



Ribbleton Avenue Infant School Newsletter

12th September 2025



Mrs Bishop's Message:

Hello to all our families here at school! We have had a great start to the term so far and the children have settled in well.

My name is Mrs Bishop and I am the new Head Teacher. I am from Blackburn originally and I have family in Preston and Blackburn. I have spent the last 21 years of my career based in Greater Manchester working in a variety of different schools.

I am very proud to now be the Head Teacher at Ribbleton Avenue Infants 😊

If you see me around, please come and say hello!

Dates for your diary:

- **Tuesday 14th October – parents evening 2:00 - 3:00pm and 3:30 – 5:30pm.**
- **Wednesday 15th October - parents evening 2:00 - 3:00pm and 3:30 – 5:30pm.**
- **Year 1 Harvest assembly - 9:15am**
- **Friday 24th October – Diwali celebrations (party clothes)**
- **Friday 24th October – finish for half term**
- **Monday 3rd November – NO SCHOOL INSET DAY**
- **Tuesday 4th November – children back**
- **Wednesday 5th November – Guru Nanak celebration assembly**
- **Friday 14th November – Children In Need (spotty/yellow theme)**



We are an Operation Encompass School.

Operation Encompass is a police and education early information-sharing partnership enabling immediate support to children who have experienced domestic abuse.¹

The educational settings' Operation Encompass Key Adult (designated safeguarding lead) is Mrs Bishop. She will be notified about ALL police-attended incidents of domestic abuse before the start of the next school day. This allows the education setting to offer timely support to the child victims.

Operation Encompass is established in all police forces in England and Wales. Operation Encompass includes ALL educational settings. If you want more information on this, please click on this link:

<https://www.operationencompass.org/>



While **not illegal** for parents to use their phones at the school gate, schools are increasingly discouraging the practice for safety and child well-being reasons and to promote a positive atmosphere for children. Parents are encouraged to put phones away to fully engage with their children, fostering conversation and a stronger connection at a crucial time.

Why school discourages phone use:

- **Safety:** Using phones can be a distraction, creating a safety hazard at the busy school gates where children and vehicles are present.
- **Child well-being:** Being greeted with an engaged parent's smile, rather than a phone, helps children feel seen and valued after their school day.
- **Positive atmosphere:** Schools aim to create an environment where children and parents can interact and connect, free from the distractions of mobile devices.

Parental actions:

- **Be present:** Make a conscious effort to put your phone away as you approach the school and be ready to greet your child with your full attention.
- **Promote connection:** Use the moment of collection to ask your child about their day, showing them, they are your priority.