



St Aidan's Primary School

A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Greenwood

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Newsletter 5 – 6th October 2023

Admission to Reception Class & Secondary School 2024

The online admission form for admission to Reception Class and Secondary schools in September 2024 is now 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 2019 and 31st August 2020), please ensure you complete the online admission form. The closing dates are:-

Secondary Schools – 31st October 2023

Primary School – 15th January 2024

It is extremely important that these deadlines are met as it can affect your chance of being offered your first choice school.

If you are applying for your child's secondary school place, please read your chosen school's admissions criteria carefully as last year we had some very disappointed pupils and parents who did not get accepted into their first choice of secondary school.

If you do not have access to the internet please contact the school office to arrange an appointment to complete the application online.

Afterschool clubs

Clubs have started this week. Lego club (Tuesday) is full but there is still availability on all other clubs. To book your child's place please contact the office.

All clubs finish at 4:15pm



CLUB	DAY	DATES	YEAR GROUP	COACH/TEACHER
Multisports	Monday	25 th Sept-4 th Dec	Y1/Y2	Sam
Lego	FULL Tuesday	26 th Sept-5 th Dec	Y3/4/5/6	Mrs Harrison
Multisports	Wednesday	27 th Sept-6 th Dec	Y5/6	Sam
Dance with BRCT	Thursday	28 th Sept-7 th Dec	Y3/4	BRCT

Meal arrangements



From **Monday 30th October** we are changing the way we operate school dinners. The children will be given a choice of the meals available each day and they will choose what they would like to eat for their dinner each morning.

If you would like to discuss the choices with your child you can view the sample menu's online via the link below. More information will follow.

https://files.schudio.com/st-aidan-s-primary-school/files/documents/001_SEPT_23_AW_23_24_PRIMARY_CORE_MENU.pdf

Outward Bound 2024



The deadline for paying the deposit and securing a place has now passed however there are still a few places available. If any children in years 5 or 6 would like to go please pay the deposit of £40.00 via Schoolmoney before **Thursday 19th October**.

The residential trip is taking place from 18th March 2024 - 22nd March 2024 to The Outward Bound Trust in Ullswater.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening is fast approaching. This is an important opportunity for you to come and talk to your child(ren)'s class teacher about the progress they have made so far this year. To give you more time to discuss your child's progress, Parents' Evening will be held over two days, Wednesday 18th October and Thursday 19th October.

Please make your booking via our online booking system - <https://staidanscofe.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

If you have any problems booking an appointment, please contact the office.

REMINDER

Years 1/2/3 DT Week



Years 1,2 and 3 will be taking part in a Design and Technology week starting on Monday. Please send £1 with your child so they can take home their finished product.

Flu Immunisation

Intrahealth, the immunisation team, is holding flu clinics over the half term to vaccinate children who have missed the flu vaccination in school. If parents/guardians want to book into one of the clinics, please call the office on 03333583397 Option 2, Option 2. They are also happy for parents/guardians to drop in with their children if they're in the area to get them vaccinated.



- **On 23/10/2023 from 9:15 am to 3:15 pm we will be at:
Shadsworth Children Centre, North Rd, BB1 2HR**
- **On 27/10/2023 from 9:15 am to 3:15 pm we will be at:
Darwen Family Hub, Lord st, BB3 0HB.**

Harvest service



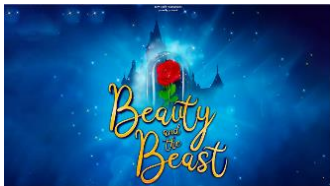
Thank you to year 5 for leading such a wonderful harvest service in Church this year. Thank you to all our parents/carers who came to the service and for sending in donations of food which will be passed on to the local foodbank to help support our local community.

St Aidan's Sports Crew

Look at our Sports Crew rocking their new jumpers! They work hard during playtimes making sure all the children have a fun, safe and enjoyable environment to play in



Christmas Pantomime 2023 – BEAUTY AND THE BEAST



We have booked a trip to Blackburn Empire Theatre to see Beauty and The Beast Pantomime on Thursday 7th December, for the whole school. The cost of this trip is £6.50 per pupil and is payable via Schoolmoney.

Don't forget we have split the payment into 6 instalments giving parents the choice to spread the cost over a period of time, making it more affordable. If you wish to make the payment in full you can

do so buy clicking on the '+' symbol against each instalment which will add a total of £6.50 to your basket.

Payment can be made anytime between now and 1st December.

The Lotus Mental Health

The Lotus Mental Health is a self funded charity based in Mill Hill Community Centre. They have authored 19 mental health books aimed at children, adolescents and young people and have opened the country's first and only drop-in centre for parents and carers of children and young people who are affected by mental health. For more information about the charity please visit:

<http://www.thelotusmentalhealth.org/>



Years 5 and 6

Lancashire Police are introducing a Mini Police Scheme in Blackburn with Darwen schools and St Aidan's has been selected. Children will learn all about policing issues, staying safe and undertaking some volunteering activities in support of a local policing priority.

If your child is interested please complete the form and return to school on Monday.

BBC 500 Words Challenge



Children's University are running a challenge for all CU members as part of the BBC 500 words competition. Why not take part. Visit the website for details on how to enter: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>



500 Words Challenge 2023

Does your child fancy a different Children's University challenge?

Are they aged between **5** and **11**?

Do they enjoy writing stories?

Would they like to collect extra hours for Children's University?

If the answer is **YES** then see more details below about the BBC **500** words challenge!

BBC 500 Words Competition: -



Children need to write a story which is **no more than 500 words**. The title is **NOT** included in the word count. Entries will be judged on **originality, the plot, characterisation, language and enjoyment**.

All stories must be typed up and submitted by a parent / carer via the 500 words website - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

When logging in you will have to **create a submission profile** (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/500wordscpetition/submissions-fe/index.html#/profile>).

Anyone who enters this competition can collect **2 hours** for Children's University. The only thing you need to do is email the story to s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk. Please note emailing it does not mean it has been entered into the competition, you must do this separately.

Remember children should plan their story carefully and it should not be rushed.

The competition closes at **8.00pm sharp on Friday 10th November 2023**. Please do not leave submitting entries until the last minute.

For further details please visit the website or contact Sara Burton on 07805929965.

See overleaf for details of the prizes!



The Prizes

Check out the wonderful [prizes](#) that you could win: -

- The grand final will take place in February 2024 at Buckingham Palace! The top 50 finalists will be invited, along with a parent or carer. The event will be featured in a special 500 Word programme with The One Show, on World Book Day on 7 March 2024.
- The two gold winners will receive the height of Sir Lenny Henry in books, as well as 500 books for their school. The two silver winners will receive the height of Her Majesty, Queen Camilla in books and the two bronze winners will receive the average height of a 7 or 11 year old in books.
- On top of this, BBC 500 Words have teamed up with six of the biggest and best children's illustrators to each design one of the six winners' stories. Axel Scheffler will design the gold winner of the 5-7 category, whilst Fiona Lumbers & Joelle Avelino will design the silver and bronze designs.
- Jamie Smart will design the gold 8-11 winner, whilst Sue Cheung & Steven Lenton are on board to design the silver & bronze winners respectively.
- Not only will they have their story bought to life, the six illustrated stories will be framed and each child will get a 500 Words winners' book to take home.

Remember to get 2 hours for Children's University an adult must email a copy of the story to s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk



Visit the BBC 500 words website for more information on the competition: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>



St Aidan's church

October 23



Rev. Cath's Reflection for October Homecoming

Last month I based my reflection partially on the England Ladies Football Team. We are aware that although they did extremely well, they were beaten in the final. Despite this many people wanted to acknowledge their achievement and went Heathrow to welcome them home, only to be disappointed. After a long journey from Australia and with no trophy to show they slipped out by a back exit. You hardly knew they'd returned. Certainly, there was no celebration, that was considered inappropriate.

However, not all homecomings are this low key. Over recent weeks, in my Facebook reflections, I've touched on the prophecies of Haggi and Zechariah, both of which focus on the return of the exiles from Babylon back to their homeland. An important part of their return involves the re-building of the Temple as a central point to worship God. The details of this project are told more fully in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah with an account of the worship and celebration that took place when it was finished.

On Sunday 1st October worship will once again be held in St. Luke's Church building. The building was closed for public worship on 1st July 2021 at the start of a major building project. Now I'm not suggesting that St. Wilfrid's Academy is the equivalent of Babylon; far from it but the homecoming service will be one of praise and celebration as God's people return to their spiritual home and everyone is welcome to the service. However, the ultimate homecoming for Christians is to our Heavenly Home. The end of the prophecy of Isaiah speaks about the forthcoming return from exile and the new heaven and the new earth. When writing to the church at Corinth St. Paul said, "While we are here on Earth we sigh because we want to live in our heavenly home". That's because, as Jesus observed, "We are in this world but not of this world". Many of our best loved hymns speak about our homecoming to Heaven. I have chosen words from two of them to finish with. In "Love Devine All Loves Excelling", it says, "Till in Heaven we take our place". And the "Old Rugged Cross" expands on this with the words, "Then He'll call me some day to my Home far away, There His glory forever I'll share". This is a homecoming which is certainly worth celebrating. Amen

SUNDAY	DATE	TIMES	SERVICE	READERS
17th of Trinity	1st	9.30 11.00	Communion No service at St Aidan's, the service will be at St Lukes to mark the reopening	
HARVEST	8th	9.30 & 11am	All Age	Paula
19th of Trinity	15th	9.30 & 11am	Communion	Elaine
20th of Trinity	22nd	9.30 & 11am	Communion	Malc

SATURDAY BRUNCH
OCTOBER 7th
11am - 1.00pm

HARVEST

SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER we are having a 'Songs of Praise Morning at 11am, with organ. We are going to decorate the church and any help or contributions of money would help.

CHRISTMAS FAIR NOVEMBER 18th

We need donations of : Christmas Gift bags, tombola and raffle prizes, bottles of drink, any item for Surprise parcels, teddy bears (second hand) Jewellery and chocolate.

100 CLUB

Thankyou everybody and especially Dorothy for running the '100 club', since January we have raised £400, this is amazing, well done

ALWAYS House Statistics

ALWAYS following the school rights this week:

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

Dates for the Diary

DT week Y1/2/3

Parents' Evening

School closes 3.20pm

INSET DAY – School closed to pupils

School reopens 8.50am

Monday 9th October

Wednesday 18th October/Thursday 19th October

Thursday 19th October

Friday 20th October

Monday 30th October

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 Rigby)	Farzad & Jacob H	Munachi
Year 1 (Miss Kay)	Delina & Benjamin	Amelia
Year 2 (Miss Brindle)	Lexi-Grace & Ellyjah	Alana
Year 3 (Miss Hunt)	Achillea & Tatum	Elise
Year 4 (Miss Yates)	Richelle & Emmie	Tawanda
Year 5 (Mrs Moss)	-	-
Year 6 (Miss Cornall)	Lennon & Harley	Blake

Kind regards,

Mrs D Greenwood
Headteacher