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Wensley Fold CE Primary Academy

"Make Each Day Count"

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WENSLEY WEEKLY
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User Name: parent Password: parent

Dear Parent

EID CELEBRATIONS

As part of our Eid celebration, **ALL** children can wear non-uniform tomorrow (Friday).

This will give children the opportunity to wear their Eid clothes and take part in celebrations during the day - No football shirts please. Thank you.

Clothing should be suitable to change quickly for their swimming lesson and please can sensible footwear be worn. Thank you.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS ELIGIBILITY

Free School Meals (FSM) is changing from September 2026.

Under the updated criteria, only families in receipt of **Universal Credit** will be eligible.

For further information and how to apply, please see email sent to parents today.

Please note that pupils who are currently eligible for FSM, or who have been eligible previously, will **no longer be protected** under transitional arrangements. All families will be required to submit a **new application**, as transitional protections will cease at the end of the **2025/26 academic year**.

SUMMER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

For every full week your child attends school every week, they will earn an attendance ticket – The ticket will be placed into a prize draw to win an Amazon Fire Tablet. The draw will take place in the last week of term.

YEAR 6 SWIMMING

Please note 6G will now be back in school on time (3.15pm) and 6HW will now be back approximately 15 minutes late. Thank you.

EID PARTY LUNCH

Thank you to the school kitchen who served an amazing 400 Eid party lunches today.

YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION CHECK

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we will be administering the statutory multiplication tables check between Monday 1 June and Friday 12 June.

YEAR 3 CAKE DECORATING

As part of their Eid activities tomorrow, Year 3 will be decorating cupcakes using the following ingredients: Plain Fairy Cakes, Icing sugar, Pink and Blue food colouring and Halal edible cupcake toppers.

If you do not wish for your child to take part, please let the class teacher know.

SUMMER SINGING EVENT AT BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL

Our school choir is thrilled to be attending the 'Raise the Roof' event, proudly hosted by the Bolton and Blackburn with Darwen Music Service!

Join us for a spectacular evening of music as we perform alongside other local school choirs on Tuesday 30th June at Blackburn Cathedral.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting boltonmusicservice.com/events

If your child is in the school choir, please complete the consent form on ParentPay by Friday 26 June. Thank you.

YEAR 6 BLACKBURN LIBRARY

Year 6 will be visiting Blackburn library next Monday 8 June to meet a variety of book authors and illustrators to encourage them to read and write. Authors will read the short stories or poems and pupils will be able to interact with the illustrators.

RECEPTION BUS TOUR AND CORPORATION PARK

As part of their topic on our local area, Reception children will be visiting Blackburn library and then taking a bus tour of Blackburn on Thursday 18 June, to find out more about our town. They will have the opportunity to visit some of the important and well known areas of Blackburn, including Ewood Park, Blackburn Royal Hospital, Blackburn Cathedral, the town centre and finishing the tour at Corporation Park. The afternoon will be spent at the Park investigating how Blackburn has changed over time and how the seasons change in the park. The cost of the trip is £3, which has been subsidised by the Reception fund. Please log on to ParentPay to give your consent by Friday 12 June. A packed lunch will be provided by school unless otherwise indicated on the consent form. Please can children come to school in their PE Kits and with appropriate footwear. If it is wet, we will use the Forest school suits and wellies so please make sure your child's still fit. Thank you.

RECEPTION VISIT – ASHLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

To continue with their topic on the local areas, Reception children will be visiting Ashleigh Primary School, Darwen on Wednesday 24 June. They will be continuing links with other schools, learning about similarities and differences between each school. The cost of this trip is £3, which is also heavily subsidised by the Reception fund. Please log on to ParentPay by Friday 12 June. Thank you.

YEAR 1 BLACKPOOL ZOO

As part of their Science topic on animals, Year 1 will be visiting Blackpool Zoo on Thursday 9 July. The cost of this visit is £19, which includes coach travel and the entrance fee. Children should wear their school uniform. Please log on to ParentPay for further details and complete the consent and payment by Friday 3 July. Thank you.

YEAR 2 LYTHAM ST ANNES

As part of their topic on the Geography and History of seaside towns and seaside holidays in the past, Year 2 will be visiting Lytham St Annes on Tuesday 23 June. The cost of this visit is £11.50, which includes coach travel and an ice cream. Children should wear their school sweatshirt with beach appropriate clothes (no tights please) and suitable footwear dependent on the weather on the day. They may bring beach toys, e.g. buckets, spades and balls in a labelled carrier bag. Please log on to ParentPay to complete the consent and payment by Friday 19 June. Thank you.

YEAR 3 LAKES

As part of their English and Geography topics, Year 3 will be visiting the Lake District on Wednesday 1 July. The trip consists of a steam train ride throughout the Lake District, a visit to the Lakeside Aquarium and a boat trip across Lake Windermere so it is a fun filled, busy, educational experience. Please pay on ParentPay by Friday 26 June. Thank you.

YEAR 4 MANCHESTER SCIENCE & INDUSTRY MUSEUM

As part of their Science and ICT topics on STEM and coding, Year 4 will be visiting Manchester Science and Industry museum on Tuesday 7 July. The children will be taking part in a variety of workshops – designing, writing and debugging programs. The cost of the visit is £10.50 which includes coach travel. Children should wear their school uniform. Please pay on ParentPay on Friday 3 July. Thank you.

YEAR 6 ACTIVITIES WEEK AND HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

Please can instalments for the Year 6 Activities Week be brought up to date. The final instalment must be paid by Friday 19 June. Thank you.

GOVERNOR MEETING

There will be meeting of the Governing Body as follows

Quality of Education – Wednesday 10 June at 5pm

GREAT HARWOOD AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Congratulations to Fayha Nazir (6HW) and Hibba Khaliq (6HW) who paraded pygmy goats at the Great Harwood Agricultural Show during half-term. Fayha came 4th & Hibba came 5th. Well done! Many thanks to Mr Smith & family for organising.

ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY AWARDS – TUESDAY 02 JUNE

Class of the week	-	5S
KS1 Person of the Match	-	Mohammad Eesa Akhtar (RQ)
KS2 Person of the Match	-	Humayd Mulla (6G)
KS1 I ate well today	-	Muhammad'Hamza Nawaz (1A)
KS2 I ate well today	-	Han'nah Idris (4M)

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

If you are interested in purchasing pre-loved uniform, please contact Mrs Khan or Ms Emam to arrange a viewing or to enquire about specific items.

All sales will make a real difference to our school nominated charity, Barnados.

Thank you for your support

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 have the following activities next term:

11 June	-	Outdoor Play
18 June	-	Forest School
25 June	-	Woodland Bingo
02 July	-	Messy Play

RECEPTION & NURSERY FUND

Reception and Nursery fund is now due for the Spring Term. If you have not already paid for the year, please pay £5 at the school office. Thank you.

MILK

Milk money is now overdue 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 of children in Years 1 and 2 pay £12 online for this academic year. Parents of children in both Reception classes – please check with Ms Emam. Thank you.

BLACKBURN CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY GRADUATION – GRADUATION HOURS

Please note that we are now calculating all Children's University hours ready for Graduation on Saturday 11th July 2026. If your child takes part in any external activities such as Scouts, Youth Action or Swimming lessons please do ensure their passport has been stamped and is up to date. If it has been stamped, please hand it into school by posting it in the BLUE CU box at the school office. The cut off for passports for external hours will be **9am THIS Monday 8th June**. Any passports handed in after this will be recorded, but the hours will be carried over to next year.

We **will not** be stamping for clubs this term yet as this will be done once school clubs have finished at the beginning of July. Please **do not hand your child's passport in for these now**.

Please look out for a letter over the next couple of weeks indicating the hours your child has for Children's University. If children are near to an award, we will look at whether they are doing clubs this term and also handing in their passport regularly for these.

MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CHALLENGES

If your child has completed any of the holiday challenges please ensure you send the evidence to Sara Burton via s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk or 07805929965. You must still remember to send your child's CU passport in to school so it can be updated. If you prefer you can send the evidence of the challenges into school together with your child's CU passport. Please remember the deadline for hours for graduation is THIS Monday. Anything stamped or sent after that will be carried over to next year.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE FESTIVAL BOOK AWARDS

Please note we will not be issuing any more books for this. Thank you for all those who have taken part, it is great to see so many children reading. If your child still has a book please ensure this is returned by the end of this week. If your child has been taking part please remember to hand their passport in to school so it can be stamped for these hours. This must be handed in by 9am THIS Monday if you would like their hours to be included for graduation and certificates this year. Any questions please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965 (please leave a message if there is no answer).

BLACKBURN CU FOOTBALL THEMED ACTIVITY DAY

If you have signed your child up to this please remember it is taking place THIS Saturday. Please check your confirmation for all the details. Any questions please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965 (please leave a message if there is no answer).

SWIMMING LESSONS

If you have signed your child up to the swimming lessons please remember the first one starts THIS Sunday. Please check your confirmation for all the details. Any questions

please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965 (please leave a message if there is no answer).

TESCO STRONGER STARTS – BLACKBURN CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY VOTE

Please remember to pick up a token and vote if you visit a Tesco store! Blackburn Children's University have been successful for the Tesco Stronger Starts Scheme and have been put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores (Blackburn Superstore, Bank Top, Roe Lee, Livesey and Darwen Express). The voting is to help fund Blackburn CU holiday activities including cooking as well as a variety of sport and wellbeing activities so children can have fun and learn new skills.

LIBRARY EVENTS

- **Angus Baskerville** is an award winning professional magician and mind reader who studied at the world-famous **Davenports Magic School** in London. In 2015 he joined the **Leamington & Warwick Magic Society**, and in 2020 achieved one of the greatest honours in the world of magic - becoming a member of **The Magic Circle**. Since then he's performed at major festivals including the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival**, the **Ventnor Fringe Festival** and has appeared multiple times at **Autism's Got Talent** at London's Mermaid Theatre. He will be performing at **Blackburn Central Library** on **Saturday 20th June, 1 - 2 pm**. Free tickets are available from the library, or online at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/believe-in-magic-with-angus-baskerville-tickets-1990632135303?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.
- **Dommy B** makes a welcome return to our festival this year. Dommy is a **winner of many poetry and performance awards**, including New York's famous Nuyorican Poets' Cafe Slam, UK's Superheroes of Slam, and Sabotage Review's award for Best Spoken Word Performer (twice!) He has been **Glastonbury Festival's** poet-in-residence and appeared on **BBC's The Rhyme Rocket**. Join us for his show **The Dinosaurs are Back!** at **Darwen Library Theatre** on **Saturday 13th June, 11 am to 12 pm or 1 - 2 pm**. Free tickets are available from Darwen Library, or online at:
Morning session <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-dinosaurs-are-back-with-dommy-b-tickets-1990527000843?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>
Afternoon session <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-the-dinosaurs-are-back-with-dommy-b-tickets-1990550128017?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Remember if your child attends any of these activities and they are a member of Children's University to pick up a slip at the event and then hand that in together with your child's CU passport to school.

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators BUILDING SCHOOL-READY LANGUAGE SKILLS

Oral language is fundamental to children's learning, literacy, and social and emotional development, with long-term impacts. As language develops rapidly between the ages of three and six, early, evidence-based support is essential. This guide offers practical ways to help the children in your care become confident communicators, including through proven approaches such as the DfE-funded NELI programmes available to settings in England.

1 BUILD ORAL LANGUAGE

Support children to use language, not just hear it. Give them the time to talk, respond, ask questions, and share their ideas. Everyday conversations, shared activities, and reading together help children practise both speaking and listening. At nursery or school, programmes such as NELI can help build their vocabulary, storytelling, attention, and listening skills, helping children grow in confidence as communicators.

2 SUPPORT LISTENING SKILLS

Help children to listen and follow simple instructions during everyday routines. Break instructions down into short, manageable steps and check their understanding. For example, say, "Please put your coat on," rather than giving them several instructions at once. Strong listening skills support learning, attention, and participation at school.

3 GROW THEIR VOCABULARY

Talk with children about the world around them, naming objects, actions, and feelings. Use a wide range of words during everyday activities such as shopping, cooking, and playing. Repeating and explaining new words help children understand and use vocabulary more confidently, supporting their comprehension and communication.

4 SHARE STORIES TOGETHER

Read storybooks together regularly and talk about characters, events, and illustrations. Ask simple questions such as "What's happening here?" and validate children's responses with positive feedback. Acting out stories together, asking open questions, and giving children the chance to be the storyteller can all support their narrative skills and confidence.

5 NAME DIFFERENT FEELINGS

Help children learn to express themselves by talking about different feelings and naming them clearly, such as happy, sad, or angry. Visuals and role play can support their understanding of this. Being able to express their feelings verbally helps children build positive relationships with adults and peers, reduces frustration, and supports their social development as they prepare for school.

6 WORK WITH SETTINGS

Strong communication between home and the nursery, school, or early years setting can help children feel more confident and supported. Parents can visit the setting with their child before they start, helping them become familiar with the environment and key adults. Educators can share relevant information with families and colleagues, so each child's needs are understood. Newsletters can also help families continue language learning at home.

7 SPOT LANGUAGE NEEDS

Children develop their language and communication skills at different rates, so early conversations between home and settings are important. If parents have concerns, they should speak to their child's nursery, school, or early years setting. Educators can use tools such as LanguageScreen, included in the NELI programmes, to build a profile of a child's speaking and listening skills and help identify suitable support.

8 EVIDENCE-BASED SUPPORT

Prioritise language and literacy approaches that are underpinned by robust research evidence. Evidence-based programmes help ensure children receive support that is more likely to make a meaningful difference. The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) provides guidance on the strength of evidence behind different strategies, supporting informed decision-making and effective use of school time and resources.

9 MEET INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Settings can use evidence-based assessment tools to understand children's language skills and identify where support may be needed. These tools support SEND reforms, and strengthen whole-setting language development, helping children receive support that reflects their individual communication needs.

10 TAKE PART IN RESEARCH

Research trials can give schools, early years settings, and families a valuable opportunity to contribute to evidence construction and future policy. Parents may be asked to give consent, share feedback, or support activities at home, while educators help deliver and monitor approaches in practice. The EEF often has trials that settings can join, including whole-class oral language programmes designed to support children's communication development.

Meet Our Expert

OxEd is a University of Oxford spinout company specialising in early language and literacy assessment and intervention. They are the delivery team for the Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) programme in reception, funded by the Department for Education for schools in England, and for NELI Preschool, which supports nurseries to strengthen children's early language development through evidence-based practice.



See full reference list on our website

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