

October Half Term

School finishes today at 3.10 pm and reopens
on Monday 2nd November at 8.30 am.
Wishing you all a lovely half term break.





St Silas Newsletter 22/10/26



Upcoming Events

21st October
22nd October
23rd October
23rd October
2nd November

School Photos
Sammy Project Clothes collection
INSET day
School closes for half term
School Re-opens

Communications from School

We are now using Arbor to communicate with parents and will stop using Teachers to Parents to send text messages at the end of this month.

You will have received an email from Arbor to set up your account so that you can view information about your child and receive messages from the school. Please check your spam folder if you can't see the email.

If you miss doing this you will miss out on important messages and updates in the future





Poppy Appeal



Poppies are on sale in the school office for 50p each.
There are also other items for sale such as

- Slap band £2
- Silk bracelet £1
- Poppy keyring £1
- Pencils £1

You can send the money in with your child to purchase
at break and lunch times



Scholastic Book Club

Our new **Scholastic Book Club** is up and running! Go to <https://clubs.scholastic.co.uk/C-269HRGLL> to browse the latest books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards.

Please place your **order online by October 31st, 2026**.

Look out for the leaflets that will be coming home with your children.

Go on a
**BOOK
CLUB**
ADVENTURE



Captain Underpants art © Dav Pilkey Dog Man art © Dav Pilkey

Firework Safety Notice from Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service

Our advice is always to go to an organised bonfire event rather than have one in your garden but if you are having your own bonfire, please follow this advice to make sure everyone has a fun and safe Bonfire Night!

- Do not use accelerants to start the fire, even if the wood has become wet from recent weather
- Only buy fireworks from a reputable shop and ensure they are CE marked. Keep them in a closed metal box and ensure you follow the instructions carefully
- Place fireworks on a stable surface and light at arm's length using a taper, stand well back and never throw nor go back to a lit firework
- Do not burn household rubbish or white goods on a bonfire. Keep your bonfire within a cordon area away from fireworks, people, property, and trees
- Keep pets indoors and ensure children are safe and a good distance away from the fireworks
- Pour water on bonfire embers to ensure it is fully extinguished before leaving or going to bed
- If using sparklers, ensure they are held in a gloved hand at arm's length and there is a bucket of water to put them in once the sparkler is out
- If your clothes catch fire: Stop. Drop. Roll.

Vision Screening in Reception Class

Vision Screening in Lancashire

Vision screening is an integral part of the universal delivery of the national Healthy Child Programme.

Every child in the Reception class will receive an invitation to have their vision tested in school.

A detailed letter will be sent home with your child closer to the screening date.

Vision Screening in Lancashire

Vision screening will be taking place for the reception class children on

Tuesday 17th November 9.30 am

An Opt-out consent form will be sent home with your child closer to the screening date. If you do not receive one and wish to Opt-out, please contact the school.

Free School Meals

It is very important that you apply for free school meals for your children, even if you think you may not be eligible. The government have recently changed the criteria for those who apply. It is quick and easy to apply and you get an instant decision. This can mean the difference between paying for school meals or not!

Copy and paste this link into your browser to apply today.

<https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-and-pupil-support/free-school-meals>

School Uniform Reminder

School uniform is

- white polo shirt,
- grey skirt or trousers (grey tights may be worn)
- purple sweatshirt or cardigan
- black shoes/black trainers.

PE kit is

- white t-shirt,
- black joggers or shorts
- trainers or plimsolls/pumps.

We have plenty of pre-loved uniform in school, if you need any.



School Admissions

The deadline for submitting your applications for Secondary School is 31st October 2026.

The deadline for Primary School applications is 15th January 2027.

You must apply through Blackburn with Darwen council. Please copy and paste this link into your browser.

<https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions>



Holidays and Attendance

A reminder that **holidays will not be authorised** if taken during term time.

Any holidays taken for five or more days **will** incur a fine from the Local Authority. Please note that this money does not come to school

Please come and see Mrs Rehana Patel to discuss any holidays **before** you book a holiday.

- We are finding that a lot of children are arriving late and/or are not being picked up on time at the end of the day.
- School starts at **8:40am** - the school gates open at 8:30 to allow time for your child to make their way into class.
- If your child is late, then a parent must accompany them to school and sign a slip at the main entrance.
- School finishes at 3:10. A prompt pick up please as teachers often have after school clubs and/or meetings to attend.
- We have breakfast club from 7:45 if needed. Please see Mrs Patel if you would like to attend.



St Silas News

Latest News



Year 4 Gymnastics

Look at our amazing Year 4 gymnasts.



Science in Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about solid objects. We learnt the properties; twist, bend, stretch and bend. We use visuals to help us learn scientific words.



Care Home Tea Party

Alder class have a class campaign about loneliness in the elderly. A part of their campaign they invited our local care home for afternoon tea. Our children enjoyed talking to our visitors, playing games with them and reading them a story.

Our website is constantly being updated and has lots of news from across our school. Your child's teachers regularly add photographs of trips and lessons

These news items can be found on our website:

<https://stsilasprimary.co.uk/news>

Please do look and enjoy.

Don't forget our Instagram page where you can catch up with the latest activity in school.



@STSILASBLACKBURN

Childrens University



OCTOBER HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

If you have signed your child up to any of the activities please make sure you know where and when the activities are taking place as reminders are not always sent. Please check your confirmation email for all the details. If you have any questions please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965 (please leave a message if there is no answer).

CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY HALF TERM CHALLENGES

These have been shared (<https://tinyurl.com/BCUOct26Challenges>). If your child completes any of the challenges please remember to send any evidence to Sara Burton via s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk or 07805929965. You must still remember to send your child's CU passport in to school so it can be updated. If you prefer you can send the evidence of the challenges into school together with your child's CU passport after the holidays.

PUBLIC LEARNING DESTINATIONS AND BLACKBURN CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY

If your child attends any clubs or activities out of school please note there is the possibility of them collecting stamps and hours in their Children's University passport. Providers must be a 'Learning Destination' to be able to do this and cannot just sign a passport. Please see the information sheet which can be given to any external clubs and providers: <https://tinyurl.com/LDInfoSheetBCU>. If they are not currently part of Blackburn Children's University please ask them to contact Sara Burton on s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk for further details and to get signed up!

WOMEN'S FITNESS CLASSES

If you have signed up to the women's fitness class at Wensley Fold please remember this will start after the half term holidays. A reminder will be sent out before the first session.

Childrens University



BLACKBURN HAWKS ICE HOCKEY GAME

If you have signed your family up to this please remember it is taking place THIS Saturday 24th October. If you have any questions please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965 (please leave a message if there is no answer).

BLACKBURN LIBRARY – DESIGN A NEW LIBRARY CARD COMPETITION

Help create a unique library card for Blackburn with Darwen Libraries. The library is inviting children. Young people and adults across the Blackburn with Darwen community to take part. The winning design will be professionally adapted and printed on future children's library membership cards. Art work must be original and entries should be submitted on the official template, which must be collected from the library. The deadline for entries is 2nd November. Pop down to your local library for further details and to collect a template.

Further details can also be found at <https://bwdlibraries.com/special-event/help-design-our-new-childrens-library-card/>.

If your child is a member of Blackburn Children's University and they enter this competition they can collect a 1 hour stamp in their passport. Just remember to take a picture of their entry and send it to Sara Burton on 07805929965 or s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk.

FOUR SEASONS – NATURES LITTLE THINGS

Blackburn Children's University would like to share with you an exciting opportunity from Four Seasons. During November and December, they are running some family sessions with younger children who have not yet started school all about exploring the outdoors, and these are free! This FREE 6-week project combines a gentle walk with creative activities inspired by the natural world. Each week, you will have the opportunity to step outside, slow down and notice the little things around us. Please see further details below:

- **Where?** Meeting at Wensley Fold Primary Academy, Manor Road, Blackburn
- **Little ones are welcome!** If you're bringing a baby or young child, please bring a **pram or buggy** as part of the session will take place outdoors.
- The first session will be on Tuesday 10th November from 1.30pm – 3pm and will run for 6 weeks at the same time every week.
- **Spaces are limited, so booking is recommended. Please visit the website** (<https://fourseasonscic.co.uk/four-seasons-events/>) to sign up! You must book each session individually.



Children's Choice

Hawthorn: **Mahad**

Hornbeam: **Ebrahim**

Alder: **Farhan**

Beech: **Hamaas**

Rowan: **Mahir**

Hazel: **Radman**

Birch: **Maryam**

Willow: **Israa**

Cherry: **Uzair**

Ash: **Zulqarnayn**

Oak: **Zayn**

Beehive: **Husain Jameel**

Attendance

Week ending 22/10/26

This Week's Attendance

Congratulations to **Cherry class** with 99.66% attendance

Rowan had 98.46%

Hornbeam had 97.04%



Family Point Winners week ending 22/10/26

Family Point Winners

This week's points will be added to the first week back after half term



Family Point Winners This Term

Family	Wk 1	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Wk 5	Wk 6	Wk 7	Totals
Belonging	631	465	490	402	654	291	0	2933
Love	758	673	413	480	649	389	0	3362
Service	609	617	441	407	475	359	0	2908
Thankfulness	499	546	595	394	443	259	0	2736

