



SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

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

Our Junior classes have been filling our Prayer Tree with their prayers for Advent. This week, Harry from Year 3 has written the prayer we want to share with you.



Prayer

Dear God,

We thank you for everything. Please help us to be patient and wait for things coming in Advent. On Christmas Day, please help us spend some time with you.

Amen

Remember we break up for
Christmas at 2.00pm on Wednesday 20th
December.

Wishing all of our families and friends a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

LOSTOCK

WINNING HOUSE HALF TERM

LOSTOCK



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

Phil 4:13

**Please click to find out
more about our school**

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Reception and Nursery

Reception and nursery all enjoyed making some bird feeders and some of the children went for a walk into the village to hang them up for the birds.



Year 2 Cake Sale

Year 2 organised a very successful cake sale. They raised £133 to buy presents for Manchester Children's Hospital.

A great lesson in kindness and generosity at Christmas.



Open the Book

We were delighted to welcome family and friends to join us for the latest visit of the Open the Book team. We were all treated to a unique retelling of the Christmas story and Y3 really enjoyed helping them out in some of the roles.



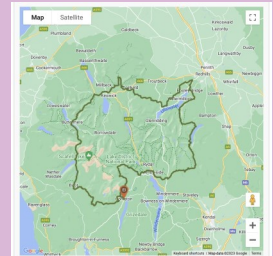
Christmas Jumper Day

This year's Christmas Jumper Day has raised an incredible **£166.86** for the **Save the Children Appeal**. Thank you to everyone for your kind donations for this worthy charity.



Lakeland Virtual 100

The whole school have successfully completed their 100 mile run this week. Every child has taken part and they've all worked together get to 100 miles! Thank you to Epic Events for organising the event and for raising money for books for schools. We have been awarded with £150 worth of books for us to use. Well done St Mary's!



Year 6

During Advent, year 6 have been thinking about people less fortunate than themselves. We made our own watercolour winter landscape Christmas cards and took them to Eccleston Library to post in their 'Cards for Kindness' post box. Our cards will now be delivered to local care homes for people who may be lonely this Christmas. Let's hope they bring as much joy to the people who receive them as we got from making and delivering them. Thank you to Eccleston Library for helping us with this Advent Act of Kindness.



St Mary's Singing Sensations

On the 9th Day of our Advent Acts of Kindness, the Singing Sensations set out to bring some festive cheer to shoppers at the Carrington Centre. Stationed outside Caffe Manna they sang a selection of favourite songs and carols. Thank you to all those of you who stopped to listen and an extra-big thank you to Angela at Caffe Manna, who hosted us and provided a very welcome hot chocolate and biscuit when we'd finished singing. Delicious!



Christmas Performances

Both the Infants and Juniors performed wonderfully this week, sharing the Christmas Story in their own special way.

The Infants performed 'The Bethlehem Bake-Off' and the Juniors 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw'.

Every child spoke, sang and danced their hearts out and we all feel that our Christmas has now well and truly started!

Very well done, everyone!



Upcoming Dates

Monday 18th December	am	Whole school cinema trip
	Lunchtime	Christmas lunch
Tuesday 19th December	All day	Party Day (non-uniform)
Wednesday 20th December	9.10 am	Carol Service in school—(please join us)
	2pm	Break up for the Christmas holidays

Letters Home

PTA Players Production—Whole School

Christmas Services at Eccleston, St Mary the Virgin

Carols by Candlelight	17 th December at 18.30
Christmas Eve	Parish Eucharist at 10.15 Crib Service at 16.00 Midnight Mass at 23.30
Christmas Day	Said Eucharist at 10.15



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 2024.



12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparking stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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