



Wensley Fold CE Primary Academy

"Make Each Day Count"

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WENSLEY WEEKLY

Thursday 9 October

Issue Number 6

www.wensleyfold.co.uk

User Name: parent Password: parent

Dear Parent

HALF TERM

School will close next Friday 17 October for the half term break and will re-open on **Monday 3 November.** Clubs will be on as normal on Friday.

WEEKLY VALUE

Our school values are Courage, Compassion, Trust, Respect and Aspiration.
We continue to focus on the value 'Trust'.

AMAZING ATTENDANCE!

The attendance of Wensley Fold children this half term has been 98.4% which also includes Nursery. This is the highest attendance we have had as a school for a very long time. A big thank you to all our families for your support, encouragement and dedication to making each day count for our children. We are so proud that we have started the year with such amazing attendance. As a treat for the whole school, we invite the children to attend school next Monday 13 October in non-uniform to say thank you for your fantastic commitment.

Please ensure that children wear appropriate clothing for the time of year and no football shirts please. If your child has PE on Monday, please ensure they are dressed appropriately with appropriate footwear for PE. Thank you

HARVEST 2025 SHARING AND GIVING

On Friday 17 October we will be celebrating Harvest at St Silas Church at 9.15am
If you can, please can any donations of the following be sent into school:

- **Tinned:** fish, spaghetti hoops, and chunky soup
- Vegetarian/Vegan Food Items
- Instant Coffee



- Shampoo
- Soap
- Shower Gel
- Adult toothpaste
- Female sanitary products
- Deodorant
- Stock Cubes
- Oil
- Tinned Peas
- Packets of Noodles
- Biscuits

Donations are welcomed from today onwards to be handed in to class teachers. Many thanks for your support.

Parents of children in Year 5 who are performing, are invited to join us as we give thanks in our celebration of Harvest at St Silas Church.

CHARITY 2025/2026

Suggestions for this year's charity are:

Barnardo's - When life gets tough or it feels like there's nowhere to turn, Barnardo's is here.

We're here to make children and young people:

- **Safer**, so children at risk of harm are better protected. This might be measured by practitioners recording a reduction in family conflict.
- **Happier**, so children struggling with their wellbeing can access support and feel they belong. This might be measured by children telling us they feel more satisfied.
- **Healthier**, so children growing up with disadvantage can experience good physical and mental health. This might be measured by a clinical improvement in anxiety.
- **More hopeful**, so children experiencing challenges can move into adulthood with hope and confidence. This might be measured by children telling us they feel motivated and inspired.

Lancashire Mind - Lancashire Mind is an independent mental health charity dedicated to improving the mental health and wellbeing of the people of Lancashire. Lancashire Mind focuses on prevention, education and support, aiming to reduce mental health stigma and promote understanding. We work collaboratively with local communities and other organisations to advocate positive mental health for everyone. Our services are tailored to meet the diverse needs of Lancashire's residents, ensuring that everyone can achieve the best mental health possible.

The Salvation Army Hostel, Bramwell House - We offer a safe, supportive environment for individuals, helping them make positive choices about their current circumstances.

Bramwell House is an accommodation unit for 55 single homeless people. The aim of Bramwell House is to enable people to make positive life changes and ultimately empower them to lead more sustainable lifestyles.

Cancer Bank - The idea for The Cancer Bank came from our founder Dan, who, whilst sitting in the chemo unit of the Royal Blackburn Hospital in Spring 2022, realised that many people on a similar journey to his own, were choosing between treatment and working.

Our primary purpose is to provide packages of essential items needed by patients undergoing treatment for cancer, donated by the public, in order to reduce the financial burden.

Our values, the foundation on which all work is undertaken, are:

- **Care**
- **Compassion**
- **Community**
- **Connection**

Please collect a slip from the office to select which charity you would like to choose. Closing date is next Friday 17 October.

LIBRARY

Please note the library is closed in the morning before school starts. It is open after school every day (please see 100 books Reading Challenge). Thank you.

APPOINTMENTS IN SCHOOL TIME

A kind reminder to try to book dentist and doctor's appointments in the school holidays or after school where possible. Thank you.

UNIFORM – PE TRAINERS

A number of children are coming into school wearing astro trainers/boots for PE/clubs. Please note only plain black/white trainers must be worn for PE/clubs. Thank you.

CAR PARKING

Please can parents not park on the zig zags or dangerously at the corner of Crosshill Road & Manor Road. It is for the safety of your children that we try to enforce this. Furthermore, please be considerate when parking outside school, we have received a few complaints from residents on Manor Road regarding dangerous driving/parking. Thank you.

CLASS OF THE WEEK

Class	Sessions attended	Sessions missed
Rec Q	99.7	1
Rec S	96.0	12
IB	99.7	1
1A	99.0	3
2C	100	0
2W	99.0	3
3B	98.3	5
3A	99.3	2
4M	97.4	8
4K	100	0
5S	99.3	2
5B	98.3	5
6G	99.0	3
6HW	97.0	9

Well done to Classes – 2C and 4K.

RECEPTION POPCORN PARTY

As a reward for settling into school, all children in Reception will be having a popcorn party with cordial next Friday 17 October. Please notify the school office if you do not wish for your child to take part. Thank you.

YEAR 1 LOCAL WALK – WITTON PARK

As part of their Science topic on trees and plants, Year 1A will be visiting Witton Park next Monday 13 October. Please ensure your child has a suitable coat on the day. All children who take part in Forest Schools will continue as normal. Thank you.

YEAR 2 CLITHEROE CASTLE

As part of our history topic on castles we have organised a visit for our Year 2 classes to Clitheroe Castle on Monday 17 November, where the children will learn about events and individuals that have shaped the castle from the Norman Times to the present day. The price of this trip will be £17 to cover the cost of the coach and entrance fee. Children should wear their school uniform. A waterproof coat may be required depending on the weather. A packed lunch will be provided by school, however if you wish to send one from home please indicate this on the consent page. Please log in to ParentPay by Friday 7 November. Thank you.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOUR

Come along and join us for this workshop next Tuesday 14 October 2025 from 9am to 11am or Wednesday 15 October from 1pm to 3pm.

This workshop will help and support parents to understand what is driving their child's behaviour.

The workshop is part of the Henry Programme for a healthy start, brighter future topic delivered by the Early Years team from Blackburn with Darwen.

Please contact Ms Emam/Mrs Khan if you would like to attend.

Thank you.

NURSERY – YEAR 6 FLU IMMUNISATION

The vaccination team will be coming into school on Friday 21 November to administer flu vaccinations to all children in Nursery – Year 6.

Please complete and return the consent form to school by next Friday 17 October, even if you do not wish your child to have the immunisation. Thank you.

ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY AWARDS – TUESDAY 7 OCTOBER

KS1 Person of the Match	-	Aleena Khan (2C)
KS2 Person of the Match	-	Aamna Mazafar (6G)
KS1 I ate well today	-	Mohammad-Essa Iqbal (2C)
KS2 I ate well today	-	Rumaysah Yusuf (6G)
WF Super Smart Uniform	-	Jacob West (6HW)

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Come along to our Parent and Toddler group every Thursday at 8.45am-9.45am in the school hall. A chance to meet other parents and have a fun time with your little ones.

We will have the following activities next half-term:

13 Nov	-	Firework Art
20 Nov	-	Physical Play
27 Nov	-	Playdough play
04 Dec	-	Woodland Bingo
11 Dec	-	Let us get creative

ASTHMA INFORMATION

We have asthma colouring sheets and other asthma activities available at the office if you wish to learn more about asthma and discuss asthma with your child. Please see Ms Emam. More content has been added this week!

Please see the links below for Asthma friendly information:

<https://www.wensleyfold.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Asthma-Friendly-Schools-Parents-Audio.pdf>

<https://www.wensleyfold.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Asthma-Friendly-Schools-Parents-URDU.pdf>

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2026

If your child's 5th birthday is between 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027 you need to make arrangements **NOW** for admission in September 2026. You must now apply using the online application at www.blackburn.gov.uk/admissions. The closing date for the applications is 15 January 2026.

SECONDARY ADMISSIONS 2026

Parent of children in Year 6 must now apply for their child's secondary school for September 2026 using the online application at www.blackburn.gov.uk/admissions. The closing date for the applications is 31 October 2025.

SCHOOL CLUBS

If for any reason your child will not be attending their club you **MUST** inform the office before the end of the school day.

RECEPTION FUND

If you haven't already done so, please can parents of children in Reception pay £5 for the Autumn term or £15 for the whole year, at the school office. Thank you.

BIKEABILITY WEEK

Next week is National Bike ability Week. To launch this week, our Reception children will have the opportunity to begin learning to ride our new balance bikes! We will keep you updated on our progress. Remember if you are riding your bike you must always wear your helmet.

MILK

Milk money is now due for the Autumn Term for all infant children; however all Reception children will receive free milk up to the term in which they have their 5th birthday. Please can parents online on ParentPay. Thank you.

100 BOOKS READING CHALLENGE

If you would like to sign up for the 100 books reading challenge, registration forms are available from Mr Desai in the school library after school. Please note the library is open to specific year groups on certain days from 3.15pm - 3.30pm



Monday	–	Reception classes and/or siblings
Tuesday	–	Year 1 classes and/or siblings
Wednesday	-	Closed
Thursday	–	Year 2 classes and/or siblings
Friday	–	Years 3,4,5 & 6 classes and/or siblings

CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY MEMBERSHIP – NEW PASSPORTS

If you have signed your child up to Blackburn Children's University on ParentPay please note all CU passports will be issued to new members **by tomorrow (Friday 10 October)**. These will be sent to classes for children to bring home. Please do look out for this if you have signed your child up.

CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY PASSPORTS – TO BE RETURNED

If you have handed your child's Children's University passport in for any holiday activities or challenges please note these will all be returned by next Tuesday 14 October. Please do look out for it as no responsibility will be held by the school one it has been returned.

OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

A letter has been sent out about the October half term holiday activities which includes cooking, martial arts, a creative day as well as a visit to Accrington Train Station. Sign up will be available on ParentPay from 7.30am tomorrow (Friday 10 October). Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first serve basis. If we do have any additional places available these will be added on to ParentPay next Wednesday. Please check your emails or the school app for all the details on the activities.

WOMEN'S ONLY FITNESS CLASS

Please see the letter emailed for details about a women only fitness class for adults which will start after the half term holidays. You can register your interest via this form: <https://bit.ly/WomensFitnessNovDec25>. Places are limited and are offered on a first come first serve basis. You will be sent further details next week if you register.

BLACKBURN ROVERS FOOTBALL MATCH

Please look out for further details about a Blackburn Rovers football match which will be sent out next week.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Please see below details for some events that are coming up at the local libraries. Entry for all these events is by FREE ticket, available from Blackburn Library up to two weeks before each event. Please remember CU members can collect stamps in their passport for attending these activities. Please remember to pick up a slip at the activity and hand this in with their CU passport to school after the holidays so it can be stamped.

Wordsworth Tea Party, Sat 18 Oct, 2.00pm – 3.00pm.

Families can come and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Blackburn Library building with Wordsworth, refreshments and some party games.

Green Libraries Week / Half-term

There's lots going on in Blackburn with Darwen Libraries for Green Libraries Week, which falls in half-term:

Tote bag decorating - Sat 25 Oct, 11.00am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 3.00pm, Blackburn Library (this is part of a **family fun day** which also includes a **nature themed craft activity**).

Style your own bag at these family sessions.

Beach Guardian workshops - Mon 27 Oct, 2.00pm - 4.30pm, Blackburn Library.

Age 5 and over. What happens when plastic ends up in the sea? Identify different plastics with a scanner and a microscope, and learn how to keep our oceans clean. **Suitable for age 5 and over.**

Family book folding craft (various locations)

An opportunity to upcycle old, withdrawn books into works of art for all the family. Entry by FREE ticket available from the relevant library.

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|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| • Mon 27 Oct, | 10.30am - 11.30am, | Roman Road Library |
| • Tue 28 Oct, | 2.30pm - 3.30pm, | Mill Hill Library |
| • Wed 29 Oct, | 2.30pm - 3.30pm, | Cherry Tree Library |
| • Fri 31 Oct, | 2.00pm - 3.30pm, | Blackburn Library |

Spooky seasonal ReUse Crafts - at Blackburn Library on Wednesday 29 October at 2.00pm

Age 5 and over. Come and make a ghost from recycled materials.

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like "It's not that bad" or "You're okay" may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



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