



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 14th February 2025

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Hargreaves

Dear parents and carers,

Happy Friday and happy half term!

As you know, we have had Ofsted in school this week and I will share the outcomes with you as soon as the official report is published. In the meantime, I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to this week. Staff, children, parents, our multi academy trust, our governors, the diocese and local authority have collectively shown what a strong family we are when we work together. This week we have been guided by love, a value we have celebrated in school today by wearing red and creating art work. The Bible reminds us in Colossians 3:14, "*And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*"

Have a safe and restful half term. School reopens for Spring 2 on Monday 24th February.

Mrs Harrison

Outward Bound Residential Trip

Two places have become available on the Outward Bound residential trip in April 2025. The cost of the trip is £190. If anyone is interested please speak to Mrs Harrison or the school office.



**THE
OUTWARD
BOUND TRUST**



Dates for the Diary



Monday 24th February

School reopens—8.40am

Outward Bound Parents' meeting 2.15pm

Thursday 6th March

World Book Day

Monday 10th March-Friday 14th March

DT & Art week-Years 4/5/6

Monday 17th March

Last week of afterschool clubs

Monday 31st March

Outward Bound Residential

Wednesday 2nd April & Thursday 3rd April

Parents' Evening



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Zip World—Windermere

We have been given an amazing opportunity for some of our families to experience going to Zip world in Windermere. The transport and 2 activities is included at a HUGELY subsidised cost of just £10 per person. This is taking part in the half term on the 22nd February. Places are on a first come, first served basis. All children **MUST** have a parent or carer with them. Please contact Uzma at fourseasonsoutdoors.CIC@gmail.com

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 9th April

Easter Bingo

Thursday 10th April

Easter Service in Church-Y4

School closes 1.15pm

Tuesday 22nd April

School reopens 8.40am



Talk and Tales

Talk and Tales will **NOT** be on for Year 2 on Tuesday 25th February. It will resume the following week, Tuesday 4th March.



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

www.staidansblackburn.co.uk



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Children's University Half Term Challenges

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

Go on a walk (or bike ride) with your family. Draw a map of your journey. Include pictures of places you went past.



Make some pancakes! What is your favourite topping?



How many words can you find from "FEBRUARY HALF TERM"?



Find out about 2 different types of birds that you might see in your garden. Draw a picture and write down a bit about them.



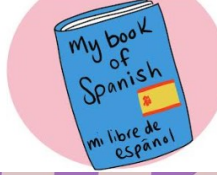
Create your own dance routine and perform it to your family or friends.



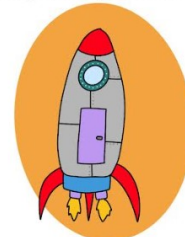
In February, we have National Pizza Day. Have a go at creating your own pizza menu for a restaurant. How many different pizzas are you going to offer?



Create your own phrase book for a language of your choice. Remember to have at least 12 different words or phrases.



Draw your own space rocket.



February Half Term Challenges 2025

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.



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ALWAYS

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World Book Day

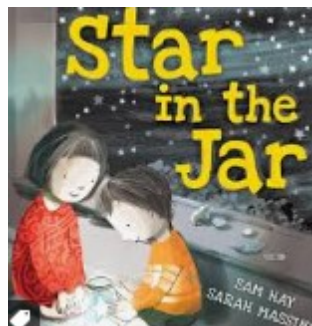
World Book Day this year is on Thursday 6th March, The theme is 'Story In The Jar' which is based on a book called *Star In The Jar*.

We would like children to come dressed as their favourite character from a book of their choice. Their chosen story can also be told in a jar.



Children have knowledge of books and have read a range of books in class. You could ask them about these at home for some more ideas.

There will also be a 'Story In The Jar' competition. The winners will receive a Waterstone voucher and will be taken into town to spend it with Mrs Harrison! A Costa visit, whilst discussing the book, will also be included. Good luck!





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Free Half Term Activities For Families

Darwen activities—<https://darwentowncentre.co.uk/>

Blackburn activities—<https://discoverblackburn.co.uk/>

WORKSHOPS WITH CATH FORD
ALL SESSIONS 12 PM TO 3 PM

TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY
Make a bird finger puppet or headress using scrap paper and card inspired by the bird collection

WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY
Decorate a wooden heart inspired by the Lancashire Rose

THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY
Use scrap paper and card to create your own mask inspired by Picasso and the Cubist artists.

OBSCURA DARKROOM
Take an old-school selfie using a 70-year-old large-format camera, learn about the traditional photographic process, and capture your portraits on 4x5 paper negatives. These will be displayed on an expanding photo wall throughout the Museum's 150th year. At the end of the exhibition, participants can collect their original portraits from the museum.

ALSO AT THE MUSEUM
A range of free, family friendly activities including: "Get Crafty sessions", still life drawing, trails, and quizzes. Inspired by the local work in the ART OPEN 2025 exhibition.

FAB LAB MAKING ROOMS
EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10 AM TO 6 PM
Fab Lab Blackburn Open Days at The Making Rooms enable anybody to come and try designing and making things using some pretty advanced but easy-to-use equipment, such as 3D printers, laser cutters, and lots more.

1 EXCHANGI STREET, BB1 7JN

Read Now Write Now

CLIMATE CHAMPIONS
Learn about climate change and get creative by writing a short, inspiring story and designing an illustration on a postcard for display across Blackburn with Darwen libraries to inspire others to become Climate Champions.

BLACKBURN PRINT RALLY
Visit all four locations across town to build up your own Blackburn print. Stamp four different colours at four different stations across town to complete an amazing keepsake design.

IAN HALAWI
FRIDAY 21 & SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY
DROP-IN BETWEEN 11 AM & 3 PM

BLACKBURN CENTRAL LIBRARY MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 10.30AM TO 12.30PM
DARWEN LIBRARY MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2PM TO 4PM
ROMAN ROAD LIBRARY THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY 9.30AM TO 11.50AM

discoverblackburn.co.uk | spotonlancashire.co.uk | blackburnmuseum.org.uk

SPOTON | DARWEN MARKET | BMAG Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery | THE MAKING ROOMS | BLACKBURN MARKET

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FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY HALF-TERM

CRANKE BOX

DARWEN MARKET | **BLACKBURN MARKET** | **BLACKBURN MUSEUM & ART GALLERY** | **DARWEN LIBRARY** | **BLACKBURN LIBRARY** | **ROMAN ROAD LIBRARY**

ALICE ROWBOTTOM CRANKE MAKING
CRANKE BOX

DARWEN MARKET MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY
BLACKBURN MARKET WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY

Make your own cranke theatre to take away. Crankies are a way of telling stories with pictures. Draw, craft and create your very own cardboard cranke theatre. DROP IN BETWEEN: 11 AM & 3 PM

DARWEN MARKET WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY
BLACKBURN MARKET FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY

THE MAKING ROOMS SEED-BOMB WORKSHOP

We'll craft sustainable seed bombs using recycled cardboard. Discover how to spread a little flower power while learning fun and eco-friendly ways to make a difference. Let's make something beautiful for the planet together! DROP IN BETWEEN: 11 AM & 3 PM

GOOFUS THEATRE **DARWEN MARKET** FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY
BLACKBURN MARKET SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY

WHERE DO THE NOSES GROW?
Come and join Lucy for a fantastical journey full of strange encounters to the island of noses where the strange nose rose grows.

HALF-HOUR PERFORMANCES AT 11 AM, 12 PM, 1PM & 2 PM

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

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Christmas Pantomime 2025—Snow White

Our yearly trip to Blackburn Empire Theatre to watch the Snow White Pantomime is on Monday 1st 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.



School Council Easter Bingo

We are pleased to be holding our annual School Council Easter Bingo night again. This will take place on Wednesday 9th April from 6.00pm - 8.00pm in the school hall. The first game will start at 6.15pm.

More information to follow with details on how to book your tickets



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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 **96.67%**



Well done to Year 3 who had the best attendance in the school last week!

Enjoy your extra playtime!



Weekly Attendance

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
83.33%	92.59%	96.15%	96.67%	92.86%	91.07%	92.86%



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Congratulations

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

	Stars of the week	Value's In Practice award winners (V.I.P's)
Reception (Miss Keegan)	Boris & Hareem The whole class	Abdul
Year 1 (Miss Kay)	Lacey & Nana The whole class	Lochlan
Year 2 (Miss Brindle)	Texas & Aliza The whole class	Lolita
Year 3 (Mr Eccles)	Asma & Luella The whole class	Ashleigh
Year 4 (Mrs Picken)	Emily & Lola The whole class	Geraldine
Year 5 (Mrs Moss)	Mayada & Sienna The whole class	Huriya
Year 6 (Miss Cornall)	Harvey & Cooper The whole class	Cameron
	All Staff	

Kind Regards,

K. Harrison

Headteacher