME
PREP | SENIORS | SIXTH FORM

YEAR 7 TASTER DAY

5 March 2026 | 09:15 - 15:00

A New Chapter of Discovery

www.westholmeschool.com



Sign up via the QR code

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WHAT WE DO
#BECOACHED
#ONAJOURNEY

0800 368 8045 | INFO@LITTLELIONS.CO.UK
WWW.LITTLELIONS.CO.UK

FOUNDATION PROGRAMME
U4s - U6s
SATURDAY(S)
ACCINGTON
BWD
CHORLEY

3v3s LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
U5s - U7s
MONDAY(S)
BWD

DEVELOPMENT SQUAD INVITE ONLY
U5s - U8s
SATURDAY(S)
TUESDAY(S)
BWD

LIONS BIRTHDAY PARTY

HOLIDAY CLUBS
BURNLEY
CHORLEY
OSWALDTWISTLE

1-2-1 PRIVATE SESSION
MAY-SEPT

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