



St Silas

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

Newsletter 17.5.21

EID

We hope that everyone who celebrated Eid has had a lovely day. The children enjoyed celebrating Eid in school on Friday.

Covid

You will be aware that there has been a rise in Covid cases in the area. This rise is linked, in part, to a new Indian variant that spreads more easily.

As well as getting tested if you have symptoms, it is also vital that everyone in Blackburn with Darwen continues to follow the guidelines and the **'Hands, Face, Space, Fresh Air'** rules – as this is the most effective way to control the spread of all variants of coronavirus.

A number of cases of the Covid-19 variant first identified in India have been detected across the North West. It has now been classified as a 'Variant of Concern', however there is currently no evidence that it causes more severe illness, is more deadly or makes the current vaccines any less effective. Public Health England is currently working to understand this variant better.

The advice to everyone in Blackburn with Darwen is to be cautious of this rise in cases locally, and continue to follow the government guidance.

People living in Blackburn with Darwen, are **strongly encouraged to continue using free rapid testing twice weekly to keep themselves and their loved ones safe.**

There are plenty of places to get a test in Blackburn with Darwen, whether you have symptoms or no symptoms. Go here for more information: <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/get-a-test>

Following the identification of cases of this **Variant of Concern in the area that our school (BB2 6JP) is in** and neighbouring areas (Shear Brow & Corporation Park, Billinge & Beardwood and Bastwell & Daisyfield), Blackburn with Darwen Council is working closely with Public Health England and NHS Test and Trace to develop a programme of additional PCR testing and enhanced contact tracing for these areas.

From next Tuesday, 18 May, people who live, work or go to school in these postcode areas will be encouraged to take a PCR test over the next two weeks. 🧪

● BB1 6**

● BB1 7**

● BB1 8**

● and BB2 6**

Surge testing is increased testing in an area with higher rates of the virus, including testing people who don't have symptoms.

This will help us to understand whether the Indian variant has spread further in our community, and we're asking everyone who lives in these postcode areas to help us.

We're setting up three community hubs where residents can collect PCR test kits for themselves and others in their households, and then return them once they have completed them at home.

From tomorrow, these will be at:

● Revidge Fold United Reform Church, Shear Brow BB1 8DS (Mon to Fri 8am–6.30pm and Sat & Sun 10am–4pm)

● Corporation Park main entrance, Preston New Road BB2 6AH (Mon to Fri 8am–6.30pm and Sat & Sun 10am–4pm)

● Bangor Street Community Centre, Norwich Street BB1 6NZ (Mon to Fri 8am–6.30pm and Sat & Sun 10am–4pm)

If you are told to self-isolate due to Covid-19, you might be eligible for a Test and Trace support payment. Find out more here: <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/coronavirus/support-residents>

The BwD Help Hub is still operating to support anyone who needs help while isolating. The Council and its hub partners can help with getting access to food and other essentials, as well as supporting your wellbeing and offering finance advice. Visit www.blackburn.gov.uk/helphub or call 01254 588111.

If anyone living in your house has tested positive or has symptoms everyone living in your house must isolate. No child should be sent to school if someone in the house has symptoms or has tested positive.

This is to help us keep safe and return to normal as soon as possible. Thank you for your help.

Children's University

Children's University Passports

All CU passports that have been handed in are now being updated. Please note these will be returned by the end of next week. Please do ensure you look out for this as no responsibility will be held by the school once they have been returned.

Half Term Craft Packs

If you have ordered a craft pack for half term please note these will be sent to classes during the last week of this half term. Please look out for this. Any questions please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965.

May Half Term Activities

Please note these will be taking place online. An email was sent out last week with further details on. Sign up is available now and you have until next Tuesday 18th May to sign up on ParentPay.

School Clubs

Please note all school clubs finish next week, week ending Friday 21st May.

New School Club Sign Up

Oak, Willow and Cherry will be offered a club after the half term holidays. Letters will be going out to these classes on Monday. Clubs will run for 5 weeks and will be offered on a first come first serve basis. Any questions please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965.

Dates for the Diary

- 12/4 40 days of reflection starts on our Twitter account
- 26/5 Governors
- 28/5 School closes at 3pm

S.A.M. Star of the Week and Sports Star of the Week

Class	S.A.M. Award	Sports Star of the Week
Hawthorn	Noor	N/A
Hornbeam	Ahmad	N/A
Beech	Mohammad Hasan	N/A
Alder	Zain	N/A
Elder	Amelia	Alishba
Rowan	Andzela	Aisha T; Ibrahim G
Birch	Ismail	Mohammad-Amin
Hazel	Aban	Raitus
Cherry	Sayaam	Zeynab
Willow	Blessing	Johana
Oak	Yusuf	N/A
Elm	Aminah	
Ash	Anastasia	Hussein (Elm)

Twitter

Please follow our Twitter account. https://twitter.com/StSilas_Primary to keep up to date with events in our school.



Loving God and each other, we work together to be the best that we can.