



St Aidan's Primary School

A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Greenwood

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison



Newsletter 14 – 16th December 2022



Message from Mrs Greenwood

We have had a very busy term especially in the last few weeks with the pantomime, our infant nativity, carol services in Church and at the Cathedral and Christmas dinner. We still have our Christmas parties and Selection Box raffle to look forward to next Monday and Tuesday.

Christmas is a magical time when we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ and as this year draws to a close may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men'

Luke 2:14

School Closing Time for Christmas



School closes for the Christmas break on **Tuesday 20th December at 2.15pm**. We will return for Spring Term on **Wednesday 4th January at 8.40am, Breakfast Club will start at 7:45am**.



Just to remind all parents/carers - we are a **NUT FREE** school. We do have some children in school with severe nut allergies. Please do not send any type of nut product into school with your child.

Selection Box Raffle



We are having a selection box raffle on Tuesday 20th December. We are raising money for school funds. Money for the raffle tickets can be brought in to school up to Tuesday 20th December but raffle tickets **will not** be given out until the day of the raffle. **Tickets are 20p each or £1.00 a strip**.

Christmas Crafts

The craft morning and afternoon sessions today have been lots of fun! Plenty of glitter, paint and glue has been used to create some wonderful items. Thankyou to all parents/carers who came to join us.

Infant Nativity – Prickly Hay



We would like to thank everyone who was able to come and watch the Reception and KS1 Christmas concerts. We thought they were all little superstars and the singing was just fantastic!

Carol Service at the Cathedral

Year 5 and Year 6 sung beautifully at the Cathedral on Wednesday afternoon. Thank you to the parents/carers who also came to the service.



Christmas Jumper Day



Thank you to all who donated to Save the Children for Christmas Jumper day. We had a wonderful time yesterday wearing our Christmas jumpers and eating the fantastic Christmas lunch made by our super kitchen staff. The total raised for Save the Children is £

Christmas Parties

The children will be having their Christmas parties on Monday 19th December and this will be a non-uniform day for our pupils. Please ensure sensible footwear is worn, suitable for indoors and outdoors. Cardigans/jumpers will be needed throughout the day.



School holiday activity clubs



For families who are entitled to free school meals or who have been identified as being in need of the provision, Get stuck In are providing each child with free holiday club sessions and a meal each day. The clubs are running from 19th December to 23rd December and places are available to book now.

To book your place please visit or telephone 07879 774978:
<https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=45c2399109357ca6JmltdHM9MTY2OTc2NjQwMCZpZ3VpZD0xOWFhM2NjMS05YWE2LTU0OTUtMmU3ZS0yZTIkOWVhNjZhMTEmaW5zaWQ9NTE3NQ&pfn=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.

Henry Programme



This programme is being run for parents/carers who would like support and ideas to develop a healthier family lifestyle which the whole family can enjoy. Everyone wants the best for their children, but with so much conflicting advice it can be hard to know what to do for the best as a parent. It is free to join.

There is a welcome session in the school hall on Monday 16th January at 1.00pm-3.00pm followed by 8 weekly meetings in school from 23rd January 2023 up to 20th March 2023. Unfortunately we do not have the facility to accommodate young children. These sessions are for parents/carers only.

If you are interested in attending please let Jan or the school office know.

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/appsummary.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.





Winter Challenges 2022

Before you begin...

- Choose a challenge from those listed overleaf. Discuss your ideas with your parent/carer to agree as to where you might need some help. Please be sure that you have permission before you begin your task, even when you are carrying out research on the computer!
- You must provide some evidence that you have taken part in the activity. For example, you could take a photograph, write a diary, draw a picture of your day, make a digital presentation, make a voice or video recording, or a letter from an adult.
 - In your evidence you may like to include:
 - o The dates/times of the activity.
 - o What was the easiest and hardest part of the challenge?
 - o Would you do anything differently if you did the challenge again?
 - o What else would you like to go on and do now?
- You can complete as many activities as you wish. The more you complete the more hours you can claim!
- Please ask an adult to send your evidence to Sara Burton on 07805929965 or s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk. Alternatively, if your school asks, you can send it in with your passport after the holidays.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Sara Burton.



Remember, ALWAYS ask your parent or carer before doing any of the challenges!

Create a large poster of Rudolph. Make a red nose, that can stick to it. Get your family and friends to play "Pin the Nose on Rudolph!" Don't forget the blindfold.



Draw or make your own festive wreath. You could add feathers, sequins, stars, it is up to you!



Make a card for a relative or neighbour. Why not ask if they need help with anything when you drop it round.



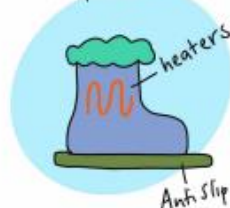
Write or draw six things that you are thankful for this year.



Find out about the different emergency services and what they do.



Design your own winter snow boots. Do they have any special powers?



Shake it up! How many words can you make from "IT IS COLD OUTSIDE"?



Ice skating! Find out about the nearest place you could try ice skating. Where is it, when is it open and what sessions could you try?



St Aidan's Church events

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
98%	100%	100%	94%

Dates for your diary

Christmas parties	-	Monday 19 th December
Selection Box raffle	-	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)	JJ & Fraya	Amelia
Year 1 (Miss Rigby)	Isla & Leyton B	Connie
Year 2 (Miss Yates)	Atlas & Junior	Freddie
Year 3 (Mrs Moss)	Paige M & Bruno	Logan
Year 4 (Miss Grey)	Marwah & Stephen	Cooper
Year 5 (Mrs Harrison)	Rory & Emily	Lennon
Year 6 (Mrs Rourke)	India & Keanna	Ethan

Kind regards,

Mrs D Greenwood
Headteacher