



St Aidan's Primary School

A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Greenwood

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Newsletter 12 – 2nd December 2022

It's a busy time for all of us over the next few weeks: for you as parents, preparing for the Christmas holiday period and for pupils and staff as they rehearse for concerts and prepare for the festive season. The season of advent has started and is an important period in the Church Calendar, when we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Jesus' birth.



Message from Mrs Greenwood

Mrs Rourke will be leaving us at the end of this term as she is moving on to new challenges at a school in Lancashire. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Rourke for all her enthusiastic, hard work over the last 5 years. We will all miss her!

I would also like to welcome Miss Cornall who will be teaching year 6 from January 2023.

Bishop Philip.

On Tuesday Bishop Philip came into school to tell us how the season of Advent is preparing us for the birth of Christ. Everyone loved seeing Bishop Philip and enjoyed his teachings and sense of humour. Bishop Philip also commented on how well our children sing!

Schoolmoney-the new online payment system



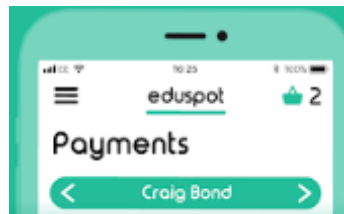
There is still a lot of parents/carers who have not yet activated our new online payment system, Schoolmoney. Going forward this is the way payments to school need to be made. It is a very simple app to use and you can make payment with a debit/credit card or Apple/Google pay.

All you need to do is:

- 1 From the App store download the App-teachers2parents (the logo is as pictured above)
- 2 Enter your mobile phone number
- 3 Enter the activation code that is sent to your phone via text

You will then have access to your child/childrens accounts.

If you have more than one child in school you will be able to view all children in the one app. Simply use the arrow < or > on the green bar with the child's name on it and it will move across to the next child. Example on this picture



Snowball Disco



It is the Snowball Disco tonight!

Session 1 is for Reception, Years 1 & 2 and is on from 5.00pm-6.00pm

Session 2 is for Years 3/4/5 & 6 and is on from 6.15pm-7.30pm

Christmas Pantomime 2022 – CINDERELLA

Yesterday the whole school enjoyed a trip to the pantomime to see Cinderella. We had such a fun time cheering, singing and dancing...OH YES WE DID



Infant Nativity – Prickly Hay



Due to health and safety regulations, admission to the KS1 concerts will be by ticket only. The KS1 (Years Rec, 1 & 2) concert will be held on Tuesday 13thth December. There will be two performances of the concert which will be held during the school day at **10.00am and 2.00pm**. Tickets are £1.00 each, maximum of 4 per family and can be purchased via Schoolmoney under the Shop tab, click on the + icon for the number of tickets required, for example if 2 tickets are required click the + icon twice. Under 3's are free if **sitting** on an adult's knee.

DT Week

Year 6 will be taking part in DT week next week. The cost for materials is £1.00 per child and the children will be able to take home their creations at the end of the week. Please hand your £1.00 to the class teacher.

Carol Service at the Cathedral

Year 5 and Year 6 are singing carols at Blackburn Cathedral on Wednesday 14th December from 1.00pm - 1:30pm. All are welcome to come and watch the service.

Any Parents/Carers watching the service are welcome to take their child/ren home when the service has finished. Please complete the online form.

Selection Box Raffle



We are having a selection box raffle on Tuesday 20th December. We are raising money for school funds. The raffle tickets will be sold by the school council team at break time for **20p per ticket or £1.00 a strip**.

Christmas Jumper Day



On **Thursday 15th December**, we will be raising funds for Save the Children by paying £1.00 to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, **please do not buy one especially for this day**; you could help your child decorate a jumper they already have by adding a few Christmas decorations

We are having our Christmas jumper day on Thursday 15th December. If you have a Christmas jumper, in good condition that your child has grown out of please could you donate it to school. Jumpers can be brought into school next week and if we get enough donations we will be having a stall next Friday afternoon (9th December) when parents/carers can come and pick up a jumper for their child/children. This is much better for the environment than throwing jumpers away and buying a new jumper every year.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner is being served on Thursday 15th December (a vegetarian option is available).

A text has been sent out earlier this week to those children who usually bring a packed lunch. Please can we ask that the online form is completed indicating whether or not your child/ren is wanting a Christmas Dinner so that the kitchen staff have the correct numbers for the day.



School Milk

The parents/carers of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes have been sent a text message consent form this week requesting whether or not your child requires milk in the Spring term. **It is extremely important that this is completed no later than Friday 16th December 2022**, to enable the office staff to order the correct quantity of milk for January. **If you do not complete the form, milk will not be ordered for your child next term.**



Outward Bound

There are still a few places available to Years 5 and 6. If your child is interested in going, a deposit payment of £30.00 is required initially to secure their place. This must be paid via ParentPay. If you would like a PayPoint barcode to make the payment please contact the office.



As a reminder – this is an exciting residential trip taking place from 20th March 2023 – 24th March 2023 to The Outward Bound Trust in Ullswater. The trip has been heavily subsidised bringing the cost per pupil down from £489.25 to £170.00.

For those children already booked on the trip please continue to make regular payments to reduce and clear your balance by March 2023.

PLEASE ONLY MAKE PAYMENTS TOWARDS OUTWARD BOUND VIA PARENTPAY

Admission to Reception Class 2023



The online admission form for admission to Reception Class in September 2023 is accessible using the following link:-

<https://blackburn.gov.uk/SynergyWeb/Parents/appssummary.aspx>

If you have a child due to start primary school next September (born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019), please ensure you complete the online admission form. **The closing date is Sunday 15th January 2023**

If you do not have access to the internet or you are having difficulty completing the online admission form please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

NHS Dentist

Do you and your family need to register with an NHS dentist?

Mydentist on Railway Road in Blackburn are looking to support local families and children. They have limited availability and may be able to offer some NHS examinations.

To find out more please email the practice at blackburn3-am@mydentist.co.uk with your details: Full name, D.O.B, Full address including post code, email address, & telephone number and they will get back to you within 1-2 working days. Please do not phone the practice, registration is by email only.



Get Stuck In-School holiday activity clubs



The government has launched holiday clubs for children entitled to free school meals and for those identified as being in need of the provision during school holidays. Each child is entitled to free holiday club sessions with a meal each day. The clubs will run from 19th December-23rd December. To book your child's place with Get Stuck In please click on the link below or alternatively you can telephone the support line on 07879 774978.

<https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=45c2399109357ca6JmLtdHM9MTY2OTc2NjQwMCZpZ3VpZD0xOWFhM2NjMS05YWE2LTU0OTUzMmU3ZS0yZTIkOWVhNjZHMTEmaW5zaWQ9NTE3NQ&ptn=3&hsh=3&fclid=19aa3cc1-9aa6-6495-2e7e-2e9d9ea66a11&psq=get+stuck+in+.org&u=a1aHR0cHM6Ly9nZXRzdHVja2luLm9yZy51ay8&ntb=1>

Please note this is a scheme run by the government/local authority and NOT the school.

St Aidan's Church events

Carol Singing Walk – Saturday 10th December

Starting at St Aidan's Church at 12.30pm and walking to Blackburn Baptist Church at Bank Top via St Luke's. Come and join us for some or all of the route.

Dates and Events for December and January

Dec 22/JAN 23

The Voice Preservation Society

During the December the Voice Preservation Society comes into it's own - carol singing, especially outdoors, it really takes it's toll on the vocal cords. And since 1918, when a simplified version of 9 lessons and carols was developed, there has been even more strain on the voice. The voice is needed if the words of the carols and Bible readings are to be heard.

No doubt we all have our favourite carol but what is our favourite Christmas reading from the Bible? For many it is the start of St. John's Gospel, which begins, "In the beginning was the Word", yet if someone who isn't a regular church attender is drawn into a Christmas service because the lights were on and it might be warm inside or because BBC broadcast vans were outside the cathedral and the reading was the start of St. John's Gospel, they may well think it was rather obscure.

At the recent Diocesan Conference Ruth Valerio, the global advocate for Tear Fund, the relief agency, said that the message of God's saving grace is rooted in John 1:1-14. It echoes the start of the Bible as in Genesis we hear about God speaking His perfect creation into being. The start of John highlights how through incarnation (the birth of Jesus) and free gift of God's saving power is spoken into existence. This may seem very theological but that's the nature of this Bible passage.

However, the same theology is expressed in a more accessible and pictorial way in our Christingle service. This year it is being held on Christmas Eve at 4pm. The message of God's creating power is shown through the orange and the sweets or raisins. The red ribbon represents God's saving power through Jesus' blood which was shed on the cross for us all. The time of the year when we hold Christingle services reminds us that Jesus was born to show us the way and to save us. The candle is part of the Christingle to show that Jesus is God's gift to us as the Light of the world.

In the run up to Christmas a lot of time and money is spent on buying gifts but Jesus is the perfect free gift for us all. I hope that you all have a joyful and blessed Christmas time.

Rev Canon Cath Brooks

Ps: If someone asks you what you want for Christmas and you can't think of anything, why not ask for a brick or two for our LEGO church, which is not yet fully built?

**COFFEE MORNING & SALE
DECEMBER 3rd
In Church 10.15 - 11.45**

SUNDAY/DAY	DATE	TIMES	SERVICE/EVENT	READERS/PLACE
Thursday	1st	6pm	Carol singing	Albion Care Home
2nd of Advent	3rd	9.30 & 11am	Communion	Paula
Saturday	10th	12.30pm	Carol walk	St Aidan's -St Luke's -to Blackburn Baptist's
3rd of Advent	11th	9.30 & 11am	All Age	Kath
	11th	7pm	Alternative Carols	St Lukes @ St Wilfrids
Thursday	15th	2pm	School Carol Service	St Aidan's
4th of Advent	18th	9.30 & 11am	Readings and carols	St Aidan's
	18th	7pm	Classic Carols	St Lukes @ St Wilfrids
Christmas Eve	24th	4.00pm	Christingle & Crib	St Aidan's
	24th	11.15	Midnight	Cathedral
Christmas day	25th	10.30	Family Communion	Malc

JANUARY 23

Naming of Jesus	1st	9.30 & 11am	Communion	Marion
Epiphany Sunday	8th	9.30 & 11am	All age	Elaine
2nd of Epiphany	15th	9.30 & 11am	Communion	Barbara
3rd of Epiphany	22nd	9.30 & 11am	Communion & organ	Dorothy
4th of Epiphany	29th	9.30 & 11am	Communion	Jeff

100 CLUB

Thankyou to all who have joined the 100 club. We have 50 number taken. If you still want to join you can at any time @ 50p a week. There will be a draw of 1st prize £20 and 2nd prize £10 at the end of every month

Poppies

We raised nearly £30.00 pounds from the poppies, thank you everybody

ALWAYS House Statistics

ALWAYS following the school rights this week:

HODDER	CALDER	BLAKEWATER	RIBBLE
100%	98%	98%	98%

Dates for your diary

Y6 DT week	-	Monday 5 th December
Y5 DT week	-	Monday 12 th December
Infant Nativity (AM and PM)	-	Tuesday 13 th December
Carols at the Cathedral (Y5/Y6)	-	Wednesday 14 th December
Christmas Jumper/Non-uniform day and Christmas dinner	-	Thursday 15 th December
Christmas Carols in Church 2.00pm	-	Thursday 15 th December
Christmas crafts (KS1 9.15am/KS2 1.15pm)	-	Friday 16 th December
Christmas parties	-	Monday 19 th December
End of term Celebration Assembly – 9.00am	-	Tuesday 20 th December
School finishes for Christmas break – 2.15pm	-	Tuesday 20th December
School reopens 8.40am	-	Wednesday 4th January
Primary school application deadline date	-	Sunday 15 th January

Congratulations!

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



	Stars of the Week	Headteacher's Award Winner Christian Values
Reception (Miss Keegan)	Texas & Zainab	Aliza
Year 1 (Miss Rigby)	Ethan & Lily-Ann	Ellyjah
Year 2 (Miss Yates)	Elise & Darcee	Jessica
Year 3 (Mrs Moss)	Ronny & Lucas	Reema
Year 4 (Miss Grey)	Zenon & Dayton	Safa
Year 5 (Mrs Harrison)	Tilly & Lilly-Marie	Tulisa
Year 6 (Mrs Rourke)	Isabella & Chelsea	Eleanor

Kind regards,

Mrs D Greenwood
Headteacher