Newsletter

Issue 645 | 3rd October 2025

Golden Children

Nursery: Aafiyah G and Husna H
Reception: Muhammad Ali R and Dua K
Year 1: Nabila S and Abdullah M
Year 2: Muhammad H and Aidah A
Year 3: Aliza B and Simra T
Year 4: Nafisah M and Muhammad P
Year 5: Muhammad Yusuf K and Hafsa I
Year 6: Azad N and Alan S

Sports Star

Well done to Aaliyah S in RAY class.

Attendance Award

Congratulations to 1JM and 2BM classes.

Most Improved Attendance

Well done to RDB class.

Time Beaters Award

This weeks' time beaters award goes to 4SW class.

Winning Planet Team

The winning team this week is Jupiter.



Diary Dates

06.10.2025 – School Photograph Day
07.10.2025 – FLU Vaccination
08.10.2025 – Parents and Toddlers
10.10.2025 – World Mental Health Day
15.10.2025 – Parents and Toddlers
16.10.2025 – Reception Reading Meeting
22.10.2025 – Parents and Toddlers
24.10.2025 – Inset Day – School closed for children
03.11.2025 – Inset Day – School closed for children
04.11.2025 – Start of Autumn 2
05.11.2025 – Parents and Toddlers
12.11.2025 – Year 3 Cinema Trip
12.11.2025 – Parents and Toddlers
14.11.2025 – Anti Bullying Day
14.11.2025 – Year 4 Cinema Trip
19.11.2025 – Year 5 Cinema Trip
19.11.2025 – Parents and Toddlers
19.11.2025 – Year 2 Fire Safety Talk
26.11.2025 – Parents and Toddlers

Thankfulness

Our school value for his half term is 'thankfulness'. Our quote for this half term is... ***"Always be thankful."*** *(1 Thessalonians 5.16).* It would really help if you could follow this up with your children at home and talk to them about all the things that we are thankful for.

St Thomas'

St Thomas''Privacy Notice' (How we use pupil information) is now available to view at **stthomasblackburn.org.uk** in the 'Parents' section.

World Mental Health Day

On **Friday 10th October 2025** it is **World Mental Health Day** and we will be supporting the annual national 'Hello Yellow' event organised by Young Minds which is designed to raise awareness of and show support for Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing.

We will be taking this opportunity to bring our school community together and recognise the importance of mental health and wellbeing in children and young people everywhere. In order to raise awareness around this very important topic, we will be encouraging the children and staff to wear something **yellow**. For example, your child may wear a yellow hair bobble, yellow socks, a jumper or t-shirt with something yellow on it.

St Thomas' Church of England Primary School, Newton Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB1 1NE
Tel: 01254 54706 | Fax: 01254 694813 | Email: office@stthomasce.blackburn.sch.uk | Head: Miss Y Arshad
www.stthomasblackburn.org.uk

Attendance

Daily attendance in school is of the greatest importance for your child's learning. Children are required to be in school for 190 days of the year. That leaves 175 days to spend on family time, shopping, visits, holidays and any non-urgent appointments. We thank all of our parents in advance for your cooperation on this matter.

RDB	98.0%
RAY	96.3%
1SM	88.3%
1JM	98.7%
2SW	98.3%
2BM	98.7%
3VKD	97.7%
3SY	95.0%
4SW	93.0%
4MB	97.7%
5JK	97.3%
5JY	91.3%
6HU	97.0%
6DR	95.3%

Parents and Toddlers

St Thomas' continues to welcome all parent and toddlers to 'Parent and Toddler' sessions. It has been wonderful to see so many new parents and children in attendance. The sessions enable parents and carers to chat to others and bring their toddlers along to make new friends, play and develop critical skills.

Venue: St Thomas' School Hall
Day: Wednesday
Time: 10.00 – 11.30 am
Cost: £1.50

Library

Our library sessions will be starting this week and we are excited to share our wonderful and varied selection of books with the children. Thank you to all parents that have given consent on parentpay for your child/ren to take a library book home. If you have not yet given consent, we would appreciate it if this could be done as soon as possible so that children are able to enjoy our books at home as well as in school.

Foodbank Appeal 2025

Each year, we collect donations for the Foodbank to support local families in need. This year, the Foodbank are running things a little differently. To make sure their shelves are stocked with a balanced range of essentials throughout the winter period, every participating school has been allocated one specific item to collect.

Our allocated item: **Rice**

If you choose to donate, one item per family will be more than enough. Every contribution will help make a real difference to those in our local community.

Please can you send donations to your child's class by Friday 10th October 2025.

Nut Allergies

We have an increasing number of pupils in our school who have severe nut allergies. Anaphylaxis (allergic reaction) can occur as a result of digestion, inhalation or any other contact with nut-based products. We kindly ask that all packed lunches and break times snacks do not include nuts. We understand this may cause some inconvenience but I am sure you agree the safety of all children is paramount. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

Reception Phonics Meeting

We are inviting all reception parents into school on Thursday 16th October 2025 for our annual phonics meeting. The phonics meeting is an opportunity for the reception teachers to share how we teach early reading at St Thomas' and how you can support your children at home on their reading journey. To secure your place please sign up to a session on Parent Pay. The sessions will be held in your child's classroom; please enter school via the door that your child is dismissed from each day. We look forward to seeing all of the reception parents there.

School Admissions

The school admissions process is now live for Reception and High school application forms. All applications are submitted online at www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions and Blackburn with Darwen admission team contact details are 01254 666605 and admissons@blackburn.gov.uk. Should you require any assistance, please ring the school office who will be more than happy to help you should you encounter any issues. Please remember, if your child attends our St Thomas' Nursery, you do not automatically get a place in Reception class, you will need to complete an application as detailed above. If you are interested in a Nursery place for your child please speak to the school office so that your child's name can be added to the list.

The deadline dates for all applications are set out below:
Secondary School Admissions - 31st October 2025
Reception Class Admissions – 15th January 2026
Nursery Class Admissions – 16th January 2026

