

# Newsletter 17 – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

*Knowledge begins with respect for God (Proverbs 1:7)*

This half-term's value is 'Compassion' (Colossians 3:12)

## Ofsted

As you will know, our school was inspected by Ofsted last Tuesday and Wednesday. What you might not know is that Ofsted are now using a very different inspection framework, called a 'toolkit'. The key differences to the new toolkit are as follows:

- Schools no longer receive an overall grade.
- Instead of four further judgements about different areas of a school's work, there are now seven, as well as a judgement about safeguarding.
- These seven areas are Inclusion, Curriculum and teaching, Achievement, Attendance and behaviour, Personal development and wellbeing, Early years, Leadership and governance.
- The old grades (Inadequate, Requires Improvement, Good and Outstanding) have been replaced by five new grades: Urgent Improvement, Needs Attention, Expected Standard, Strong Standard and Exceptional.
- The new grades do not correspond to the old grades. It is widely accepted that 'Expected Standard' is more challenging for a school to achieve than the previous 'Good' grade.
- Ofsted have explained that a 'Needs Attention' grade does not mean failure, but rather serves as an advisory, highlighting areas where further attention might be needed to prevent further issues.
- Previously, inspectors used a 'best fit' approach when deciding on a grade for an aspect of the school's work. This means that a grade would be given if the majority of the criteria were met for that grade. Now, every criterion must be met for a school to be awarded that grade.

We will receive our inspection report card in a few weeks' time. I will share it with you as soon as I receive it.

## Admission to Reception – September 2026

A final reminder that if you have a child due to start school in September 2026 (born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022), please go to [www.blackburn.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/admissions) for information about primary schools and how to apply for a place online.

The deadline to complete this form is Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – that's this Thursday! You need to do this as a matter of urgency to secure a school place for your child.

## School Meals

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who regularly order their child's school meals and pays for them in advance – your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sitting down with your child to choose their lunches together makes sure that they will get something they will particularly enjoy. This ensures that your child eats a good amount at lunchtime; something very important for their health and wellbeing, as well as their concentration in their afternoon lessons.



## Class Newsletters

Your child will soon be bringing home a class newsletter for the spring term with important information about homework, PE days etc. Please read this carefully. Class newsletters are also available on the class pages on our school website.

## Missing glasses

A pair of glasses has been handed in to the main office. They appear to be adult's glasses and were found near the entrance on Withers Street near the KS2 playground and staff car park (the gate I stand at each morning). Please call in at the office if you think these might be yours.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julian Rogers'.

Julian Rogers  
Headteacher

## Mental Health Support Team

The Mental Health Support Team's most recent newsletter is attached to this newsletter.

## This week's Amazing Achievers!

### You've Been Spotted!

Children who have been demonstrating one of our school values:

Hira Noor Kayani & Mariam Rafiq – Robins  
 Zakariya Latif – Woodpeckers  
 Mohammed Bhamji – Kingfishers  
 Laiba Nasir – Swallows  
 Harris Khan – Doves  
 Iqra Aziz – Owls  
 Umamah Bhamji – Kestrels  
 Hooria Abbas – Hawks  
 Ritaj El-Morchidi – Falcons  
 Amina Thazhathethil – Eagles

### Headteacher's Award

Children chosen for a special achievement:

Minahil Farhan & Juwayriyyah Noori – Robins  
 Haadiyah Khan – Woodpeckers  
 Abeera Chaudhry – Kingfishers  
 Deen Hussain – Swallows  
 Haniya Syed – Doves  
 Azaan Qureshi – Owls  
 Keyan Shah – Kestrels  
 Kristofers Kilpe – Hawks  
 Subhan Nain – Falcons  
 Richard Szileczki – Eagles

### Recent Reading Badges

Doves

Sapphire - Yusuf Bismillah  
 Emerald - Khadija Nawaz

Hawks

Abu Bakr Malik & Ahmed Mulla – Sapphire  
 Fatima Hussain – Jet  
 Sulaiman Kheratkar & Zaeem Patel – Bronze Star  
 Hooria Abbas, Ahmad Mahmood &  
 Anaya Faisal – Gold Star

### Remarkable Readers

Children who have impressed their teachers with their reading this week:

Zuneyah Khan – Woodpeckers  
 Uzair Bilal – Kingfishers  
 Salahuddin Nawaz – Swallows  
 McKenzie Mulleney – Doves  
 Amna Hussain – Owls  
 M. Essa Hussain – Kestrels  
 Fatima Geloo – Hawks  
 Hawa Atif – Falcons  
 Faizaan Abdulghafoor – Eagles

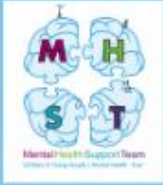
**Mrs Martin's Class of the Week:  
 The Whole School**

**Mr Ulhaq's Ultimate Achiever:  
 Jasmine Akhtar (Owls)**

**Mr Richardson's Lunchtime Awards:  
 Huda Hooti (Swallows) & Fatima Geloo (Hawks)**

## Last Week's Attendance

	Best attendance	Best punctuality
Infants	Robins & Woodpeckers	Robins
Juniors	Doves	Owls & Eagles



# Newsletter

**NHS**  
Lancashire &  
South Cumbria  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Mental Health Support Team**

**January/February 2026**



## MHST? Who are we?

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) provides an accessible service for students from primary age to year 13 who may be experiencing a range of mild to moderate difficulties with their mental health.

The teams are based within education settings and cover Year 1 to Year 11 in Blackburn with Darwen and Burnley, Burnley College, Year 1 to Year 6 in Pendle and Year 7-13 in Hyndburn, Rossendale and Ribble Valley (including Nelson and Colne and Accrington College).

If you have noticed your child is feeling frequently sad, worried or anxious and feel they may need support from our team, please speak to a member of staff at your child's school, who can support a referral to the service. You can also speak to your GP.

## Happy New Year!



Hello everyone

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a chance to rest and reset over the the holiday period.

Some of us in the MHST have had a lovely break; but some staff have still been in work continuing to support young people over the Christmas holidays. When schools are closed we usually offer appointments online/over the phone or at various Local Children's Centres; it has been nice to keep in touch with some of you, whilst others have enjoyed a therapy break.

## Young Peoples Column

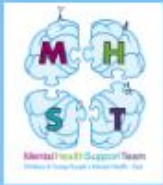
Our Young People's Participation Group met prior to Christmas and have celebrated 2025 successes (there have been many!)

The group have set goals for the upcoming new year and some of the young people attended the Youth Voices meeting, sharing their experiences and suggestions for improvements to the wider NHS Trust.



One of our goals that has come from our latest Participation meeting is - PROMOTION!! Our young people are very keen to highlight our service in a more 'young person friendly way' and they will be supporting us in creating social media content (watch this space!) and highlighting the service we offer in various different ways. One of the first ways to support this is to ask for your help!! Please if you are reading this newsletter can you please share with friends/colleagues/anyone who you think may find the information helpful - we really do appreciate your support. Also please make sure you follow us on social media!! (Information on the last page!)





# Joyful January

January can often feel like a challenging month. The festive season has ended, the days are short, and many of us feel the weight of setting ambitious New Year's resolutions. It's easy to feel overwhelmed or low, but you're not alone—and there are practical ways to boost your wellbeing and start the year on a positive note.

"Joyful January" is a popular theme for starting the new year with positivity, focusing on simple joys like nature, good food, small treats, and connecting with others to combat winter blues.

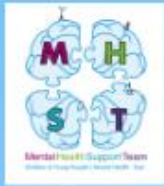


Kickstart the new year with positivity using this Happier January Calendar (Click the image for a link to download and print)

**Happier January 2026**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
			1 Find three things to look forward to this year	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day	4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why	
5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe	7 Learn something new and share it with others	8 Say positive things to the people you meet today	9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)	10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why	11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime	
12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Take a different route today and see what you notice	14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today	15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	16 Contribute positively to your local community	17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	18 Get back in contact with an old friend	
19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough	20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge	21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone	22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you	23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment	24 Take a small step towards an important goal	25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	
	26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently	29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	30 See how many people you can smile at today	31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future	
<b>ACTION FOR HAPPINESS</b>							

**Happier · Kinder · Together**



Click here for more information and FREE resources



Lancashire & South Cumbria  
NHS Foundation Trust

Children's Mental Health Week is an annual mental health awareness week launched by children's mental health charity, Place2Be. The week exists to empower, equip and give a voice to all children and young people in the UK. The theme this year is Belonging.

## What does belonging mean?

**Do you know belonging isn't felt from just one thing or one place.**

**There are so many ways we can feel like we belong.** See some examples below:

- At Home: with supportive family members/carers who know you well, even your quirks.



- At School: in classrooms where ideas are shared, with teachers who believe in you, and among friends.



- In Activities & Special Interests: that you enjoy and are passionate about ex: sport, arts, maths, reading...



- In Communities: religious or cultural groups, neighbourhood communities, online spaces, or volunteer organisations.



- With Friends: those special people who truly understand you, make you laugh, and stand by you through good times and difficult ones.



- Within Yourself: feeling comfortable to be you and accepting yourself as you are.

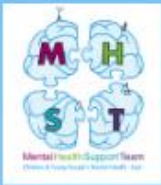


- Within the Environment and Universe: being outdoors or looking at the stars to feel belonging not only with other people but all that exists on our planet and beyond



Be Kind.

# Signposting and Information



Click on the images  
or scan the QR codes



**TREK TALK**  
Fathers | Grandparents | Carers

MONTHLY WALKS FOR MEN AND CHILDREN  
For Saturday of every month

**1st Saturday each month**  
10am-12pm

**1 hour walk**  
Pram friendly routes

**Family Hub Livesey**  
Andrew Close  
BB2 4NU

**FREE** enquiries@shine-coaching.com

**THE GUIDE**  
Wear suitable footwear & clothes  
Refreshments available  
Keep it fun & friendly

**AGES 0-11**



**WARM HEARTS  
WARM SPACES**



**Need help to find or stay in work?**

Connect to Work can help you if you're finding it tough to get a job or stay in work. Whether you have a disability, a long term health condition, or you're finding it hard to keep a job, we're here to support you. Let's talk.

- A personal employment specialist to support you
- A plan to help you meet your work goals
- Help and support at work and outside of work
- Support to help make changes at work to make things easier
- Someone to help you speak up at work

To find out more about this fully funded service, please email: [employmentsupport@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:employmentsupport@blackburn.gov.uk)

Scan the QR code to find out more:



Access help and advice for yourself, your home and others



**Females Friendship Forum  
Monday Coffee Mornings**

Enjoy Mindful Arts, a drink, refreshments and light Lunch every week 11am-1pm  
Nelson Family Hub Leeds Road BB9 8EL

Booking required Contact Farisa 07958215944



Tackling financial insecurity together.



A free Benefits Calculator to find out what benefits you can claim.

Follow us for regular updates and helpful tips:



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SCAN ME