



St Silas

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

Newsletter 8th July 2020

Message from Mrs Battersby,

This academic year has been the strangest and most challenging year in my many years of teaching. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you and the local community to enable your children to continue learning, both in school and at home, and to support you in these difficult times. We will continue to do this over the summer holidays as the school building is being used by a local charity, Youth Action, to provide summer activities. Hopefully I will see some of you. I hope you feel that the school has fulfilled its values of Belonging, Love, Service and Thankfulness.

On Wednesday 15th July most of the school will finish for the summer break, and on Thursday 16th July and Friday 17th July we will 'welcome back' our Year 6 children for their final two days at St Silas. They will be preparing for and holding their graduation, which, in the absence of their families, will be recorded. These two days will give them the opportunity to say farewell to their friends. The school will close to Year 6 following lunch on Friday. You will be given times for your child's individual pod.

Unless there is a change in the government advice for our area, school will open in September for all children. There will be staggered starts and ends to the school day and we will email this information nearer to the date. Children will be expected to wear their school uniform as normal. The government has stated that the normal attendance policies will apply and children are required to attend as normal. All staff members are looking forward to seeing the children again and welcoming them back to our school.

I wish everyone a happy and safe summer break.

Michele Battersby

During the Summer holidays there will be a range of activities on offer for our children.

Blackburn Children's University

- Blackburn CU is offering all children from our school (Reception – Year 6) the chance to take part in a variety of activities via Zoom.

Further details will be sent out via school through email and the school app.

- **Summer Holiday Challenges** will be sent via school on email and the School App. so please keep an eye out for them.
- **The Blackburn Children's University Graduation** will unfortunately not take place this year. Those CU members who would have achieved a national certificate will be sent an electronic copy later this month. Videos will be shared via social media celebrating Blackburn CU throughout July
- **Blackburn Children's University Challenges** - remember if your child has completed any challenges for Blackburn Children's University throughout the lockdown please email them to Sara Burton on:
s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk.

Details for all activities and other information for Blackburn CU will be sent out via school through email and text. Please ensure your details are up to date with school so you do not miss out. For more information please follow Blackburn CU on Facebook (@BlackburnCU) or Twitter (@Blackburn_CU). If you have any questions at all please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965.

Blackburn Library – Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge has now been launched. It will look a little different this year, with registration and completion being done online. Please visit www.sillysquad.org.uk for more details and to sign up. Blackburn Children's University members will still be able to collect stamps for completing it. Children can read books from home or online. Please note, Blackburn Library have launched their new 'call and collect' service which allows you to reserve books and collect them from the library (following social distancing guidance at all times). Information can be found online at www.blackburn.gov.uk/library or contact Blackburn Library on (01254) 661221.

If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact Sara Burton on 07805929965.

Poetry Competition

This is a competition being run by the Children's Literature Festivals. They know that life in lockdown has been a challenge for us all. They want to hear about these experiences in a poetic style. Children aged between 7 and 16 can enter. Children can write their poem on any subject which they associate with lockdown. The poem must be a minimum of eight lines and a maximum of thirty. The closing date for entries is 30th August. Please email your

entries to Sara Burton at s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk. Children's University members can also collect a stamp in their passport too.

As we head towards the final few days before the close down for the summer break it is now more than ever important that we all stay as safe as possible. We will see your children back at school after the holidays. Further information will be published on Twitter (@stsilas_primary), or on our website (www.stsilasprimary.co.uk).