



Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 1 | 8th September 2023

SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

Our Mission Statement:
Through Jesus we love, learn and grow

Prayer

Father,
Thank you for our first week back at school, for the new lessons we have learnt and the friends we have seen again. May we enjoy the sunshine this weekend with our families and come back on Monday ready for more happy, productive days.
Amen

☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Whole Class	
Reception	Whole Class	
Year One	Sophia	
Year Two	Alice	Abbie
Year Three	Reuben	Freddie
Year Four	Annabelle	Annie
Year Five	Monty	Millie
Year Six	Nathan	Matthew

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

LOSTOCK

Please click to find out more about our school

[Facebook](#)

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.'

Phil 4:13

Reception Class

Our new children in Reception Class are settling in nicely and have especially enjoyed their time exploring our outside spaces. They were all very keen to meet their Year 6 Buddies on Wednesday afternoon too! A well-earned rest is needed after a busy first week.

Well done everyone!



Judo Assembly

KS2 had a Judo Assembly this week to watch and have a go at some of the activities which take place at Judo club. They had lots of fun seeing their friends competing against each other!

Letters have been sent home with children with information about how to sign up online. The club commences on Monday 18th September at 8am.



Mr Lyons

Congratulations to Mr And Mrs Lyons on the birth of their beautiful daughter Ada.

We look forward to welcoming Mr Lyons back to school next week-with lots of lovely photos to share, we hope!





Open Days, "Welcome Week"

You are warmly invited to visit our school week commencing Monday 9th October.

The following sessions are available:-

Monday : Afternoon 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

Tuesday : Morning 9.00 am to 10.30 am

Wednesday: Morning 9.00 am to 10.30 am

Thursday : Afternoon 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

During these times, you will be able to visit each of our classrooms and speak with teaching staff and pupils, whilst watching lessons in progress.

Staff and governors will be on hand to guide you around and answer any queries you may have. Mrs Birchall, our headteacher, will also be available to speak to you should you have anything you wish to discuss.

We believe our school is a very special place where children are happy in their learning and have a full range of activities to enjoy.

We look forward to welcoming you. No booking is required, please just turn up.

Every year, at this time, we invite parents, who are considering sending their children to St. Mary's, to come and take a look at us in action. This year, we would like to extend that invitation to all our current parents too. Please do take this opportunity to see what your child gets up to on a typical school day. We look forward to seeing you then!

Letters Home

Whole School—Welcome Back Letter
Year 6—Welcome Letter
Year 1—Welcome Letter
Little Explorers—Welcome Letter

Whole School—Meet the Teacher
Whole School—Open Days
KS2—Judo Club
Whole School—Forest School

Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtimes
Monday	Judo Club KS2	8.00-8.45am (starting 18.9.23)
Tuesday	Futsal KS1	3.20-4.20pm
Wednesday	St Marys Singing Sensations	3.20-4.20pm
Thursday	Futsal KS2	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

Upcoming Dates

Monday 11th September	3.20-3.45pm	Meet the Teacher (Classrooms)
Tuesday 12th September	9.00am	Reception Class Photo
Tuesday 19th September	9.10am	Open the Book
Friday 22nd September	9.45am	Harvest Festival (St Mary's Church) - everyone is welcome to join us

Secondary school admissions

If your child is in Year 6 you can now apply for their secondary school place at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

You must apply even if you already have siblings in school. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

The closing date for secondary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on 31 October 2023.

For guidance on school transport see: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/school-transport/>.

Remember to check your preferred schools' websites for details of their open evenings.

fun activities

Jellybeans

Jellybeans sessions for under 4s

songs

10am to 11am

Stories

in the school hall at
Eccleston St. Marys CE Primary School

Recommencing
14th September
2023

Children must be
accompanied by an adult

£2
per family

Refreshments
will be
served

Please share this information
with other families in the village.

FUTSAL TRAINING GROUPS

JM COACHING ACADEMY

FREE TASTER
SESSION!

IMPROVED SPEED
OF PLAY



SKILL DEVELOPMENT
FOCUS

FUN SESSIONS
QUALITY COACHING!

FUTSAL, THE ULTIMATE GAME FOR FOOTBALL SKILL DEVELOPMENT

BISHOP RAWSTORNE GYMNASIUM

HIGHFIELD RD, CROSTON, LEYLAND PR26 9HH

U7

WEDNESDAY
18:00-19:00

U8

TUESDAY
19:15-20:15

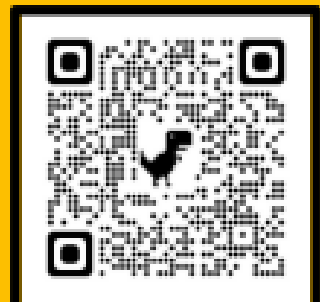


STARTING SEPTEMBER 2023
FOR AGES 6 TO 8 YEARS OLD

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CALL/TEXT - 07896 030716

BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW AT
JMCOACHINGACADEMY.CO.UK

OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO THE
RIGHT FOR OUR BOOKING PAGE



FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

@JMCOACHINGACADEMY



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Snapchat is an instant messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' 24 hours after they've been viewed; however, this content isn't as temporary as many believe - with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. This year, Snapchat added 'My AI': a customisable chatbot with which people can chat and share secrets, as well as asking for advice and suggestions of places to visit.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends - but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have anyone behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score), Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse - so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations - creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely - but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).



CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature: users can now receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.



DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.



CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up - and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.



KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life - especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.



BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger *does* connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.snapchat.com/help/glossary/2020/06/25/2020-06-25-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it> | <https://www.snapchat.com/help/glossary/2020/06/25/2020-06-25-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it> | <https://www.snapchat.com/help/glossary/2020/06/25/2020-06-25-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it> | <https://www.snapchat.com/help/glossary/2020/06/25/2020-06-25-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it> | <https://www.snapchat.com/help/glossary/2020/06/25/2020-06-25-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it> | <https://www.snapchat.com/help/glossary/2020/06/25/2020-06-25-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it> | <https://www.snapchat.com/help/glossary/2020/06/25/2020-06-25-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-do-i-use-it>

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