



St Silas

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

Newsletter 19th July 2024



Wishing all our children and their families a very happy and restful summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you again in September.

Alder Class Charity Walk

On Wednesday 17th July the children in Alder class, accompanied by PCSO Steve went on a sponsored walk around Corporation Park. This was to raise money for the North West Air Ambulance charity and they raised an impressive amount of £648.65!



School Meals Price Increase



Unfortunately, due to the rising food costs, we will need to increase our school meal price after the Summer holidays. We have always tried to keep our meal prices affordable to our families, however the current meal price is no longer covering these rising costs.

To ensure we can continue to fund a high-quality service that delivers healthy, nutritious meals, caters for all allergens and dietary requirements, and is served in a safe environment on our school premises, we will be increasing our meal price to £3 per day, £15 per week, from September 2024. The breakfast club cost will also rise to £1.50 per day, £7.50 per week but it will still be free to those children who are on free school meals or pupil premium.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to receive free school meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme.

If you feel that you may be entitled to apply for free school meals for your children please speak to someone in the office.

Changes to Education Related Penalty Notices

Important Update

The Department for Education has recently announced national changes to fixed penalty notices issued for unauthorised absences in term time.

Changes to be aware of are:-

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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-week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
4. 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)



CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY PASSPORTS

If your child is a member of Blackburn Children's University and you have handed their passport in for the school clubs please note all passports have now been returned. Please do make sure you look out for this as once they are returned no responsibility will be held by the school. Please inform Sara Burton straight away if your child has not had their passport back, do not leave it until they are back in September.

SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES CONFIRMATION AND CONSENT FORM

If you have signed your child up to any of the summer holiday activities or trips please make sure you know when and where they are taking place. Please check your email confirmation as reminder texts are not always sent. If you have any questions please do contact Sara Burton on 07805929965 (if there is no answer please leave a message).

TESCO STRONGER STARTS – BLACKBURN CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY VOTE

Blackburn Children's University have been successful for the Tesco Stronger Starts Scheme and have been put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores (Blackburn Superstore, Bank Top, Roe Lee, Livesey and Darwen Express). Voting has started in store and will continue until Monday 30th September 2024. The voting is to help fund Blackburn CU holiday activities including cooking as well as a variety of sport and wellbeing activities so children can have fun and learn new skills. Please look out for this if you visit any stores and pick up a token to cast your vote!

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Details will be sent out about the Summer Reading Challenge taking place over the summer at Blackburn Library. If your child is a member of Blackburn Children's University and completes this challenge please remember to bring their certificate and their passport to school in September so it can be stamped with 6 hours for completing.

BLACKBURN CU SUMMER HOLIDAY CHALLENGES

A copy of the Children's University holiday challenges will be sent later today. If your child completes any of these CU Challenges over the holidays please ensure you send the evidence to Sara Burton on 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, please hand to the school office. If you prefer you can send the evidence of the challenges into school together with your child's CU passport so it can be checked and updated.

MASTERS OF MARTIAL ARTS – SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER

Join Masters of Martial Arts in Blackburn Town Centre for the Martial Arts Summer Challenge! This exciting course is perfect for developing your martial arts skills, meeting new people and being part of our inclusive community. Commit to weekly sessions, covering the entire school holidays, and give your children a fun, productive way to spend their summer.

Special offer: the course price is halved from £40 to just £20 for 4 weeks training! Plus, as you may miss a couple of weeks whilst away, we're adding 2 extra weeks for free - so you'll not be paying for those classes. Sessions run on our normal training days: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday evenings, and Saturday daytime. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to train, grow, and have fun this summer. Reserve your spot today and become part of our supportive community dedicated to excellence and personal development.

The Challenge commences on Saturday 20th July through until Thursday 29th August 2024. Just purchase your ticket for the day of the week/session you prefer using this link:

<https://portal.nestmanagement.co.uk/event/index?e=aDFJeIJzcFJOTDdsU2djRVowRk5yQT09>

Little Dragons classes for ages 4, 5 & 6 are Mondays at 5.30pm, Tuesdays at 5.15pm, Thursdays at 5pm and Saturdays at 1.30pm & 4.15pm. Junior classes for ages 7 to 15 are every Monday at 6.30pm, Tuesdays at 6.15pm, Thursdays at 6pm and Saturdays at 3.15pm.

Contact Sensei's Phil or Pam on [07813 249789](tel:07813249789) for more details. Children's University members can collect stamps in their passport too!

This Week's Attendance



The winning class this week is **Willow with 95.71%**

Birch had 95.69% and Hawthorn had 95% attendance

If your child is absent from school you **MUST** ring the school office to let them know.

It is important that your child is in school by 8.40 am and they must be picked up at 3.10 pm every day.

Please note holidays are not authorised. If your child misses more than 5 days in school due to a holiday you are likely to be fined. If you are considering taking a holiday please book a meeting with the headteacher



Breakfast Club

Why not send your child to our Breakfast Club in the morning? They can take part in various activities and have their breakfast together before they go into class. They can come anytime from 7.45 and it only costs £1.50 a day. Please ring the school to book them in.

Family Point Winners

The table below shows the winning families highlighted in yellow.

Congratulations to **SERVICE** with 257 points. Thankfulness had 242 points, Belonging had 136 points and Love had 84 points

Family/Week	3.5.24	10.5.24	17.5.24	24.5.24	7.6.24	14.6.24	21.6.24	28.6.24	5.7.24	12.7.24	19.7.24
Belonging	3	4	3	4	4	3	3	4	2	4	3
Love	4	3	4	2	3	4	2	1	4	3	4
Service	1	1	1	3	2	2	4	2	1	2	1
Thankfulness	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	2



Dates for your Diary - Upcoming Events

4th September	School Reopens
9th September	KS1 Meet the Teacher 3 pm
10th September	Stay and Play
10th September	Year 3 Meet the Teacher 3.15 pm
11th September	Year 4 Meet the Teacher 3.15 pm
12th September	Year 6 Meet the Teacher 3.15 pm
17th September	Stay and Play
24th September	Stay and Play
1st October	Stay and Play
8th October	Stay and Play
9th October	Harvest Assembly at church
15th October	Stay and Play
16th October	Super Learning Day
18th October	INSET day - school closes for half term
28th October	School Re-opens

Twitter X



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

Website - please copy this link into your browser

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

Instagram



St Silas now has an Instagram account. Please follow us on:

<https://www.instagram.com/stsilasblackburn/>



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