

# Lower Darwen Primary School

Milking Lane, Lower Darwen BB3 0RB

**We are proud of our school.**

Headteacher: Mrs S Addy BA (Hons)

**Newsletter 20**  
**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

## Diary Dates

Children's Mental Health Week  
SATS Information Evening (for Year 6 parents) 6pm  
School closes for Half-Term  
School Re-opens

**w/c 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
**Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
**Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
**Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026**

## 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:-

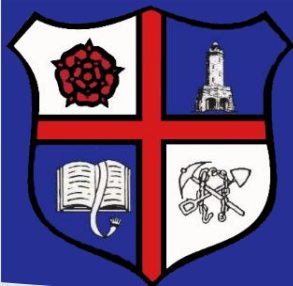
Reception L:	<b>Ava</b>
Reception D:	<b>AJ</b>
Class 1L:	<b>Amelia</b>
Class 1D:	<b>Bobby</b>
Class 2L:	<b>George</b>
Class 2D:	<b>Albie</b>
Class 3L:	<b>Rayyan</b>
Class 3D:	<b>Millie S</b>
Class 4L:	<b>Olivia</b>
Class 4D:	<b>Orla</b>
Class 5L:	<b>Sehrish</b>
Class 5D:	<b>Leon</b>
Class 6L:	<b>Hayden</b>
Class 6D:	<b>Elodie</b>
KS2 HIP	<b>Muhammad Awais</b>

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

Class RL	<b>Alfie</b>	Class RD	<b>Jack &amp; Phoenix</b>	Class 1L	<b>Lenny</b>	Class 1D	<b>Albie, Haroon, Harvey &amp; Isla</b>
Class 2L	<b>Teddy</b>	Class 2D	<b>Lucas</b>	Class 3L	<b>Julia</b>	Class 3D	<b>Kobi</b>
Class 4L	<b>Amelia</b>	Class 4D	<b>Aadiya</b>	Class 5L	<b>Tillie-Mae</b>	Class 5D	<b>Noah</b>
Class 6L	<b>Jacob</b>	Class 6D	<b>Elodie</b>	KS2 HIP	<b>Khadijah</b>		

## SATS Information Evening

Year 6 parents are invited to a SATS information evening on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm**. I hope as many as possible can make it – a link has been included on the dojo message to confirm your attendance.



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## Sports News

### Year 3 /4 Gymnastics

On **Tuesday afternoon** our Year 3 /4 gymnastics team took part in a competition at **St Bede's High School**.

The children performed various routines that they have been practising for several weeks.

**Freya** finished in **3<sup>rd</sup> place** in the individual girls' event and one of the girls' teams gained **2<sup>nd</sup> place** which was brilliant, however they all tried their best and enjoyed the experience.

Mrs Arrandale commented 'What a lovely afternoon of gymnastics with a fab group of children'.

Thanks to **Mrs Arrandale** and **Miss Margerison** for their support at the event.



Pictured are – **Amelia, Ben, Esme, Evie, Freya, Harper, Harry, Jenson, Karson, Macie, Mia, Millie H, Millie ST, Molly, Olivia, Orla** and **Rupert**.

### Year 5/6 Sportshall

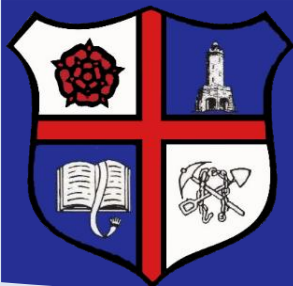
Our motto is 'We are proud of our school' and on Thursday evening (**5th February 2026**) this was especially true when the school year 5-6 athletics team romped home as winners of the Sports Hall Athletics finals at **Darwen Vale High School** for the **ELEVENTH** successive year.

It was a real team effort and our results and times were highly impressive. We have a talented group of children and their hard work paid off. The standard of athletics by all schools in the final was extremely high, so the school was worthy winners of the title. It was a wonderful evening.



A special thank you to **Mr Eastwood** and **Mr Reid** who ensured the children performed to their maximum and also to **Mrs Taylor** for her support at the event.

Team: **Alana, Alfie, Austin, Barkley, Ben, Esta, Evie, Grace, Harry, Hayden, Isabella, Joseph, Katie, Kayden, Mia, Minnie, Olivia, Owen, Ted, Tillie** and **Toby**.



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## School Uniform

Please ensure your child is coming to school in full school uniform, including their tie. School shoes must be worn NOT trainers unless it is a designated PE day when children can come in their PE kits. There are also a number of girls coming to school with false nails or make up – **these are not allowed in any circumstances.**

## Whole School Dojo

Please check whole school dojo on a regular basis. Information, tips and helplines are regularly added on there.

## We Need Your Help?



Mrs Pickering is leading the way to create a fantastic outdoor learning environment within our wild woods area, for children to enjoy and utilise for lessons and extra curricular clubs in school. We are looking for anyone to help us with equipment (new and secondhand) so if you have anything lying around in your homes or gardens that you no longer use or need or work in or own a company that could donate anything then this would give us the headstart we need to create something amazing!

Some suggestions of things we need are:  
spades, trowels, forks

Pots and garden trays (of all sizes)

Compost

Plants

Saws, Hammers, Nails

Garden Ornaments

Garden kneeling mats

Fence paint or stain

A strimmer

Poly tunnels or Green House

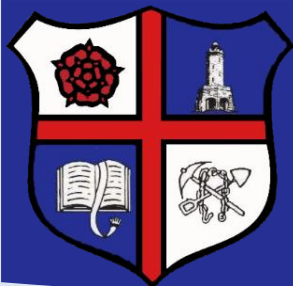
Compost Bin

Seating

A shed or storage ☺

....or anything else you may think would be useful.

If you can help us in any way, please let the office know or send the items in with your child.



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## Secret Readers

This week it was National Storytelling Week, as part of the National Reading Class 1L were treated to a secret reader on Wednesday afternoon... **Taylor's Grandad!**

He read the children two stories about two different animals. The first story was from India, where Taylor's grandad used to live and work and the second story was about a dancing giraffe, but we weren't treated to Taylor's grandad's dance moves, maybe next time!



The children were absolutely captivated by this experience and it was amazing to watch a story come to life! A huge thank you to Taylor's grandad.



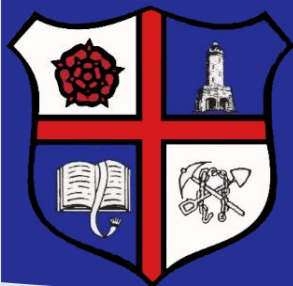
Reception D have had a busy week welcoming two sets of visitors in their class. Firstly a big thank you to **Tillie's Grandma**, who came as a secret reader and also to firefighters from Darwen Fire Service, who talked to the children as part of their 'People who Help Us' topic. The children thoroughly enjoyed both.

## Free School Meal Eligibility

We want to ensure that all our families in school are accessing **Free School Meals** if they are eligible. If parents/guardians receive specific benefits, including Universal Credit with an annual net income of £7,400 or less, Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or Child Tax Credit (with an annual income of £16,190 or less, without Working Tax Credit) you may qualify. Please check on the Blackburn with Darwen BC website – [www.blackburn.gov.uk](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk).

## After School Club / Breakfast Club Bookings

Dates have been added to Magic Bookings for after half term up to Easter, to enable you to book on.



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Finally....

It is important to inform school or **Mrs Dyrda** our safeguarding, wellbeing and behaviour lead of any change in family circumstances or any incidents that might affect your child's wellbeing or behaviour. This will help staff to support your child at a time in their lives where they have experienced change.

**Simone Addy, Headteacher**

## Community Events

 <p><b>BWD SEN</b> family support</p> <p>Join us at the <b>Mill Hill</b> community centre for our <b>SEN stay and play sessions</b> 9.30 to 11am.</p> <p>Where you can meet other <b>SEN</b> families, make friends and <b>have a brew</b> ☕ and be around people that just "get it!"</p> <p><b>Only £1.50</b> for an adult and child then 50p per extra person after that.</p> <p>That includes brews, juice, toast &amp; biscuits. As well lots of toys for younger and older children, colouring in and sensory toys and a creche area.</p> <p>Upcoming dates are on <b>Saturday</b> the <b>7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 21<sup>st</sup> February</b> and <b>7<sup>th</sup> March</b></p>	 <p>Curious Cats Community <b>FEBRUARY HALF TERM</b> <b>MUDDY MEET UPS</b> Victoria Park, Cambridge Street Haslingden</p> <p><b>Weds 18/02/26</b> £7.50 per child incl. drinks and campfire treats for everyone! <b>10am -12 pm</b></p> <p><b>Fri 20/02/26</b> Discount is available for bookings of 10 or more. <b>10am -12 pm</b> Under 2's and brews are always free!</p> <p>Join us for tree swinging, mud pie making, nature creating, obstacle races, time to relax in the hammock, create secret dens and campfire cooking! Some activities will stay and some will change so there is always something to explore</p> <p><b>BOOK NOW</b> Contact Nicola@ Curious Cats Community 0775 146 0440 nicola.curiouscats@outlook.com</p>
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