



# St Aidan's Primary School

## A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Greenwood

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

### Newsletter 7 – 20th October 2023

#### **Message from Mrs Greenwood**

It has been a very busy start to the year and we had a lovely surprise this afternoon when 2 players from Blackburn Rovers came to visit us. I hope you all have a great half term. We come back to school on the 30th October. We have lots of exciting activities planned for November and the lead up to Christmas in December. Make sure you read the newsletter so you don't miss anything!

#### **Head Boy & Head Girl**



Our head boy and head girl roles are very important with lots of responsibilities including;

- Working in conjunction with the School Council to make decisions about fundraising ideas
- Speaking at school events
- Welcoming guests and showing them around school



The pupils throughout school listened carefully to the speeches made by the Year 6 candidates and then they all took part in the elections. The votes were very close but we are delighted to announce:

**Head Boy – Andrei**  
**Head Girl – Krista**  
**Deputy Head Boy – Yousif**  
**Deputy Head Girl – Mia**

Congratulations to you all, we know that you will be fantastic representatives for St. Aidan's Primary School – A Church of England Academy.

**St Aidan's**  
Church of England Primary Academy  
A member of CDAR1

**Ofsted**  
Good Provider

**EVERY DAY IS AN OPEN DAY**

Selecting the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. To help you with this, we would like to invite you and your child into our school to discover what is truly special about our school and the education we provide.

Our informal guided tours take place during a normal school day, so you can meet our wonderful staff and children. Our Headteacher will take great pride in showing you around, giving you the greatest opportunity to see a school day in action.

**To book a personal tour please contact the school office - 01254 53148 or email [staoffice@cldarl.co.uk](mailto:staoffice@cldarl.co.uk)**

Norfolk Street  
Mill Hill  
Blackburn  
BB2 4EW

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020), please ensure you complete the online admission form. The closing dates are:-

**Secondary Schools – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**

**Primary School – 15<sup>th</sup> 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**

Lego club (Tuesday) is now 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 <sup>th</sup> Sept-4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y1/Y2	Sam
Lego	<b>FULL</b> Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup> Sept-5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y3/4/5/6	Mrs Harrison
Multisports	Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup> Sept-6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y5/6	Sam
Dance with BRCT	Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup> Sept-7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y3/4	BRCT

**Please note, afterschool clubs on Wednesday & Thursday next week (18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> October) are NOT on due to Parent's evening.**

## **Meal arrangements**



From **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** we will be 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.

Children will have the freedom to switch from packed lunches to school dinners and vice versa as and when they would like to.

**Please note:** If your child currently has a packed lunch but would like to choose the option of a school dinner from time to time, and they are NOT entitled to free school meals, payment will need to be made via Schoolmoney.

If you would like to discuss the meal choices with your child you can view the **sample menu's** online via the link below. New menu's will be uploaded at a later date and will also be available on class dojo on a weekly basis.

[https://files.schudio.com/st-aidan-s-primary-school/files/documents/001\\_SEPT\\_23\\_AW\\_23\\_24\\_PRIMARY\\_CORE\\_MENU.pdf](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 19<sup>th</sup> October**.

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

## **Parents' Evening**

Thank you to all of the parents/carers who attended parents evening this week.

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

### Y5/Y6 Jubilee Shield Qualifiers

A huge well done to our Year 5 & 6 Football team who represented school on Tuesday night in the Jubilee Shield at St Bede's High School. There was some excellent football played. We recorded 1 win, 2 draws and 3 unfortunate defeats. We are extremely proud of them all. Well done boys! ⚽



### Christmas Craft afterschool club



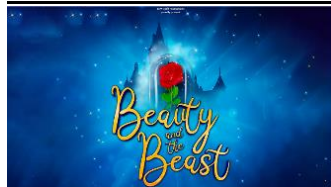
We are running a 4 week Christmas Craft afterschool club on a Thursday from 2nd November to 23rd November. This is currently only available to year 6 pupils. If this changes we will let you know. To book your child's place please use our online booking system: <https://staidanscofe.schoolcloud.co.uk/>  
Places are limited.

### Scholastic Book Club

Your child/children will have brought home a book club leaflet today. If you want to purchase any books please go direct to their website <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/st-aidans/digital-book-club> and place your order 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Orders will be delivered to school for free. If you would prefer for your order to be delivered to your home or an alternative address you can choose this option online but there will be a postage charge.

### 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 by 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 1<sup>st</sup> December.

### Poppies



Poppies will be on sale from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to raise money for The Royal British Legion. They will be sold for a **minimum donation** of 20p **per poppy**. You may also like to join us in Church on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November for a special Remembrance Service.

### Children In Need



On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November it is Children in Need, we will be having a non-uniform day for a donation of £1.00 per child or £2 per family.



## **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/>



## **Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures**



Your child/children will be bringing a toothbrush and toothpaste home today. This is to support initiatives in Blackburn with Darwen to improve the oral health of children.

## **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



## Edstart Sports Camp

Edstart sports coaching are running a multi sports holiday camp during half term. For anyone interested you must book your child's place via their website, <https://www.edstart.org.uk/franchise-areas/blackburn-with-darwen>



**Treat with new tricks**

October Half Term  
October 23 - 27  
9am - 5pm

Multi Sports Superstars  
Ages 4-11  
Feniscowles Primary School  
Livesy Branch Road  
Blackburn  
BB2 5EG

**EDSTART** @ X f  
edstartsports

Book now or find out more at: [edstart.org.uk](http://edstart.org.uk) For additional information please email [Blackburn@edstart.org.uk](mailto:Blackburn@edstart.org.uk)

## Fitness/Sports courses funded by Blackburn College



In partnership with **The BILLY Project**

### ON TRACK – SKILLS FOR SPORT @ BLACKBURN COLLEGE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BILLY PROJECT

Would you like to take part in a FREE\* fully funded programme at Blackburn College?

2 Week course  
Runs:  
9.30am – 3pm  
Days TBC

#### On Track - Skills for Sport

Starting after half term DATES TBC

Come and join the skills for work team at Blackburn College for an exciting course in fitness and sport, you will gain an accredited certificate awarded by NCFE, and you will study the following units:

- Health & Fitness
- How the body works
- Working in a team
- Assist in sports coaching
- Taking part in sport

You will also complete a Gym induction, take part in team games, sporting activities and fitness tests.

*For those with childcare sessions can run 10am-2pm*



Courses are free if claiming a benefit or earning less than £20,319 call 01254 292277 for more info, or email [skillsforworkhub@blackburn.ac.uk](mailto:skillsforworkhub@blackburn.ac.uk) or text 07435785561 or speak to Leanne @ The Billy Project

**Grace Pentecostal Church**

**Free** holiday club during October half term. Please see the poster below for more information. This club is NOT run by school.

**FREE CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB!**

# THE LIGHT FACTORY

MON 23RD TO FRI 27TH OCTOBER  
FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-11  
10AM TIL 12PM

GAMES DRAMA  
DANCES CRAFTS  
PRIZES CHALLENGES

**REGISTER NOW**

[WWW.GRACEPENTECOSTALFAMILY.CO.UK/SPECIALEVENTS](http://WWW.GRACEPENTECOSTALFAMILY.CO.UK/SPECIALEVENTS)  
GRACE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, WENSLEY ROAD, BLACKBURN, BB2 1QD  
01254 54541

**Community Bonfire and Fireworks Display**

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 6.00pm-8.00pm at Mill Hill Club

## Community Bonfire & Fireworks Display

Mill Hill Club  
Moorgate St. Blackburn BB2 4EZ

Onsite beer and food  
Saturday 4th November 6pm till 8pm  
Free Admission. Donations Welcome



**BLACKBURN children's UNIVERSITY**

## October Half Term Challenges 2023

**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.

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



**BE SAFE**  
Always wear gloves for sparklers  
**AT BONFIRES**

The nights are getting darker, find out about 2 animals which like to come out at night.

Write your own poem. This can be about anything you like.

Find out about our Solar System. Write 5 interesting facts.

**BLACKBURN children's UNIVERSITY**

Decorate some biscuits. Why not have a spooky theme?

Make your own chalk Bonfire picture, or create it using something similar.

Choose a famous person and find out 5 interesting facts about them.

Get designing! Design your own rocket! What things will it have inside? What will make it stand out in space?



## 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 Divine 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%	100%	100%	100%

### Dates for the Diary

#### School reopens 8.50am

Y4/5/6 DT week  
Vision Screening-Reception class  
High school application deadline  
Remembrance Worship in Church  
Children in Need-Non uniform day  
Snowball Disco  
Whole school Pantomime visit  
Infant Nativity (AM/PM)  
Christmas Jumper/Non-uniform day &  
Christmas Dinner  
Christmas parties

#### School closes 1.15pm

#### School reopens

#### Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

#### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

#### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January



## **Congratulations!**

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



	<b>Stars of the Week</b>	<b>Headteacher's Award Winner</b> Christian Values
<b>Reception</b> (Miss Rigby)	Jaymee-Leigh & Loulou	-
<b>Year 1</b> (Miss Kay)	Rylie & Qasim	Riley-Anne
<b>Year 2</b> (Miss Brindle)	Lexi-Lou & Nyla	Devon
<b>Year 3</b> (Miss Hunt)	Emily & Mason	Trixie
<b>Year 4</b> (Miss Yates)	Avery & Anas	Lucas
<b>Year 5</b> (Mrs Moss)	Riley & Lena	Harriett
<b>Year 6</b> (Miss Cornall)	Charlie Br & Blake	Lilly-Marie

Kind regards,

Mrs D Greenwood  
Headteacher