



Newsletter—October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weeks are flying by, and we've already achieved so much together. The children are now well and truly settled back into the routines of school—working hard, engaging in their learning, and embracing the rhythm of the term.

At school and at home, it's easy to focus on our own goals, needs, and worries. But something special happens when we take time to notice others—whether it's helping a classmate who's struggling, cheering on a friend's success, or simply asking someone how they're doing. When we care about others, we nurture kindness, teamwork, and stronger friendships. Our bible verse this week reminds us to support those around us – not only during Harvest time, but in everything we do. It's a beautiful message that encourages us to live with compassion and purpose.

Don't look out only
for your own
interests, but take an
interest in others,
too.

Philippians 2:4

Let's remind our children (and ourselves!) that life isn't just about
“me”—it's about “we.”

Warm regards,
Gill Ross



We hope you have all had chance to look at the Kinetic Letter packs that have come home this week with your children. We know that handwriting is a crucial foundation for writing success and engagement with learning. Our aim is to ensure that we make handwriting automatic...so all the attention of the brain can be on the writing content.

Please contact staff at school if you would like any further advice on how to support your child's handwriting at home.

Parents Evening— Tuesday 18th November 2025

Our Autumn term parents evening will take place on Tuesday 18th November. In the coming weeks, teachers will put out details of the appointment times for you to select your preferred time slot.

Uniform reminders

We are noticing an increase in numbers of children coming to school wearing a range of accessories. The only permitted accessory is stud earrings, which children must be able to remove themselves for PE and swimming.

We invite you to check our uniform information on the school website.

[Uniform Information | St Stephen's Tockholes CE Primary School](#)

Please remember that for swimming NO accessories are permitted (no earrings, watches, bracelets/wristbands, necklaces). Children with long hair MUST be able to tie up their hair themselves. If this is something they struggle with please send them to school with their hair already tied up. Children must be able to put on a swimming cap.

Mental Health Awareness Day—Friday 10th October 2025—wear your favourite colour.

Normally to mark this day the colour is yellow, but not all children will have something yellow and some may just not like the colour! Therefore on Friday children are invited to come to school wearing their favourite colour.

Open Evening for Prospective Parents—Wednesday 22nd October 2025 - 5:30pm

Our annual open evening for anyone with children due to start school in September 2026, will take place on Wednesday 22nd October 2025 at 5:30pm.

Prospective families will have the opportunity to meet the staff, governors and have a look around our wonderful school. There is no need to book, so please just turn up and if you need to bring your children along please feel free to do so. If this date is not convenient please contact school to arrange a more suitable time.

To apply for a place please use the following link: [Apply for primary or junior school | Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council](#)



St. Stephen's Tockholes CE Primary School
Rock Lane, Tockholes, Darwen, BB3 0LX
Telephone: 01254 701806
Website: www.tockholeschool.org.uk

Open Evening
Wednesday 22nd October 2025
5:30pm

New to the area or have children due to start school in September 2026?
Come along to find out more and see why Tockholes is the place to be.



Applications for High School for September 2026

The application round is now open for anyone with a child in Year 6 moving on to high school next year..

Applications should be made online via this link [Apply for secondary school | Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council](#)

The closing date is 31st October 2025.

Tuesday 14th October—Exciting Sporting Experience – Golf Fun Day!

We're thrilled to kick off our year of sporting adventures with a fantastic Golf Fun Day on **Tuesday 14th October!** Pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a range of golf-themed games and activities designed to be inclusive, engaging, and most importantly—fun! It's a great chance to try something new, build skills, and enjoy being active together. We can't wait to see everyone getting involved and having a brilliant time!

Children will need to come to school wearing their PE Kits with trainers, and you must also ensure that your child brings a coat, hat and gloves with them on the day in case of wet/windy weather.



We are thrilled to be able to share some information about an upcoming Great Athletes event. We are hoping to have the name of the athlete to announce to you soon.

On the event day, all pupils will take part in a sponsored fitness circuit run by their athlete, a terrific way to get all children excited about sport and realise that getting moving is really fun! Their athlete will then share their incredible sporting journey, a story of resilience and determination in a fun and interactive assembly.

There will also be an opportunity to ask any burning questions in a Q&A session with their inspiring role-model at the end!

Christmas Fair 2025

Our annual Christmas Fair this year will be held on Saturday 29th November 2025. If you, or anyone you know, would like a stall then please contact the school office. The cost of a stall is £10 and if possible a donation of a prize towards our annual Christmas raffle would be greatly appreciated.

All funds raised at our Christmas Fair go to School Funds which help to enhance the experiences we provide for the children and also helps to subsidise school visits.

Welcome to our Councils

Ethos Council 2025



Eco Council 2025



Tech Team 2025



Please note that not all children are shown due to permissions.



Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Macmillan Coffee morning. We raised £143.50 for this very worth charity.

Thank you to all those who sent in donations and joined us for our Harvest Service in Church. We were overwhelmed by your generosity.

Along with donations from Church on Sunday, these will be taken to the Food Larder in Darwen to help those in need.

Thank you to our Ethos Council for leading the service.





Diary dates—Autumn term 2025

Thursday 16th October	Golf Day—details to follow
Wednesday 22nd October	5:30pm Prospective Parents Open Evening
W/C 10th November	Remembrance Week
Tuesday 11th November	Y5/6 Remembrance service in Church
Tuesday 18th November	Skateboarding Workshop
	Parents Evening—details to follow
Saturday 29th November	Christmas Fair in school—details to follow
Wednesday 3rd December	Hindu/Diwali Enrichment Day
Wednesday 10th December	All school to Panto at Planet Ice Blackburn
W/C 15th December	NO After school clubs this week
Wednesday 17th December	2:00pm & 6:00pm Nativity performances in Church
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Dinner and Parties
Friday 19th December	2:00pm Carol Service in Church

Term Dates

Thursday 23rd October 2025	School closes for half-term
Tuesday 4th November 2025	School re-opens
Friday 19th December 2025	School closes for Christmas holidays
Monday 5th January 2026	School re-opens for start of Spring term
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