



SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

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

Prayer

Christ, come into our world of darkness
Light up our lives with your coming.
Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth
Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world
And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.
Amen.

☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Hattie	
Reception	Maevy	Caiden
Year One	Jackson	Maisie
Year Two	Ben	Fearne
Year Three	Imogen	Harry
Year Four	Thomas B	Lucas
Year Five	Alex Cr	River
Year Six	George	Lucas

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

DOUGLAS

Please click to find out
more about our school

[Facebook](#)

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

Phil 4:13



CERTIFICATES



Bronze certificates are awarded for gaining 50 house points.

BRONZE

Year 6 Mathew Joseph Vinny

Year 3 Zach Lola Starssi Robert Teddy Maia
Niko Freddie Pippa

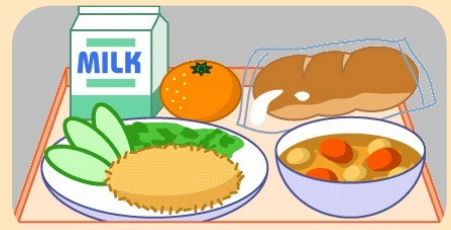
Year 2 Peter Pippa Myla

School Dinner Payments

Please remember to pay any school dinner arrears as soon as possible. **School dinner payments should ideally be made on a weekly basis.**

It is possible to upload a credit amount onto school money to avoid having to remember to log on and pay each week.

Payments will automatically be deducted from this credit, making school dinner payments easier to manage.



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



The closing date for primary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on 15 January

Nursery



This week Nursery have enjoyed exploring outside in the frost and then had a story about Jack Frost.



Geography

Year 6 were brilliant and determined to remove as much litter as possible from the field. They were quite shocked at how much litter we collected in a relatively short space of time and worryingly, we found out first hand just how much plastic pollution is impacting our local area!



Construction Club

During the final session of Construction Club, everyone received a certificate for their excellent participation and effort.

Brilliant work everyone!



Winter Wonderland

Reception Class

Reception class have been busy threading in preparation for their Winter Wonderland stall!



Year 5

Year 5 have been preparing Christmas crumbles as part of their DT project. With a variety of ingredients including apples, cinnamon, mincemeat and cranberries they are certainly getting into the Christmas spirit!



Year 6

Y6 have prepared sustainable, homemade, plastic-free Christmas decorations for Winter Wonderland.



Nursery

Our Nursery children are keen to join in the fun and have been working hard to produce their own Christmas gifts.

Author Sean Perkins

We were thrilled to welcome author, Sean Perkins into school on Thursday. He has written and illustrated a number of books for children and read one of them—'Oscar and Ben: the Birthday Party' to the whole school during assembly, in his own inimitable way!

He also led workshops with each class, sharing advice on developing ideas, rhyming and personification. As a result of his input, the children have produced some fantastic writing.

If you would like the opportunity to buy any of Sean's books, a letter will be coming home on Monday with more information.



Upcoming Dates

Monday 4th December	9.10 am	Worship led by Rev Jo
	10.30am	Journey to the Stable (Y3 & Y4)
Tuesday 5th December	9.10am	Ben Green Worship
Wednesday 6th December	9.00am	Shoe Boxes Collected
Friday 8th December	All Day	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 12th December	9.10am	Open the Book (Please join us)
Wednesday 13th December	2.00pm	Junior Performance
Wednesday 13th December	6.00pm	Junior Performance
Thursday 14th December	10.00am	Choir Carol Singing (Caffe Manna)
Thursday 14th December	2.00pm	Infant Performance
Thursday 14th December	6.00pm	Infant Performance
Friday 15th December	9.30am	Junior Community Performance
Monday 18th December	am	Whole school cinema trip
	Lunchtime	Christmas lunch

Letters Home

KS1—Bethlehem Bake Off Letter

Whole School—Advent Challenge Letter

KS1—Infant Nativity Letter

KS2—Junior Christmas Performance Letter

Whole school—Christmas shows further information

Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtimes
Wednesday	Spanish Club Yrs1-6	8.00-8.50am
Wednesday	St Marys Singing Sensations	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change; many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

Meet Our Expert

Luke Ramadan is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for the St Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes in the TES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



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