

Lower Darwen Primary School

Milking Lane, Lower Darwen BB3 0RB

We are proud of our school.

Headteacher: Mrs S Addy BA (Hons)

Newsletter 17
Friday 16th January 2026

Diary Dates

School closes for Half-Term

School Re-opens

Friday, 13th February 2026

Monday, 23rd February 2026

Message from Mrs Addy

This year is the National Year of Reading, with the theme 'Go All In' — and that is exactly what we intend to do at Lower Darwen Primary School!

I am personally very passionate about reading, not only for its academic importance, but because reading expands minds, builds confidence, and fuels creativity. Sadly, with increasing distractions and busy lives, reading for pleasure is in decline. The National Year of Reading 2026 is here to change that and support us in developing a genuine love and passion for reading that isn't about guilt or obligation — but about reminding us all that stories, ideas, and imagination belong everywhere and are fun!

This year I want to bring reading to the forefront with as many fun and creative reading opportunities that draw our children into reading. Whether it be a passion for sport, music, food, film or fashion we can use our passions to get connected with reading.

I have a few ideas of how we can promote a love of reading in school, however with almost 400 hundred families and children I know that you will also have some fabulous ideas.

I am asking families to share with me any ideas you have to promote reading for pleasure. Be it a special day, activities, visits or visitors let's see how many we can turn into reality. I cannot wait to hear your ideas which you can send to me on paper with your child or via school e mail.

Together, let's go all in and inspire a lifelong love of reading.

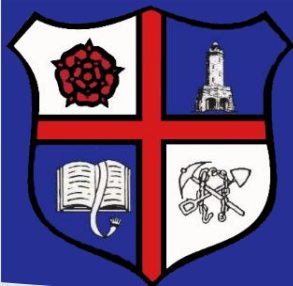
Thank you as always for your support.

Star of the Week

Every week we will tell you, on the newsletter, of the name of the child in each class, who has been awarded 'Star of the Week'.

This week's 'Star of the Week' winners are:-

Reception L:	Zayd
Reception D:	Rosie
Class 1L:	Zac
Class 1D:	Phoebe
Class 2L:	Aurora
Class 2D:	Arya
Class 3L:	Agnes
Class 3D:	Oliver
Class 4L:	Aaron
Class 4D:	Neriah
Class 5L:	Paris
Class 5D:	Isla Tur.
Class 6L:	Esta
Class 6D:	Aliyah
KS2 HIP	Ahmed H.



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This week's 'Dojo Champions of the Week' are:-

Class RL	Hallie G	Class RD	Tillie	Class 1L	Cruz	Class 1D	Harvey
Class 2L	Chase	Class 2D	Rico	Class 3L	Agnes	Class 3D	Kobi
Class 4L	Michael	Class 4D	Orla	Class 5L	Alfie	Class 5D	Lia
Class 6L	Katie	Class 6D	Sophia	KS2 HIP	Muhammad Awais		

At Lower Darwen Primary School, we occasionally take photographs and videos of pupils to celebrate their achievements, document school activities and promote our school. We are committed to protecting your child's privacy and will only use images with your consent the following ways:

- *On our school website*
- *In our school prospectus and other printed publications*
- *In our school newsletter (printed and/or emailed)*
- *On our social media accounts (e.g., Instagram and Facebook)*
- *Class Dojo *DISCLAIMER Class Dojo is a password-protected platform governed by the school's user policy. While access is restricted, the school cannot be held responsible for any inappropriate misuse or the reposting of content by users**
- *In local newspaper articles or press releases*
- *On display boards within the school*
- *In presentations at school events*

Important Information

What we will do:

- *Only use images that are appropriate and in the best interests of pupils*
- *Ensure pupils are appropriately dressed*
- *Not include full names with photographs on our website or social media*
- *Store images securely and only share them with authorised staff*
- *Remove images if you withdraw your consent*

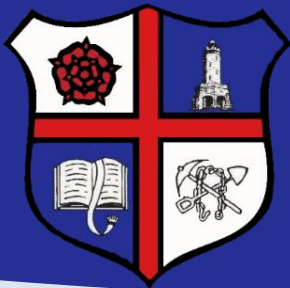
What we won't do:

- *Include detailed personal information alongside images*
- *Share images with third parties without your permission*
- *Use images for commercial purposes*

Your Rights

You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time by contacting the school office. If you withdraw consent, we will remove images of your child from future publications, though we may not be able to recall materials already in circulation. This consent will remain valid until you withdraw it or until your child leaves Lower Darwen Primary School.

Please complete the following consent form [Parental Consent for Use of Pupil Images – Fill in form](#)



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First Aid Reporting

Accidents/ head bumps within school will now be reported to you 'paperless'. You will now receive an email from **First Aid Forms** if your child has an accident.

Headlice Check

A quick, gentle reminder to please check your child's hair for nits regularly. Thank you for helping us keep everyone happy and healthy.

Magic Bookings

Please check your bookings for Breakfast and After School Clubs. We are still getting children arriving to breakfast club who are not booked on, which potentially could take us over our allowed numbers.

Sports News

On **Wednesday, 14th January** our Year 5/6 football team played two further league games against **St Paul RC Blackburn** and **St Peter's RC Blackburn**.

These proved to be two tough games, being defeated in both 4-1 and 7-3. Mr Hesketh commented that *'there were some very positive spells but the team need to work on maintaining it for the full match'*.

All players represented the school well.

Thanks to **Mr Hesketh** for coaching the team on the night and the parents who offered their support.

Team **Alfie, Barkley, Harry, Hayden, Katie, Kayden, Leo, Oakley, Toby and Zack.**

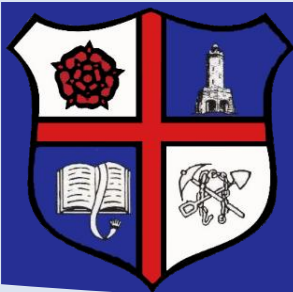


Our New Ambassadors for this Half Term...



Pictured are – **Avia, Bella, Carter, Grace, Joey, Kobi, Macie, Marnie, Mia, Paris, Pranav, Skylar, Sophie and Ted.**

Missing from the photo are **Saurabh and Xander.**



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Thank you for being such an important part of our community. We truly value the partnership we share with families and love working together to support your children. We kindly ask that all interactions continue to be guided by kindness and respect for our staff, who are always doing their very best.

Simone Addy, Headteacher

Community Events

WESTHOLME FOOTBALL CAMP
16 - 19 FEBRUARY 2026
In partnership with Matrix Soccer Academy

WHY CHOOSE US?
Led by UEFA-qualified coach Charlie Jackson - Founder of Matrix Soccer Academy & currently works at Manchester City Junior Academy.

DETAILS
COST
 £20 per week or £32 per day
OPEN ENTRY
 For ages 7-15, both Westholme & non-Westholme pupils welcome
TIMINGS
 9:00am - 2:30pm (optional late collection available for additional charge of £5)
SKILL LEVEL
 Suitable for all abilities, from grass roots to elite footballers

Scan to register

Westholme School, Wilmar Lodge, Pleasington, BB2 8QU

THE FOOTBALL COMMUNITY

RECRUITING NEW PLAYERS YEAR 1-6

Connecting players and fans through teamwork, passion, and community spirit. Together, we grow the love for the game

CONTACT - MIKIYON TEL: 0782235322
EMAIL - DARKENGIRLSLADIES@HOTMAIL.COM

FOX FOUNDATION FOOTBALL

HALF TERM SPORTS COURSE
FEB 16 - 20TH FOR AGES 5-11

FOOTBALL BASKETBALL DODGEBALL

Get ready for a half term full of fun, friends, and sports!

The Redeemer Primary School, Blackburn, BB2 4JJ
8.30am - 4pm
£20 per day or £80 Full Week
10% For Fox Members OR Siblings

Spots fill fast - Sign up today for a half term they won't forget!

Join us for
FUN SPORTS SESSIONS
SPORTS CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES
EXPERT COACHES
GAMES & TEAM CHALLENGES
SKILL-BUILDING, TEAMWORK & CONFIDENCE
DAILY AWARDS

Email for booking information: info@foxfoundationfootball.co.uk
www.foxfoundationfootball.com

BLACKBURN BISON'S
PICKLEBALL
11+ JUNIOR COACHING

STARTING ON...
8th January 2026
5-6pm

ST BEDE'S RC HIGH SCHOOL

4 weeks
£25

JOIN NOW

Contact Rachel McCrae
07872184783

COME AND PLAY

PICKLEBALL

ST BEDE'S HIGH SCHOOL
MONDAYS 6 - 7.30pm
WEDNESDAYS 6 - 7.30pm / 7.30 - 9pm
THURSDAYS 6 - 7.30pm
DARWEN LEISURE CENTRE
TUESDAYS 10 - 11am

RACHEL McCRAE CONTACT: 07872 184783