



# St Aidan's

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



Newsletter  
18

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



Friday 12th June 2026

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Hargreaves



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our final half-term of the year! It has been an incredibly busy but rewarding start to Summer 2, as our children have dived straight back into their learning. This week, our Year 1 pupils have been focusing on their Phonics Screening Check, our Year 4 children have been undertaking the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC), and our Year 2 children have been completing their assessments. I am immensely proud of how hard every single child has worked; their determination and positive attitudes have been wonderful to see. We would also like to say a huge thank you for your continued support at home with reading, spellings, and times tables practice, which makes a world of difference to their confidence during these assessment weeks. Looking ahead, further end-of-year assessments will follow for pupils in Years 1, 3, 4, and 5 over the coming weeks as we look to celebrate all the progress they have made.

The final six weeks of the academic year are always a whirlwind of activity, and this term promises to be no exception! We have a jam-packed calendar ahead, filled with class trips, move up days (where we also welcome our new reception class) our annual sports day (providing the British weather cheers up again for us!), and special leavers' events to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 pupils as they prepare for the next step in their journey.

With so much happening in a short space of time, please carefully check the 'Dates for the Diary' section at the end of this newsletter so you don't miss out on any of the upcoming excitement. Thank you, as always, for your partnership and support as we work together to finish the year on a high.

Kind regards

Mrs K Harrison



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Dates for the diary

Wednesday 17th June	Father's Day Rhyme time EYFS PM
WC 22nd June	Last week for after school clubs (except KS1 Multisport)
Tuesday 23rd June	Centenary Picnic- all school for Church event
Monday 29th June	Sports Day ((weather permitting)
Tuesday 30th June	Raise the roof choir event- choir
1st, 2nd, 3rd July	High school transition days
2nd July	Moving up day & EYFS Taster day
2nd July	Y2 Trip
7th July	Year 6 results day



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## TAKEHOME



### How can we protect the oceans?



## In the news this week

8th June is World Oceans Day, a time when people around the world think about how to care for seas, oceans and the creatures living in them. Dutch inventor, Boyan Slat, first became worried about ocean pollution as a teenager after seeing huge amounts of plastic while diving. He created the organisation The Ocean Cleanup, which designs special systems to remove rubbish from oceans and stop more plastic entering rivers and seas.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- > Why do you think oceans are important to people and animals?
- > Have you ever seen pollution near a beach, river or park? How did it make you feel?
- > What small changes could families make to help protect the oceans?
- > Should countries work together more to protect the environment?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



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**AFTERSCHOOL CLUB**

**KS1 Multisport Club**  
With Sam  
Starting Monday 15th June until  
Last session Monday 13th July  
3:20-4:15pm

**Ambassadors Club**  
With Mrs Hargreaves  
Tuesday 28th April until  
Last session Tuesday 23rd June  
3:20-4:15pm

**Netball**  
With Miss Bateson  
Thursday 30th April until  
Last session Thursday 25th June  
3:20pm-4:15pm

## House Statistics

ALWAYS following the school rights this week.



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



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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 94.81%



Well done to Year 4 who had the best attendance in the school this week!

Enjoy your extra playtime!



### Weekly Attendance

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
95.17%	99.02%	95.45%	97.53%	100%	92%	90.47%

### Weekly Lates

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
4	1	1	1	1	1	3



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Class & Teacher	Star of the Week	Oracy Star	VIP
Miss Abbotts	Ariana	Joud	Rohaam
Miss Kay	All of year 1	Ronnie	Boris
Miss Brindle	Jaymee-Leigh	Aamena	Munachi
Mr Eccles	Fatima	Lolita	JJ
Miss Bateson	Ethan	Connie	Ashleigh
Mrs Moss	Junior-James	Precious	Oscar
Miss Cornall	Huriya	Avery	Ava-Sue



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## FREE SCHOOL MEALS



### GUIDE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

#### Worth Applying Even If You Are Not Sure

Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility is changing from  
**September 2026**

Many families are entitled to Free School Meals and don't realise it?

Applying is quick, confidential, and could save your family money while supporting your child and our school.

#### Why should I apply?

- Your child gets a free, healthy school meal every day
- You could save money on food costs
- The school may receive extra funding to support children's learning
- Applying will not affect your other benefits
- Your application is private

#### How To Apply - It Takes Just A few Minutes

- Go to our council website and search "Free School Meals" or scan the QR Code
- Complete the online form (you'll need your National Insurance number)
- Wait for confirmation – the school will be informed automatically



Scan me



Trust  
Respect  
Ambition  
Collaboration  
Kindness



Our Children's  
Services are...





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## Free School Meals

### Important Changes to Free School Meals from September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to let you know about upcoming changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility that will take effect from **September 2026**.

Under the government's new rules, Free School Meals will now be split into two categories, and **all eligibility will be linked to Universal Credit**. Because the old "protection" rules are ending, **every family who wants to receive free school meals must submit a new application**.

Here is a simple breakdown of the two new categories and what they mean for your family:

#### 1. Targeted Free School Meals

- **Who qualifies:** Families on Universal Credit with an annual household income of **£7,400 or less**.
- **What you get:** Your child receives free school meals. Additionally, your child's school will receive vital extra funding (Pupil Premium) to support their learning.

#### 2. Expanded Free School Meals (New)

- **Who qualifies:** Families on Universal Credit with an annual household income **above £7,400**.
- **What you get:** This is a brand-new category! Your child will receive **free school meals**, though this level does not trigger the extra Pupil Premium funding for the school. Because of this change, many families who couldn't get free meals before will now be eligible for the first time.

#### What You Need to Do Next

**⚠ Important:** Even if your child currently gets Free School Meals, your automatic coverage ends at the finish of this school year (July 2026). **You must reapply.**

- **When to apply:** The new checking system is now live.
- **Why now?** Checking eligibility over the summer ensures everything is approved and ready to go for the start of the new school year in September.

#### A Note for Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 Parents

If your child is in Reception, Year 1, or Year 2, they will still automatically receive Universal Infant Free School Meals regardless of your income. However, **we strongly encourage you to apply for FSM anyway** if you are on Universal Credit. If you qualify under the "Targeted" group, it secures extra funding for your child's school to spend on resources and support.

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



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## Monthly Newsletter

June 2018



### Welcome to the first Pol-Ed School Newsletter!

As we approach the end of the academic year, we wanted to get in touch and share some of the latest updates from the world of Pol-Ed. With many schools beginning to review safeguarding, PSHE, and personal development provision ahead of September, we hope this newsletter helps highlight useful resources, upcoming opportunities, and key updates that can support your setting.

#### Summer Water Safety Assembly

With the summer holidays approaching, now is an ideal time to deliver our Summer Water Safety Assembly.

The assembly helps pupils understand:

- the risks associated with open water
- how to stay safe around rivers, lakes, canals, and reservoirs
- what to do in an emergency
- how peer influence and decision-making can impact safety

This resource works particularly well as part of transition, end-of-term, or summer safety messaging.

#### Upcoming CPD Events

You can find all upcoming CPD opportunities within the CPD section of the Resources area on Pol-Ed, or via our Eventbrite page:


[Click here to head to our Eventbrite](#)

**How Pol-Ed teaches emotional and physical harms of being online**  
Monday, 29th June at 3:45pm  
Wednesday, 1st July at 10:00am

**Using Pol-Ed to support effective PSHE**  
Monday, 13th July at 3:45pm

**How Pol-Ed meets statutory RHSE and supports KCSIE 2026**  
Tuesday, 1st September at 1:00pm  
Tuesday, 1st September at 3:30pm

This session will provide an opportunity to explore likely KCSIE 2026 updates alongside the Pol-Ed team and may be particularly useful for schools using training days to review safeguarding and PSHE provision ahead of the new academic year.



#### Updates & Developments

We've continued updating and expanding resources across the platform, including:

##### New assemblies

- Staying safe in busy places
- Screen free time
- Online challenges

##### Updated Lessons

- Year 2 - Why are relationships important?
- Year 3 - What are emergency services?
- Year 7 - What is an addiction?
- Year 9 - What is consent?

All resources are available now through the Pol-Ed website.



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Here at St Joseph's RC High School, we have been implementing Pol-Ed lessons into our personal development curriculum for the past academic year, and we are extremely impressed with the platform and content it provides us. The lessons are easy to follow, professional and relevant, allowing all our pupils to have engaging, thought provoking and meaningful personal development lessons that hit all of the relevant DfE requirements.

Staff are also appreciative of having a platform that reduces their planning time but is of high quality that keeps their classes engaged throughout. We will continue to use Pol-Ed for the foreseeable future and look forward to the content updates that keep the delivery fresh and constantly relevant. A thank you again to Pol-Ed for all their hard work.

**Mr M Houldsworth**

*Teacher of Physical Education*

### Onboarding new forces

Pol-Ed is pleased to announce that it is now available in 19 force areas across England.

Our latest forces to join are:



- Hampshire and Isle Of Wight - 8th June
- Avon and Somerset - 25th June
- South Yorkshire - 29th June

We are excited to welcome them onboard, and to continue to reach as many children as possible, with the aim to keep them safe.





We always welcome feedback and suggestions for future lessons, assemblies, and resources. If there is anything you would like to see on the platform, please do get in touch.

### Tag us on social media

Facebook.com/PolEd.UK   
LinkedIn.com/company/pol-ed 

### Find out more

[www.Pol-Ed.co.uk](http://www.Pol-Ed.co.uk)   
[pol.ed@westyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:pol.ed@westyorkshire.police.uk) 

Thank you for your continued work supporting young people.

The Pol-Ed Team



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## ST AIDAN'S



## PRIMARY ACADEMY

# EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

## Arriving Late & Leaving Early Impacts Your Child's Learning

### ARRIVING LATE

Missed classroom instructions, important notices, and the start of the daily lesson.



### DISRUPTION FOR EVERYONE

Impacts the child leaving:  
Missed work.

Impacts the children in class: ?  
The lesson flow is interrupted, and attention is broken.

Impacts the teachers:  
Re-explaining or pausing the lesson for all students.



### LEAVING EARLY (e.g., Appointments)

Missed conclusion of the lesson, final review, and essential summary information.



### APPOINTMENTS

Appointments should be arranged out of school hours whenever possible.



**PROOF REQUIRED:**  
Please provide a copy of the appointment letter or text to the School Office.

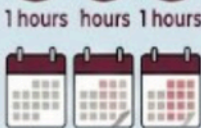


### MISSING TIME ADDS UP!

Just 10 minutes late/early a day  
= Over 1 hour missed a week!



This adds up to many missed lessons and critical learning opportunities over the school year. Frequent Frequent absence harms progress.



### MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

St Aidan's values community. We have occasional, planned visits to church or within the local community, such as the library. It is crucial to give notice for early collection, without notice, your child may be out of school on a community and unable to be collected until the class resitue. We cannot prioritize early collection requests that disrupt these pre-arranged educational activities.





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## ALWAYS


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**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS**  
**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REPORTING**

### ILLNESS AND UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES REPORTING

Like all schools, we have a statutory duty to report child illness and unauthorised absences to Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. Regular school attendance is a legal requirement.


- 

**1 ILLNESS ABSENCE**

Please inform the school on the first day your child is sick. Keep us updated on their progress.
- 

**2 UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES**

When a child is absent from school without an agreed reason, this is recorded as an unauthorised absence.

**OUR DUTY TO REPORT** >>> 

We must report patterns of absence to the Local Authority. Specifically, we have a **statutory duty to report child illness after a total of 15 days, and unauthorised absences after a total of 10 days**

**WORKING TOGETHER FOR YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE**  
Support regular attendance.  
Please see our school attendance policy for guidance

