



# St Aidan's

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

Newsletter  
**32**

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



**Friday 23rd May 2025**

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Hargreaves

## **Outward Bound Meeting for 25/26**

***An exciting opportunity for all current year 4 and 5 pupils!***

We are extremely fortunate to have The Outward Bound residential experience available to our current year 4 and 5 pupils at Ullswater in the Lake District In March 2026.

As we detailed in our recent online form ,we wanted to gauge the interest for next years popular trip. There seems to be enough interest for the trip to go ahead and so we are holding a meeting in the school hall on Friday 13th June at 2.45pm for all current year 4 and 5 pupils and their parents.

Please join us to hear about the trip and all the fun activities that are on offer. It's a fantastic opportunity for the children.

In the meantime the payment details for the deposit are now available to pay via the Teachers2Parents app. The deposit amount is £43.00 which will secure your child's place and must be paid no later than Friday 4th July 2025.

## **Talk and Tales Years 1 and 2**

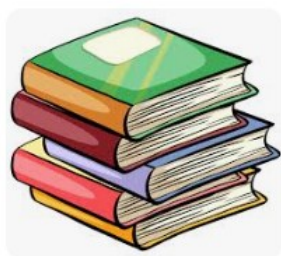
The sessions will run on the following dates after the half term break:

Tuesday 10th June

Tuesday 24th June

Tuesday 8th July.

Please keep an eye on updates/reminders posted on class dojo





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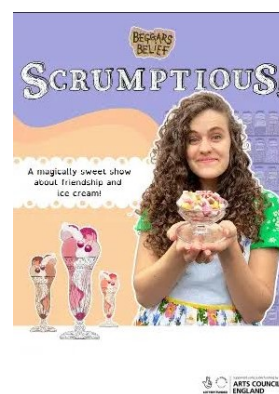
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## **SCRUMPTIOUS in school!**

We're thrilled to offer our children a fantastic opportunity to see the delightful theatre show, 'SCRUMPTIOUS!' This charming and funny musical play explores themes of change and friendship through the story of Sylvie and her sweetshop. We thought this was a great time for the show as our Reception-Year 5 children prepare themselves to move into new class and for our year 6 children who head off to high school.

Thanks to Arts Council England funding, we can bring this high-quality show from Beggars Belief Collective (part of the renowned M6 Theatre for Children programme) to our school for a significantly reduced cost on Monday 14th July 2025. To make this special event happen for our children, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of just **£1 per child**.



Payment is to be made via the Teachers2Parents app no later than Monday 30th June.

## **Father's Day in Reception class**

Please join us on 12th June at 2.30pm for a Stay and Play session, Story Time and Donut!





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## Free Active Programme for May Half Term

Active Seasons is back, bringing FREE, unique activities to keep you and your family active throughout the school holidays !!

Locations include:

Witton Park

Blacksnape Darwen

Corporation Park

Queens Park

Some activities need booking



Click the link



<https://shorturl.at/7EAxN>

Separate booking link for Mini Beast Hunt at Witton Park



<https://ribbletrust.org.uk/volunteer/#upcoming-events>

<https://ribbletrust.org.uk/volunteer/#upcoming-events>

Please contact Leanne at [leanne@thebillyproject.co.uk](mailto:leanne@thebillyproject.co.uk) for more information

 <b>MAY HALF TERM</b> <b>FREE ACTIVITIES</b> <b>27TH - 29TH MAY</b>			
<b>BOOK = BLUE</b>		<b>TURN UP = PINK</b>	
<b>WITTON PARK</b> Tuesday 27th	<b>BLACKSNAPE DARWEN</b> Wednesday 28th	<b>CORPORATION PARK</b> Wednesday 28th	<b>QUEENS PARK</b> Thursday 29th
<b>RIVERFLY MINIBEAST HUNT</b> 10AM - 3PM 	<b>NATURE ART WALK</b> 12PM - 2PM 	<b>FAMILY SPORTS DAY</b> 12PM - 2:45PM 	<b>FAMILY SPORTS DAY</b> 12PM - 2:45PM 
<b>LD/A SENSORY STROLL</b> 10:30AM - 11:15AM 	<b>BLACKBURN EAGLES FUN DAY</b> 12PM - 3PM 	<b>FAMILY FAIRY TRAIL</b> 12PM - 2:30PM 	<b>FAMILY CRAFTING</b> 12PM - 3PM <b>ASDA</b>
<b>CHILDREN'S SKATEBOARD SESSIONS</b> 12PM - 3PM 	<b>FAMILY GAMES</b> 1PM - 3PM 	<b>BIG BIKE REVIVAL CYCLE SESSIONS</b> 10AM - 3PM 	<b>WATER SCAVENGER HUNT &amp; GAMES</b> 12PM - 3PM 
<b>CYCLE ROUND THE TRACK</b> 11PM - 12.30PM 	<b>YZ FAMILY OUTDOOR GAMES</b> 12PM - 3PM 		<b>LITTER PICK ACTIVITIES</b> 12PM - 3PM 
			<b>ZUMBA + CARDIO CHAIR EXERCISE</b> 1PM - 2:30PM 

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

[www.staidansblackburn.co.uk](http://www.staidansblackburn.co.uk)





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## Children's University Half Term Challenges

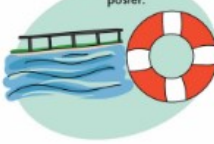


**Remember, ALWAYS ask your parent or carer before doing any of the challenges!**

On 29th May it is National Biscuit Day! Why not decorate your own biscuits to celebrate?



It is important to be safe when near water. Create your own water safety poster.



Have a go at writing your own song and perform it to a family member or friend.



On 5th June it is World Environment Day. Can you write down 6 things you can do as a family to help the environment. Remember to put them into practice too.



Summer is nearly here, meaning plants and flowers are blooming, but how do plants grow? Write a fact sheet with drawings to show the life cycle of a plant.



Become a scientist! Have a go at doing your own science experiment. You could visit the library to find some books to help you. Remember to write down what you did and what you found.



Get sketching! Draw a picture of someone in your family.



It has been rather nice recently. How many words can you find from "WE LOVE THE SUNSHINE"?





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## Dates for the Diary

**Friday 23rd May**

**School closes for half term  
3.20pm**

**Monday 9th June**

**School reopens 8.40am**

**Thursday 12th June**

Father's Donuts for Dad's  
2.30pm

**Friday 13th June**

Outward Bound parents  
meeting 2.45pm

**Monday 16th June**

Sports day

**Thursday 3rd July**

Moving up day (Rec-Y5)

**Thursday 10th July**

Y6 Leavers Production 2pm &  
6pm

**Friday 11th July**

## Dates for the Diary

**Thursday 17th July**

Leavers service in church 2pm

**Friday 18th July**

Awards Assembly

**School closes 1.15pm**



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## Overdue Balances on SchoolMoney



**PAYMENT REMINDERS:** There is currently a lot of outstanding debt on pupil accounts for school dinners, breakfast club and trips. Balance reminders are sent out weekly.

We would like to kindly request that all outstanding balances are paid via SchoolMoney before school closes for the summer break on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025**. We must point out that any outstanding debt after Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July will be sent to Cidari Multi Academy Trust for debt recovery.

## Sports Day



St. Aidan's annual Sports Day will be held in the school playground on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June.

Infants (KS1) will start at 10.30am and Juniors (KS2) will start at 1.15pm.

The children will be competing in their house teams, so if you have a T-shirt in their house colour, can they please wear it. **Please do not buy one specifically for Sports Day** they will be able to wear their PE kit. The children can come to school dressed in their PE kit and if the weather is hot, please ensure that your child wears a sun hat or cap and brings in sun cream and a bottle of water.

**If we have to postpone due to bad weather we will send a text to all parents/carers.**

Parents/Carers are invited to watch. Please sign in at the office first. We look forward to seeing you!





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## ALWAYS

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### Newsletter

**Mental Health Support Team**

May 2025

**MHST? Who are we?**

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) provides an accessible service for students from primary age to year 13 who may be experiencing a range of mild to moderate difficulties with their mental health.

The teams are based within education settings and cover Year 1 to Year 11 in Blackburn with Darwen and Burnley, Burnley College, Year 1 to Year 6 in Pendle and Year 7-13 in Hyndburn, Rossendale and Ribbles Valley (including Nelson and Colne and Accrington College).

If you have noticed your child is feeling frequently sad, worried or anxious and feel they may need support from our team, please speak to a member of staff at your child's school, who can support a referral to the service. You can also speak to your GP.

**Thankyou**

Hello everyone, we hope you are well and thank you for taking the time to read our Newsletter. This past half term staff from the MHST have been busy meeting lots of young people, parents, staff and new faces in schools and other settings. We are really enjoying meeting so many of you and we are very grateful for the warm welcome we receive in schools, children's centres and from other organisations we work alongside.

**Staff Introduction**

Hi, I'm Sharon and I am a Mental Health Practitioner in the BWD Primary Schools Team. I love my job helping young people take care of their mental health and also working with parents to help them support their children. When I'm not working, I love to be outdoors in the fresh air and sunshine with my own family and I love a good book!

Hi, I'm Catherine with a "C" I'm one of the primary EMTs, who has lived experience of neurodiversity and I love working with parents/CYP to support them to make positive changes. In my free time, I love walking my two dogs or being in my garden. I have 4 children and 4 grandchildren who keep me busy.

**Participation Event (BwD)**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> May 11am-3pm we will be hosting a Participation Event at Blackburn Youth Zone. We are running this alongside our friends at Health Watch.

We would love to invite expressions of interest from any young people age 8-16 who are currently in school in Blackburn with Darwen. The event will be fun and we are looking forward to hearing the voice of young people. If you know of anyone who would be interested in this event please email [Lia.naylor@lscft.nhs.uk](mailto:Lia.naylor@lscft.nhs.uk) for further information. Look out for more information on our social media pages and in schools.

**YOUR VOICE MATTERS**

Newsletter - we work as a group to create the newsletter and are always looking for new suggestions and content so if you have any please email us at [whatson@blackburnwithdarwen.nhs.uk](mailto:whatson@blackburnwithdarwen.nhs.uk)

Follow us for regular updates and helpful tips

[lscft\\_elcas](https://www.instagram.com/lscft_elcas) [elcas.mhst](https://www.facebook.com/elcas.mhst)

**EVENTS**

**SCAN ME**

### Mental Health Awareness Week

**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK**  
10-16 MAY 2025

The theme for the 2025 Mental Health Awareness week is 'community' and it will be all about celebrating the importance, power and value of being in a community.

Being part of a safe and positive community can really benefit our mental health and well-being. Communities can provide a sense of belonging and togetherness that can help fight loneliness and make us feel supported during difficult times.

**What is a community?**

A community can take many forms and can involve:

- People who live in the same area.
- A network of supportive people.
- Groups formed around shared interests, values, beliefs or cultural identities.

**Reasons why community is important for our mental health?**

- 1 Social connections can reduce isolation
- 2 Sense of purpose through community involvement.
- 3 Life feels more satisfying when you're part of a community.
- 4 Community can ease psychological distress.

**How to get involved in your community**

**Make it fun** - Join a club or a group that focuses on your interests.

**Get outdoors** - Go for walks, join a running or cycling group, or spend time in a community garden to feel more connected.

**Volunteer or give to charity** - Helping others can build a sense of community and give you purpose.

**Show kindness to others** - Chatting with your neighbours, greeting people at your local café, or starting a conversation at the bus stop can lead to new friendships.

### National Walking Month

**National Walking Month May 2025**, a campaign to encourage people across all ages and backgrounds to get outside and embrace the simple, yet profound health benefits of walking.

This month-long event is the perfect opportunity to explore the great outdoors, improve fitness, and connect with others in a healthy, enjoyable way.

**Improves your physical health**

Regular walking can help to:

- Reduce the risk of heart disease
- Improve your mood
- Help you to lose weight
- Improve your sleep
- Help you to live longer

**Supports your mental wellbeing**

Walking can help to:

- Reduce stress
- Improve your mood
- Help you to feel more energised
- Help you to live longer

**Walking**

**Helps the local environment**

Every mile walked instead of driven cuts out 0.2kg CO<sub>2</sub>

**Enhances community**

Walking can help to:

- Build relationships
- Improve your mood
- Help you to live longer

**How to Practice Mindful Walking**

1. Take a break from your phone
2. Focus on your breath
3. Notice the ground beneath your feet
4. Listen to the sounds around you
5. Feel the sun on your face
6. Notice the smells in the air
7. Feel the wind on your skin
8. Notice the colours around you
9. Notice the textures around you
10. Notice the tastes in your mouth

**Nature Scavenger Hunt**

Find a tree	Find a flower	Find a leaf	Find a rock
Find a bug	Find a bird	Find a bush	Find a stream
Find a pond	Find a path	Find a hill	Find a valley
Find a mountain	Find a lake	Find a forest	Find a field
Find a meadow	Find a garden	Find a park	Find a beach
Find a river	Find a sea	Find an ocean	Find a desert
Find a mountain	Find a lake	Find a forest	Find a field
Find a meadow	Find a garden	Find a park	Find a beach
Find a river	Find a sea	Find an ocean	Find a desert

**HOW DOES EXERCISE HELP Self-Regulation?**

Exercise can help to:

- Reduce stress
- Improve your mood
- Help you to feel more energised
- Help you to live longer

### Blackburn with Darwen ADULT LEARNING

**FREE Courses!! Click here**

**CLICK HERE**

**BLACKBURN & DARWEN YOUTH ZONE**

**YOUTH THRIVE**

**Parent Webinars**

**FREE** Thursday 10th May Parent Webinar 5pm - 7pm

**FREE** Thursday 10th June Parent Webinar 5pm - 7pm

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## Free Online Introduction to Deaf Awareness and British Sign Language



**Join us to learn more about BSL and effective communication with deaf people.**

In this one-off session you will be introduced to deaf awareness and British Sign Language (BSL). You will identify the barriers the deaf community face on a daily basis communicating in a hearing world. This session will cover tips on how to communicate more effectively with all deaf people. It will also teach you how to introduce yourself using British Sign Language and show you how you can continue to learn BSL independently after the session.

### Online

Tuesday 29th April  
1pm - 3pm

### Online

Wednesday 14th May  
6pm-8pm

### Online

Tuesday 17th June  
10am-12pm



**Use the QR code to enrol today!**



[hsc.lal@nelsongroup.ac.uk](mailto:hsc.lal@nelsongroup.ac.uk)

[www.lal.ac.uk](http://www.lal.ac.uk)

01254 354423





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## **Darwen Girls and Ladies Football Club**

**DARWEN GIRLS AND LADIES**

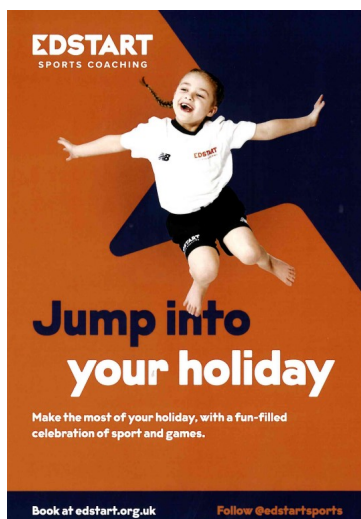


**We are looking for new players all ages and abilities**

Contact Nikki : 07948233751  
[DARWENGIRLSLADIES@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:DARWENGIRLSLADIES@HOTMAIL.COM)  
Facebook: Darwengirls#ladies

## **May Half term Holiday Club**

A multisports holiday club or super soccer school available to 4-12 year olds. Drop off from 7.3am-pick up by 5.30pm. For more information please visit [Blackburn@edstart.org.uk](mailto:Blackburn@edstart.org.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 this week is **84.9%**



Well done to Y2 who had the best attendance in the school last week!

Enjoy your extra playtime!



### Weekly Attendance

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
84.72%	93.48%	99.04%	93..49%	96.39%	87.5%	95.54%

### Weekly Lates

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
0	0	4	2	4	1	4



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**SAMLESBURY PLAY SCHEME**

**Back again for 2025  
In its 25th year!**

**Mon 28th July to Fri 1st Aug**

**Supervised FREE bus service from locations across East Lancashire**

**Want more? Check out Leyland Playscheme**

**Infants ages 5-7**  
Our youngest Playschemers enjoy the smallest groups with their own dedicated leaders and onsite activities such as Trampolines, Bouncy Castles, Sports, Messy Play and Arts & Crafts and trips offsite like Soft Play, Outdoor Adventures and Nature experience

**ML Major League ages 8-11**  
Come and join the big leagues in MML and participate in activities such as Onsite: Laser Tag, Trampolines, Pottery, Music, Dancing, CaveBus & The Big Show and trips like: Swimming, Bowling and Party Barge

**Teenz ages 12-14**  
Join the older end of Playscheme with our Teenz division. Join in the bigger trips and enjoy your own activities with that bit more freedom such as Onsite: Teenz Laser Tag, Bungee Trampolines, Silent Disco and trips like: Swimming, Bowling, Teenz Cinema and Roller Skating

**Only £85 for the week  
5 DAYS OF ACTION PACKED FUN**

**Book online for both schemes @ [playscheme.org](http://playscheme.org)**

## House Statistics

ALWAYS following the school rights this week.



HODDER	CALDER	BLAKEWATER	RIBBLE
96%	90%	90%	94%

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## Congratulations

	Stars of the week	Values In Practice award winners (V.I.P's)
<b>Reception</b> (Miss Keegan)	Pixie & Luke	Ronnie
<b>Year 1</b> (Miss Kay)	Praise & Farzad	Jaymee-Leigh
<b>Year 2</b> (Miss Brindle)	Mia & Szelena	Rai
<b>Year 3</b> (Mr Eccles)	Emily & Demilade	Lexi-Grace
<b>Year 4</b> (Mrs Picken)	Eamrey & Noor	Layla E
<b>Year 5</b> (Mrs Moss)	Inaya & Paige M	Abbie
<b>Year 6</b> (Miss Cornall)	Ahmad & Fraser	Jayden

Kind Regards,

*K. Harrison*

Headteacher