



# Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 8 | 3rd November 2023

# SCHOOL NEWS

**Our Motto:**  
Believe & Achieve

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

## Prayer

As we celebrate the 150th birthday of our fantastic school, let's share our school prayer—the prayer that binds us all together as the wonderful family of St. Mary's.

**O Lord,  
Bless our school, that working together and playing together, we may learn to serve you and to serve one another.**

**For Jesus's sake,  
Amen**

## ☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Everley	
Reception	April	Sansa
Year One	Freddie	
Year Two	George	Bronte
Year Three	Niko	Zach
Year Four	Raegan	Aria
Year Five	Alex C	Scarlett
Year Six	Ben	Harper

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

**LOSTOCK**

WINNING HOUSE HALF TERM

**LOSTOCK**

Please click to find out  
more about our school

**Facebook**

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

**Phil 4:13**

## Victorian Day

We have had a wonderful day, experiencing what life might have been like for a pupil at St. Mary's when we first opened 150 years ago. Thank you so much to everyone who provided the children with such fantastic costumes—they certainly looked the part!



## 1, 2, 3.... BAKE! 'The Great Birthday Bake Off'

You are warmly invited to take part in the 'Great Birthday Bake Off'. We would love all our school families to bake a birthday cake for the school and bring it with you on Monday morning—6th November—our official birthday!

The cakes will be on display in the school hall throughout the day and you will be able to see them if you are joining us for our Celebration Assembly at 2.15 pm.

Prizes will be awarded to the 'Star Bakers' and then you will be able to take your cake home at the end of the day. Please provide a named cake tin / box for this purpose. Thank you.



## Construction Club

From swimming pools and dens to Mars Rovers and observation towers, the theme of the first Construction Club was 'Build it Big'. We all had great fun and collaborated well to design and build some wonderful models!



## Poppy Appeal

Poppies are on sale in school now. We also have metal pin badges and car bumper poppies for a minimum donation of £3.00, snap bands £1.50, wrist bands £1.00, reflective keyrings and zip pulls 50p.

Please send change in to school with your child. Thank you.



## Remembrance Sunday


This year, Remembrance Sunday is on 12th November. The procession will leave Eccleston Primary School, Doctors Lane, at 10.15am arriving at St Mary's church for an outside service starting at 10.45am. We will be walking together as a school so please do join us, if you can.



## Shoebboxes for Ukraine Appeal


Please do try to support this worthy cause if you can.

Filled Shoebboxes can be returned to school at any time during October and November, after which they will be collected and transported to Ukraine.




### Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2023

All year we have been working hard to send aid to Ukraine. This Christmas we are sending shoebox parcels of goodies so that people who have lost a lot during the conflict there, can have something for Christmas that might be useful and enjoyable. If you are able, please consider filling a wrapped shoebox of goodies and donating it to us at the 'Ukraine Unit' in Chorley town centre. The box and lid needs to be wrapped separately and closed with a rubber band around it. Please then label it to show if the contents are for a Girl, Boy, Man or Woman. If it is for a child, please also add the age group the parcel is appropriate for.



We will do the rest and make sure it gets to the people of Ukraine so they can enjoy during Christmas and the New Year. Contents could include: gloves, scarf, hat, chocolate, sweets, toy, toiletries, etc... perhaps even a drawing or Christmas card ☺

\*Don't worry if you can't fill a box. If you donate what you can, we will make up the rest.



For more details, please follow our group on Facebook: **Chorley & District Support for Ukraine**  
Alternatively, please email: [saclewlow@yahoo.com](mailto:saclewlow@yahoo.com)

Please feel free to share this appeal with anyone or any group that you feel might be able to join in with the effort.  
Thank you for your support.  
Stuart A. Clewlow - Group Co-ordinator.

Please note: We are also still accepting all other kinds of donations such as clothing, shoes, blankets, toiletries, baby products, medical equipment, etc

## Celebration Party Day

Monday 6th November is our official 150th birthday. The theme for the day will be 'celebrations' so everyone is invited to come to school in party clothes.

We will be holding a special Celebration Assembly at 2.15pm when we will be reflecting on a very special year and sealing our Time Capsule so please do join us if you possibly can.



## Pick up

For Safeguarding reasons, If someone new is picking your child up from school, please could you inform the school office or your child's class teacher. Thank you.

## School Photographs

Please remember to return your school photograph requests along with payment by Friday 17th November. Thank you.

## Upcoming Dates

Monday 6th November	All Day	150th Birthday Party Day
Monday 6th November		The Great Birthday Bake Off
Monday 6th November	2.15pm	Celebration Assembly
Thursday 9th November	3.30pm	PTFA AGM
Friday 10th November	10.45am	Remembrance Service (Please join us)
Tuesday 14th November	9.10am	Open the Book
Wednesday 15th November	10.00am	Nursery Visit to Library
Thursday 16th November	9.00am	Flu Vaccines
Friday 17th November	All Day	Children in Need Day

## Letters Home

Reception Class—Mrs Barden

Y6—Headssup Letter

Whole School—PTFA AGM Email

## Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtimes
Tuesday	Construction Club KS1	3.15-4.00pm
Tuesday	Dodgeball KS2	3.20-4.20pm
Wednesday	Spanish Club Yrs1-6	8.00-8.50am
Wednesday	St Marys Singing Sensations	3.20-4.20pm
Thursday	Multi-Sport Skills KS1	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

## Admission to Primary School 2024 is now open.

If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools)  
It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

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.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# X

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who 'promote denial and hatred'.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user doesn't already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

### BLUE TICK SALE

### LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

### VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

### DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

### STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

### ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow: this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

### BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

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