



St Aidan's Primary School

A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Greenwood

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Newsletter 36 – 28th June 2024

Outward Bound Meeting for 24/25

Reminder-The deadline for securing your child's place is today

There are still a few places available. If your child is interested in going, you will need to pay the deposit payment of £40 via Schoolmoney.

Please also complete the online consent form that was sent out before the half term break.



Attendance-changes to Penalty Notices

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to fixed penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence during term time.

These changes will come into effect on 19th August 2024.



The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19th August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of **£160 per parent per child**. This can be paid at **£80 if paid within 21 days**.
- A second penalty notice issued to the same parent, for the same child, within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days, with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice must be considered is set at **10 sessions** (equivalent to 5 days) of **unauthorised absence** within a **rolling 10-school week period**. This may include absences as a result of **arriving late after the register closes (after 9.30am)**. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions)

Dinner money charges

Unfortunately due to rising costs we are having to increase our dinner prices from £2.41 to £2.70 per day, £13.50 per week. This is effective from Tuesday 3rd September 2024.

Sports Day



We had a great time on Wednesday – the weather was very kind to us and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers come along to support their child/children.

Climbing Wall

On Monday we have the climbing wall coming to school. All children should come to school wearing their school t-shirt and jumper or cardigan with leggings, shorts or tracksuit bottoms.

Place2Be

Unfortunately, due to budget cuts and a lack of counsellors we will no longer be able to have Place2Be in school. We have worked with them to provide mental help support for many of our pupils and families for the last eight years. I would like to thank them for their help and support- they will be missed.

In September we are going to introduce Thrive. Which, for us, will be a way of implementing a whole school approach to mental health, involving, identifying and addressing the needs of pupils, staff and the wider community and creating an environment that removes barriers to learning in a more cost effective way. In line with Public Health England's 8 principles of a whole school approach, Thrive will provide expert training and an online tool that will empower us to not only promote mental health and wellbeing, but improve behaviour, attendance and attainment.

PrimeVR Workshop

PrimeVR will be delivering a virtual reality workshop on Tuesday 2nd July to all KS2 pupils. The workshops have been specifically designed for schools to help bring learning to life. There is a charge of £2.00 per child which is payable via Schoolmoney. Online permission forms have been sent out separately.

There are still quite a few payments outstanding despite several reminders. Please can I reiterate that if payment has NOT been received for your child by Monday afternoon then they will unfortunately miss out on the VR workshop.

Year 6

Year 6 are raising money for St Catherine's Hospice for their annual charity fundraiser by completing a sponsored 5k walk.

St Catherine's Hospice aims to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of adults, children and young people who have a terminal illness or life-limiting condition. They are a wonderful charity who help those who need it most.

There will be donation buckets on the playground at the end of each day next week and they will also be on the playground at sports day next Wednesday if any one has any loose change. Hopefully we can all work together and help to make a difference.

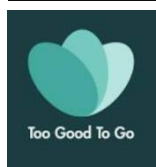
The link to the Just Giving page is below if you find this way easier to donate:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-aidans-5k-sponsored-walk-for-st-catherines-hospice>

Food parcels

A local businessman kindly donates 2 food parcels per week to school which are available to our families. If this is something you would be interested in and that could help during the current financial crisis please complete the form that was sent out via email to all parents or contact the office.

Too Good To Go App



This may be an ideal app for any one currently struggling with the increase in food prices. It's a great way to purchase food at very reasonable prices. Surplus food from your favourite restaurants/cafes and grocery stores is available to buy daily. All you have to do is download the app, search for a surprise bag near you from your chosen store, reserve it through the app and turn up at the store to collect it at the given collection time

Head lice



These cause much frustration amongst parents. Every school in the country has to constantly contend with this menace. **To try and control the spread of head lice our policy is to contact parents of children who are seen to have head lice so that they can be collected, treated and returned to school. In most cases a child can return to school the same day.**

Please remember, if head lice are found then it is important to check every family member in the household and to check again a week later.

Please note that **we will authorise a maximum of half a day's absence for head lice to be treated.** Thank you for your support in this.

FOUR STEPS TO LICE-FREE LIFE:



1: INSPECT

If you suspect head lice, check



2: TREAT

Use lice treatment product as directed.



3: REMOVE

lice/nits by combing the hair with the comb provided.



4: CLEAN

home and personal items.

Please can we ask that children with long hair try and keep it tied up tight, either in a ponytail or plait to try and prevent Head lice

Year 6 Transition days



All Year 6 pupils have transition days at high schools next week from **Wednesday 3rd July until Friday 5th July.**

Parents should have received letters from the high schools which provides general information about what the children should expect.

Pupils must be in full St Aidan's uniform unless told otherwise by the high schools.

School Milk

The parents/carers of pupils in the current Reception and Year 1 classes should have received an email this week with a link to complete the online consent form requesting whether or not your child requires milk in the autumn term (from September 2024). **It is extremely important that this form is completed by Monday 8th July,** to enable the office staff to order the correct quantity of milk for September.

If you do not complete the online form, milk will not be ordered for your child next term.

Talk and Tales Years 1 and 2

This is an opportunity for parents of children in years 1 and 2 to come into their child's classroom and enjoy the class story with them. A time to see oracy in action and engage with your child's reading.

The sessions are running every Tuesday at 3.00pm. Please sign in at the office.

Reception class 24/25

We still have a few places available. If you know of any one who has a child starting school in September who could be interested in starting at St Aidan's, they are very welcome to come and look around the school. Please contact the school office to arrange this.

Christmas Pantomime 2024 – Jack And The Beanstalk



Our annual trip to Blackburn Empire Theatre is now only 26wks away! This year we will be watching Jack And The Beanstalk Pantomime on Thursday 5th December. The cost of this trip is **£7.00** per pupil for our current Reception-Year 5 pupils.

We appreciate the current rise in living costs and we have found over the years that parents don't make the payment(s) until December, when this is already a busy and expensive time for everyone, so the payment is available on Schoolmoney. This gives you the opportunity to spread the cost into affordable weekly/monthly payments or alternatively pay the amount in full. It is nice to see that quite a few parents have already made the payment-thank you.

For example: paying just 50p per week for 14 weeks or £1.00 per month for 7 months will have one child paid well in advance and without feeling the pinch!

NHS Information

Did you know your local pharmacy can help with seven common conditions. Remember to visit your pharmacy first!

Bentham Road Pharmacy
 8 Bentham Road
 Blackburn
 BB2 4PN
 Tel: 01254 202870

NHS
 Providing NHS services

At Bentham Road Pharmacy, we can help you with seven common conditions

- **Sinusitis** (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- **Sore throat** (adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- **Earache** (children, aged 1 year to 17 years)
- **Infected insect bite** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Impetigo** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Shingles** (adults aged 18 years and over)
- **Urinary tract infection** (women, aged 16 to 64 years)

Ask us for more information about this free* NHS service

Visit your Pharmacy First!

*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied

Class Trips

As part of the pupils theme work, class trips have been organised for the following classes:-



- Y2 – Blackpool Tower/Beach**
- Y6-Liverpool Museum**
- Y6-Blackburn Cathedral**

Please note: A packed lunch will be provided by the school for pupils who normally have a school meal.

ALWAYS House Statistics

ALWAYS following the school rights this week:

HODDER	CALDER	BLAKEWATER	RIBBLE
100%	94%	92%	90%

Dates for the Diary

Y2 trip to Blackpool Tower/Beach
PrimeVR Workshop (KS2)
Transition days for high schools
Moving up day (Rec-Y5)
Y6 Leavers production (2.00pm & 6.00pm)
Y6 trip to Liverpool Museum
Reports to be sent home
Y6 Leavers service in Church 2.00pm
Y6 Leavers party 6.00pm
Awards presentation assembly
School closes for summer 1.15pm

Tuesday 2nd July
Tuesday 2nd July
Wednesday 3rd July-Friday 5th July
Wednesday 3rd July
Wednesday 10th July
Thursday 11th July
Monday 15th July
Thursday 18th July
Thursday 18th July
Friday 19th July
Friday 19th July

Kind regards

Mrs D Greenwood
Headteacher