



St Silas

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CTDARI**

Newsletter 2.11.20

Dates for the Diary

- Blackburn Rovers Citizenship Programme Year 5 6/13/20 Nov
- Money Mentors Year 5 3rd Nov 20-now delayed due to COVID
- Parliament Week 2nd November
- Y1 vision screening 9th Nov
- Parents Evening via phone week beginning 16th Nov or 23rd Nov
- Governors 9th December



COVID

Please remember that parents cannot enter the school building without a prior appointment. These appointments will only be given in specific circumstances in which a phone call will not be suitable.

Thank you for socially distancing at the school gate and for moving away from the school gate as soon as possible.

We are very fortunate to have a new building as all our classrooms have sinks and we have far more toilet blocks than older buildings. Our corridors are outside as well reducing the risk further.

Primary School Applications

If you have a younger child who is due to start school in September please apply for your child's place before Friday 15th January 2021. We are creating a virtual open morning and will be sharing it with you soon. Unfortunately due to COVID we cannot hold our normal open mornings.

There is a link to the online application form on:

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

Free School Meals

During the half term holiday and the lockdown, children in receipt of free school meals received a voucher for food. These are children who have applied for free school meals and receive them because their parents receive certain benefits.

Parents of children in Reception and Key Stage 1 who receive universal free school meals can still apply for free school meals if they meet the criteria. It is worth doing this even though your child receives universal free school meals as the school receives pupil premium money for each free school meal child that can be used to help your child and others. It would also mean that in any future voucher/food box scheme in a lockdown you would receive a voucher/foodbox.

This is the information from the government website:

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2022.

Infant free school meals in England

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they're in a [government-funded school](#) and in:

- reception class
- year 1
- year 2

Tell your local authority if you also get any of the qualifying benefits. Your child's school can get extra funding if you do.

To apply for free school meals please go to:

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

Our family worker Mrs Rehana Patel can answer questions via phone. Unfortunately due to COVID she is not able to help you in the school building.

School Council

Children have been voting for their school councillor. These children now represent their class on the school council. Everyone is looking forward to their suggestions to further improve our school.

Class	School Councillor
Hornbeam	Aleena
Hawthorn	Noor
Beech	Mohammed Yusuf
Alder	Hasnain
Elder	Humayl
Birch	Mohammad
Hazel	Zainab P
Rowan	Junainah

S.A.M. Star of the Week -half termly awards

These children are selected by the children in their class as being the child who represents our values and vision the best. These children always try to be the best that they can be.

Class	Star of the Week
Hawthorn	Zeemal
Hornbeam	Amenah
Beech	Laiba
Alder	Khadeejah

Elder	Mohammed Ayan
Rowan	Saara
Birch	Aadil-Raja
Hazel	Halima B
Cherry	Fatima
Willow	Zainab
Oak	Yusuf



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