



School Prayer This Week

Dear God, thank you for the love and happiness you bring into our lives. Help us to be caring, thoughtful and thankful. Please guide us to make good choices and to appreciate what really matters. Amen.



School Information

- **School Open Day**— We are pleased to invite prospective families to visit our school on **Thursday, October 8th at 11am**. This open day provides an opportunity to explore our classrooms and facilities, and to learn more about what we offer for students entering reception in September 2027. If you know families who might be interested, we encourage you to share this information with them.
- **Medical appointments** — We kindly request that medical appointments be scheduled outside of school hours whenever possible. We recognize that this is not always feasible, and we appreciate your consideration in planning around the school day when you can.
- **Foodbank donation** — From now until **Thursday 15th October** we are collecting food for the foodbank. We have been asked to contribute tinned garden peas to support our local community. If you are able to send a donation to school, it would be greatly appreciated and will make a meaningful difference.
- **School Uniform** - **Please** can all children wear their full uniform and make sure they are wearing school shoes **NOT** trainers unless it is PE. Ties & Book Bags can be bought from the school office or via school gateway; Ties are £4.50. Book bags are £3.50. PE tops and long-sleeved quarter zips can also be purchased via our online supplier [here](#).

School Attendance and Punctuality

Reception	89.6%	Year 1	94.6%	Year 2	98.3%
Year 3	95.7%	Year 4	100%	Year 5	98.7%
	Year 6	99.2%	Overall total	96.5%	

This week's winners – Attendance – Year 4, Punctuality – Year 4

Diary

Thurs 8 th Oct	Open day- 11am
Fri 9 th Oct	Let's Talk SEND – Parent & carer coffee morning 9am (leaflet below)
Friday 16 th Oct	Non-uniform for Foodbank – food donation (tin of garden peas)
Wed 21 st Oct	Break up for half term at 3.25pm
Mon 2 nd Nov	School re-opens at 8:45am

Urgent Reminder

Our school is nut-free to protect children and staff with severe allergies. Please do not send nuts or Nutella in lunches or snacks.



Year 4 achieved 100% attendance and punctuality this week, amazing effort!



Mrs. Thomson launched a new attendance incentive! Pupils with 100% weekly attendance spin the wheel for a chance to win a certificate and chocolate bar. Everyone reaching 100% also gets a raffle ticket to collect and redeem for prizes

Attend

As we begin the new school year, we are implementing our Attend system to support student attendance. This system will generate letters to families regarding attendance patterns, including those with absences or late arrivals. We will also recognise students who maintain perfect attendance throughout the term.

Let's Talk SEND

We are pleased to invite parents and carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to an informal support session led by members of the Blackburn with Darwen SEND Parent Champions team.



Friday 9th October
9:00am
In School

This friendly session offers an opportunity to:

- ♥ Meet and chat with other parents and carers of children with SEND.
- ♥ Learn about local services and support available to families.
- ♥ Ask questions and discuss any concerns about supporting your child at home.
- ♥ Share experiences and gain practical advice from others with similar journeys.

Whether you are looking for information, support, or simply a listening ear, we would love for you to join us.

Refreshments will be provided.

We look forward to welcoming you. If the session is well attended, we hope to offer similar opportunities in the future.

♥ Thank you ♥
Mrs Parker (SENDCo) 😊

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



GUIDE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Worth Applying Even If You Are Not Sure

Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility is changing from
September 2026

Many families are entitled to Free School Meals and don't realise it?

Applying is quick, confidential, and could save your family money while supporting your child and our school.

Why should I apply?

- Your child gets a free, healthy school meal every day
- You could save money on food costs
- The school may receive extra funding to support children's learning
- Applying will not affect your other benefits
- Your application is private

How To Apply – It Takes Just A few Minutes

- Go to our council website and search "Free School Meals" or scan the QR Code
- Complete the online form (you'll need your National Insurance number)
- Wait for confirmation – the school will be informed automatically

Scan me



Trust

Respect

Ambition

Collaboration

Kindness



Our Children's
Services are...





We accept childcare
vouchers and Tax Free
Childcare!

PALS Active Club is Opening at ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL,

Times:

3:25pm - 4:00pm

3:25pm - 4:25pm

3:25pm - 5:00pm

INCLUDES SNACK



Prices:

3:25pm - 4:00pm £4.00

3:25pm - 4.25pm £6.00

3:25pm - 5:00pm £7.00

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: FUN MULTI-SPORTS ACTIVITIES, LEGO WORKSHOPS, CRAZY STEM ACTIVITIES, ERUPTING VOLCANOES, ARTS AND CRAFTS, BAKING, PLUS MUCH MORE!

COMPETITION worth £100!

Register your child's details below and we will pick one lucky winner to receive £100 worth of PALS vouchers.

How to book;

Click or scan here

Click or visit;

<https://pals.ipalbookings.com>



Need help with your booking or have a question? Please contact us;



support@playandlearnscheme.com



07930 924993



**Please drive carefully
and be extra mindful of
all our children and
families that are
crossing the road**

Please also be considerate of
our neighbours when parking
your car to drop off or collect
your child from school



EVERY DAY COUNTS

School and Future **success**
starts with good **attendance**.



DAILY LATENESS EQUATES
TO...

**5 MINUTES
LATE
=
3 DAYS
LOST**

**10
MINUTES
LATE
=
6 DAYS
LOST**

**15
MINUTES
LATE
=
9 DAYS
LOST**

100%
Perfect

**Our target for all
students**

97%
Impressive

6 DAYS ABSENCE
36 hours of learning lost

95%
Concerning

10 DAYS ABSENCE
60 hours of learning lost

90%
Seriously
worrying

19 DAYS ABSENCE
114 hours of learning lost

Your education is important – DON'T MISS OUT!



**WE ARE TAKING ON
NHS ADULTS
AND CHILDREN**

Quality dental care
for the whole
family



Email us at
blackburn3-rec@mydentist.co.uk



Call us on
01254 691311



Your local dental practice