

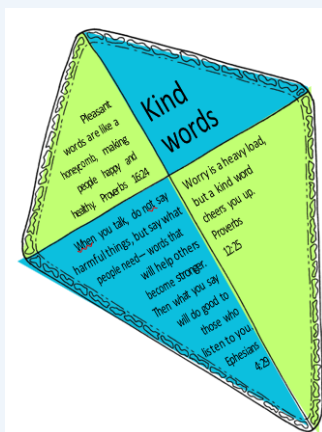
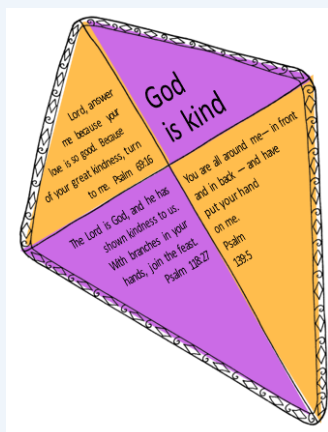


Newsletter—January 2026

Welcome back to the Spring Term! We hope the New Year has begun brightly for you all. Although Christmas already feels like a distant memory, we hope you enjoyed a special time with family and friends. We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you for the thoughtful cards, generous gifts, and kind support you shared with us at the end of last term — it truly meant a great deal.

We've had a wonderful start to the term and are excited for the learning journey ahead as we continue to grow, explore, and learn together.

This year marks the centenary of Blackburn Diocese, and we are enjoying the beautiful worships they have created on the theme of kindness. Over the past few weeks, we have spent time reflecting on excerpts from several psalms, each encouraging us to understand kindness more deeply and to think about the many ways we can show it to one another in our everyday lives.



Miss Ross and all the staff at Tockholes.

Vegetable Planting

Our Eco-Council have started their planting. Our first seeds have included Rosemary, chocolate chillies and orange peppers. Over the next few weeks we will be starting our potatoes, strawberries and chives. We have yet to harvest our parsnips (that's if the rabbits haven't been feasting on them!)



Smarties Challenge

Did you all remember to keep your smarties tubes! If you have managed to save some change to go in our fundraising pot, these are due in next week. We will continue to use any money raised to go towards new books, new sports equipment and bringing visitors into school.



Open Evening

In readiness for our parents evening after February half term, we are inviting you to come into school from 3:15—4:30 on Tuesday 3rd February to have a look at children's books.

National Year of Reading



In 2026, the nation is being invited to **Go All In** and discover how reading print and digital novels, non-fiction and poetry, exploring comics, magazines and graphic novels, or listening to audiobooks can unlock more of what we love. In school we will continue to:

- promote a love of reading with our monthly “Miss Ross Recommends” books
- have our community book box at the front of school for parents to borrow/share and discover new authors
- provide the children with dedicated reading time during the week.

We have also purchased a new reading comprehension scheme “Ready Steady Read Together”, a programme that develops comprehension skills and supports strong reading outcomes. The daily lessons high-quality, diverse texts by exceptional children’s authors allowing our children to explore poems, stories and non-fiction texts.

School Council

Our school council are in the middle of arranging a fund raising, “Break the Rules” day, which will take place on Wednesday 11th February. The school council along with staff, will agree up to 6 rules that can be broken on the day. Each rule broken will cost 50p. The funds raised will go towards equipment/books for the children.



Sphero Bots



Our KS2 children have been thoroughly enjoying their STEM sessions delivered by the Blackburn Rovers Community Trust. It is a 6 week project that develops their understanding of coding and controlling 'sphero bots'. This week the children coded and controlled their bots to score goals and take part in a football match.

Eco Council—Big Weekend Birdwatch

We haven't got the binoculars we need to take part in this year's bird watching activities in school. However, we are hopeful that we will be able to spot more birds in our school field this year. Last term, our KS2 children—thanks to Benny's family for providing the materials—built several bird and bat boxes. The Eco Council, with the help of Mr Power and Mr Gill, then installed these boxes around the field.



We'll be keeping a close eye on them to see whether any become inhabited!

Uniform Reminder

Gentle reminder that make-up and nail varnish are not to be worn in school. Earrings should be studs only and these should be removed on PE days. Trainers should be plain black only.

Lego Club

Looking forward to using these Raising Robots Lego science kits with our KS2 children in Lego club! We've been able to purchase these thanks to a science grant we received from the Edina Trust. The children will step into the role of scientists as they build, test and explore the world around them. Need to start saving to buy some for the infants next!





Diary dates—Spring term 2026

Tuesday 3rd February	Parents Open Afternoon
Wednesday 4th February	Yr 3 & 4 Discover Ballet Workshop
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11th February	Whole school—Discover Opera
Wednesday 11th February	Break The Rules Day
Friday 13th February	Wear Your Scarf Day
Tuesday 17th March	Parents Evening

Term Dates

Friday 13th February 2026 School closes for half-term

Monday 23rd February 2026 School re-opens

Friday 27th March 2026 School closes for Easter

Tuesday 14th April 2026 School re-opens for start of Summer term

Monday 4th May 2026 Bank Holiday

Friday 22nd May 2026 School closes for half-term

Tuesday 2nd June 2026 School re-opens

Friday 17th July 2026 School closes for Summer holiday