# Newsletter

Issue 648 | 24th October 2025

## Golden Children

***Nursery:*** Amyra A and Muhammad Yusuf K
***Reception:*** Zakariyya C and Raheel C
***Year 1:*** M Arham and Zaynah I
***Year 2:*** Shimaz M and Aryaan A
***Year 3:*** Adham N and Afsa H
***Year 4:*** Aleeza E and M. Zakariyya P
***Year 5:*** Esa A and Hania R
***Year 6:*** Aliza M and Ayesha T



## 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.

## Attendance Award

Congratulations to 4MB class.

## Most Improved Attendance

Well done to 1SM class.

## Time Beaters Award

This weeks' time beaters award goes to 2SW class.

## Winning Planet Team

The winning planet for the half term is Mars. The children in planet team Mars can come into school on Friday 7th November in non-uniform clothes.



## Diary Dates

*23.10.2025 – School closes for half-term*
*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*
*24.11.2025 – Assessment Week*
*26.11.2025 – Parents and Toddlers*
*03.12.2025 – Parents and Toddlers*
*09.12.2025 – Parent Progress Meeting*
*10.12.2025 – Parents and Toddlers*
*11.12.2025 – Reception Phonics Meeting*
*16.12.2025 – Reception Nativity*
*17.12.2025 – Talent Show*
*17.12.2025 – Parents and Toddlers*
*18.12.2025 – Christmas Dinner*

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear family and friends,

As we come to the end of another busy and exciting half term, we would like to take a moment to say thank you for the continued support you have given to both your child and to the school. Together staff, parents and children have done a FANTASTIC job in providing nothing but the best for our children in their learning and emotional well-being.

This half term has been filled with fantastic learning, creative activities, and visits that have truly enriched the children's experiences. From workshops and assemblies to the brilliant efforts in classrooms every day, it's been wonderful to see our school community thriving together. We are so proud of what the children have achieved so far, and we know they will return after the break ready to continue their learning journey with the same enthusiasm and resilience.

We look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Tuesday 4th November. Wishing you all a safe, restful, and enjoyable half term break.

Miss Arshad



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www.stthomasblackburn.org.uk

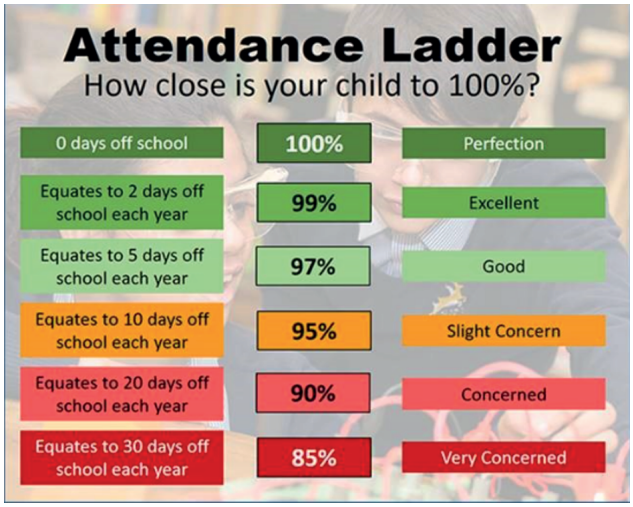
## Attendance

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.

As a reminder:

- Please call the school office before 8.30am if your child is not going to be at school
- Absence due to illness can be unauthorised, if we suspect your child is well enough to come to school. This can also result in a fine of up to £160 per adult per child for persistent absence.
- Pupils with less than 90% attendance are referred to as persistent absentees.
- Holidays in term time will receive a fine (up to £160 per adult per child) and could lead to prosecution or other legal interventions.

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.

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|---|---|
| RDB | 86.8% |
| RAY | 92.7% |
| 1SM | 93.7% |
| 1JM | 98.0% |
| 2SW | 94.3% |
| 2BM | 98.0% |
| 3VKD | 99.3% |
| 3SY | 88.7% |
| 4SW | 98.7% |
| 4MB | 99.3% |
| 5JK | 96.0% |
| 5JY | 92.0% |
| 6HU | 96.3% |
| 6DR | 94.0% |

## Parents and Toddlers

The children at St Thomas' had a wonderful time this week at Parent and Toddlers. They explored many toys to promote the development of language, physical and social skills. We would love to see more new families to come and join in the fun! Next half term we will welcoming visits from specialists in childhood development along with providing many exciting activities such as painting, playdough and stories.

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





## Recycling

Thank you for continuing to support our recycling efforts both at school and at home. Every small action really does count!

*Did you know…*

In the UK, we throw away so many tins every year that if we stacked them one on top of the other, they could reach the moon not just once, but three times! That's a huge amount of waste - but the good news is that every single one of those tins can be recycled. Recycling metal uses far less energy than producing it from scratch, and it helps protect our planet's precious resources. So next time you finish a tin of beans or soup, remember: putting it in the recycling bin is a quick and easy way to make a real difference.

## Autumn

As the Autumn season settles in and the weather turns colder, we kindly ask all parents and carers to ensure that children come to school dressed appropriately for the conditions. Warm coats, hats and other suitable clothing will help keep them comfortable during playtimes and on their journeys to and from school. Thank you for your continued support.

## 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