



# Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 3 | 20th September 2024

# SCHOOL NEWS

**Our Motto:**  
Believe & Achieve

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

## Prayer

Dear Lord,

As we adopt our new Christian Values, help us to remember that, following them, will help us all to be the way you want us to be.

In Persevering, we know we should never give up; Service means we should always try to help others; Trust means we can put our faith in you; Courage means we can be brave enough to stand up for what's right; Hope means that we can always be optimistic about the future; Love reminds us how wonderful it is to love and be loved; and Joy reminds us of all the wonderful things you have given to us and continue to give to us so we can live a happy and fulfilled life.

Amen

## ☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Margot	
Reception	Luna	Everley
Year One	April	Henry
Year Two	Cassie	
Year Three	Bronte	Alice
Year Four	Henry	Robert
Year Five	Amy	Saffron
Year Six	Millie	Louie

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

**DOUGLAS**

Please click to find out more  
about our school

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

'I came to give life - life in  
all its fullness.'

John 10:10

## Nursery

This week Little Explorers have been thinking about colours and rainbows. They have enjoyed painting rainbows and drawing them with chalks outside. They've also had a fun colour hunt and a PE session dancing with the coloured ribbons.



## Harvest

You are warmly invited to join us for our annual Harvest Service at 9.30 am on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September at St. Mary's Church**. In the event of rain, we will hold the Service in the school hall at 9.05 am.

We would be really grateful if you could provide your child with a small, non-perishable Harvest gift to present at Church - dried pasta, rice or tinned goods such as soup, baked beans, etc are the most suitable (and easiest to carry!)

Thank you so much in advance and we look forward to seeing you there!



## Phonics and Early Reading Meeting for Parents

Moonster  
Phonics

We have just started a new Phonics programme for children in Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 and we would love to tell you more about it.

Please come along on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 6 pm** to hear how the programme works and how you can support your child at home.

## Year 6 Forest School

Y6 had great fun out in Forest School yesterday. They made bread dough and cooked it over the camp fire. Apparently it was the best bread they'd ever tasted—  
“even better than Warburtons!”



fun activities

# Jellybeans

Jellybeans sessions for under 4s  
10am to 11am  
in the school hall at  
Eccleston St. Mary's CE Primary School

Stories

Every Thursday

Children must be accompanied by an adult

£2 per family

Refreshments will be served

songs

Please share this information with other families in the village.

# WANTED

## DIGITAL LEADERS

become a tech hero!

take part in e-safety assemblies

help solve tech issues in school.



What is a Digital Leader?

As a Digital Leader, you may be asked to help teachers and pupils with any problems they might have with iPads, chromebooks or laptops in the classroom. A great Digital Leader will also share ideas about using technology, from tips on apps you use in class to recommending new ideas.

Send your letter of application in to Mr Lyons explaining what would make you a good digital leader and why you would like the role by **FRIDAY 27th SEPTEMBER.**

## Christian Values



We have been reviewing our Christian Values recently and, with the input of all the children and help from Father Jordan, we have decided on seven new values to take us forward.

We have also selected a Bible reading to help underpin each value.

Whilst we were considering our Values, it also made us think about our over-arching Vision for our school and the children in it. Without warning, one of our favourite Bible quotes flew into mind and seemed to sum us up perfectly:

**'I came to give life—life in all its fullness.' John 10:10**

What we most wish for all the children at St. Mary's is that they will enjoy a wealth of different experiences and opportunities whilst here, preparing them for a rich and fulfilling life when they leave us. The quote from John 10 seemed so apt and so we are now adopting it as our school Bible quote.

The Value to accompany this quote is **JOY**—something we wish for every single member of our school community.

<b>Autumn 1</b>	<b>Perseverance</b>	"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13
<b>Autumn 2</b>	<b>Service</b>	"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others..." I Peter 4:10
<b>Spring 1</b>	<b>Trust</b>	"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3 : 5-6
<b>Spring 2</b>	<b>Courage</b>	"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9
<b>Summer 1</b>	<b>Hope</b>	"...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31
<b>Summer 2</b>	<b>Love</b>	"Do everything in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14
<b>All year round</b>	<b>Joy</b>	"I came to give life—life in all its fullness." John 10:10

## Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 24th September	All Day	School Council Elections
Tuesday 24th September	9.10am	Open the Book Worship Eccleston Methodist Church
Wednesday 25th September	4.00pm	Y6 Girls' Football —Parklands
Thursday 26th September	9.30am	Harvest Service in Church (Please join us)
Thursday 26th September	4.00pm	Y6 Boys' Football—Holy Cross
Friday 27th September	9.00am	Start of the Day Activity Y6 (Please Join Us)
Monday 30th September	6.00pm	Phonics Meeting for Parents
Thursday 3rd October	4.00pm	Y6 Boys Football —Holy Cross
Friday 4th October	9.00am	Start of the Day Activity—Y5 (Please Join Us)
Tuesday 8th October	3.30pm	PTFA AGM (Please Join Us)
Wednesday 9th October	8.00am	Judo Club
Wednesday 9th October	8.30am	Y5&Y6 Trip to Westholme School
Thursday 10th October	3.30pm	School Open Evening
Friday 11th October	9.00am	Start of the Day Activity—Y4 (Please Join Us)

## Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtime
Tuesday	Futsal After School Club	3.20-4.20pm
Tuesday	Choir	3.20-4.15pm
Wednesday	Spanish Club-All Years	8.00-8.45am
Wednesday	Judo Club-KS2	8.00-8.45am
Thursday	Girls Football After School Club	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm



# Comedy Bingo

Presented By Comedian Brendan Riley

**Friday 18th October**  
**Eccleston St Marys**  
**Primary School**

Doors 7pm Show 7.30pm Tickets £14 Includes Snack Box  
 Ticket requests through school in an envelope  
 Please put child's name and class on, clearly marked 'Comedy Bingo'  
 Or Call: Lucy Allen 07919 027 672  
 Eccleston St Marys Primary School, The Green, Eccleston, PR7 5TE

St. Laurence's Wellness Hub **MIND BODY SPIRIT** Programme **Autumn/Winter '24**

**These courses are all free to attend - to book onto any of these courses, please email: [wellness@stlaurencechorley.co.uk](mailto:wellness@stlaurencechorley.co.uk)**

**Wednesday 18th September, 10am - 3.30pm, a one off session**  
**CAP Money Coaching**  
 A free course designed to empower you with the knowledge, skills, tools and confidence to better manage your finances. Anyone can benefit! Arrive 9.30 for refreshments, **lunch also included.**

**Fridays, 20th & 27th September, 10am - 12pm, a two week course**  
**Sleep Well** It is estimated that approximately 16 million adults have issues with sleep in the UK. Therefore, this is an issue that affects so many of us. This two week course aims to look at information about sleep and why it's important for our wellbeing, as well as tips and tricks to try and help aid a better night's sleep for us all.

**Wednesdays 2nd October - 27th Nov, 10am - 12pm** Funded by UK Government Chorley Council  
**CAP Life Skills - 8 week course (with a week break).** A friendly group that will give you the confidence and decision-making skills needed to live on a low income. Includes practical money saving techniques, such as cooking on a budget and making money go further. Arrive from 9.30 for brews, **lunch included.**

**Friday 11th October, 10am - 12pm, a one off session**  
**Drawing for Relaxation** This course is designed to encourage confidence and take the stress out of drawing in order that it can be embraced as a relaxing and mindful activity. Learners will be introduced to a range of drawing exercises that alter perceptions of drawing whilst encouraging observational skills that help them take notice of the world around them.

**Wednesday 30th October, 10am - 12.30pm, a one off session**  
**Mindful Doodling** Explore the benefits of drawing and Mindful doodling. This taster sessions aims to introduce you simple drawing techniques and activities to relax and be in the moment.

**Thursday 31st October, 10am - 12.30pm, a one off session**  
**Quick ways to Improve your mood** Do you find that your mood sometimes dips and you can be left feeling low or fed up? This short session aims to give you some snapshot techniques that you can implement and practice further at home, which will help improve your mood and lift your spirits. We will discuss what causes low mood as well as trial some practical techniques to help combat this.

**Thursdays 14th & 21st November, 10am - 12.30pm, a two week course**  
**Mindset Matters** What we think and how we see the world has a huge impact on our wellbeing and life direction. This course will enable you challenge the negative thoughts and attitudes that hold you back and 'rewire your brain' to develop a stronger, more positive mindset.

**Tuesdays 26th November - 17th December, 10am - 12.30pm, a four week course**  
**Creative writing - learn the basics** This course which will introduce you to the basics of creative writing and give you some tips and ideas of how to get started on your writing journey and how to keep going. In the sessions, we will be looking at some of the key techniques for writing description, bringing a piece of writing alive, writing dialogue, and creating believable characters.

**Wednesday 11th December, 10am - 12.30pm, a one off session**  
**Make your own festive decorations** Learn some simple yet effective techniques to make and upcycle your own budget friendly festive baubles and decorations using basic materials. This course uses materials that would often get thrown away to transform them into unique handmade decorations. This is a practical session, so please gather materials and be prepared to join in to make your decorations.

**Monday 16th December, 10am - 12.30pm, a one off session**  
**Make Your Own Festive Wreath** Nothing says Christmas like putting a hand-made wreath on your front door. With tuition from our teachers, you'll be creating your own festive wreath using greenery that you have gathered yourself from your garden or other accessible green spaces. **Learners must provide their own foliage.**

St. Laurence's Church, Chorley  
 Union Street, Chorley, Lancs  
 PR7 1EB  
 01257 231360 Find us on   

 Lancashire Adult Learning  CAP  Chorley Council

## School Library

Did you know we have a new school library, stocked with a fantastic range of fun, interesting and appealing books? We would LOVE to get our new library up and running as soon as possible to enable the children to make the most of their new books.

### Can you help?

Do you have a spare couple of hours for one afternoon each week to help run the library? If you are interested, please speak to Mrs Rostron or ask at the school office. Thank you.



## Lunchtime Welfare Vacancy




**We have a vacancy for a lunchtime welfare assistant.**

**If you or someone you know would like to be part of our friendly team, please phone or call into the school office for more information.**

## Spanish Club

There will be no Spanish club on Wednesday 23rd October. This lesson has been rescheduled and will now take place on the 18th December.





# St Mary's School Open Days



You are warmly invited to visit our school on the following days:-

**Thursday 10th October** 4.30pm to 6.00pm

**Friday 8th November** 9.30am to 11.00am

**Tuesday 3rd December** 1.30pm to 3.00pm

The evening session (10th October) will be an opportunity to see the school environment and talk with staff and governors.

In addition, during the following two sessions (8th November and 3rd December) you will be able to visit each of our classrooms whilst lessons are in progress and speak, not only to staff, but to the pupils too.

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.**

**SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY**



**APPLY NOW!**  
at [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://lancashire.gov.uk/schools)

**School and Academy places September 2025**

You must apply if your child has a 4th birthday between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

**CLOSING DATE**  
**15 JANUARY 2025**

[lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk) >>>>

**Lancashire**  
County Council

**School transport** 

Need transport to school? Please don't forget to check your eligibility for free transport. Search 'school transport' at [lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk) or scan the QR code.



**SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SECONDARY**



**APPLY NOW!**  
at [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://lancashire.gov.uk/schools)

**School and Academy places September 2025**

You must apply if your child is in their last year of primary school (year 6) from September 2024.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

**CLOSING DATE**  
**31 OCTOBER 2024**

[lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk) >>>>

**Lancashire**  
County Council

**School transport** 

Need transport to school? Please don't forget to check your eligibility for free transport. Search 'school transport' at [lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk) or scan the QR code.



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FINAL FANTASY XIV

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
16

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The video game Final Fantasy XIV launched in 2010, and, despite being critically panned, it saw an overhaul that has made it one of the biggest success stories in gaming. Its huge world, epic story and versatile combat system have continued to draw in new players, but there's a lot that trusted adults need to be aware of – not least the cost of paying monthly to play.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

Final Fantasy XIV is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Much like World of Warcraft, players create a character in a chosen class and level up by completing quests to gain power and items. The game requires a constant internet connection, whether you're playing on PC, Mac, PlayStation or Xbox, and there's no option to play offline.

### REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As with similar titles in the genre, players can purchase expansions to unlock additional content for the game. Those without the expansions will be locked out of certain new quests and activities, meaning that young people who play regularly will potentially have the next release earmarked on their calendar, ready to buy it as soon as possible.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES & SUBSCRIPTION FEE

Users need to pay £8.99 per month to play Final Fantasy XIV, but there is a free trial. If someone stops paying, they'll lose access to their character (although they'll be able to pick up the payments again and resume where they left off). If a player forgets to cancel their payments, however, those subscription fees will continue rolling on automatically.

### VOICE & TEXT CHAT

Final Fantasy XIV lets players send chat messages in-game or speak to each other over voice chat. On the one hand, that provides plenty of choice for how those enjoying the game can interact with their fellow fans. On the other hand, however, it's easier than in many games to receive unprompted messages from a stranger, with whom you constantly share your play space.

### VIOLENCE

While Final Fantasy XIV has a fairly light tone throughout some of its quests, many involve killing enemies and sometimes even wild animals. The violence isn't especially strong – more comparable to a cartoon or anime style – but the act alone may make some children feel uncomfortable, if they're not yet able to separate fictional harm from the real kind.

### POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

As with World of Warcraft, there's an element of addiction to Final Fantasy XIV. The gameplay loop can be quite engrossing, as minutes turn into hours and hours into days while playing alone or with friends. This can potentially lead to missing real-life events, a lack of interest in any activities not related to the game and procrastination around responsibilities like schoolwork.

FREE TRIAL

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MANAGE PLAYTIME

Playtime limits are a great way to counter the addictive qualities of games like Final Fantasy XIV. They allow you discuss why it's still important to enjoy things outside of gaming while still letting a child enjoy playing online with their friends when it makes sense to do so. It's all well and good to have fun with a game, so long as they're able to step away and reconnect with the real world.

### PLAY TOGETHER

The free trial makes it extremely easy to jump into Final Fantasy XIV and play alongside a child, provided they're old enough. Not only does that help you ensure that settings are adjusted for their privacy and safety, but it may also end up becoming a bonding experience for you both and any other family members that want to try it out.

### MAKE USE OF THE FREE TRIAL

The Final Fantasy XIV free trial is a generous one, with no limits on how long someone can play until their character hits level 70. That's easily dozens of hours for a child to go through the game, complete quests, and see if they enjoy it before purchasing expansions or subscribing to a membership. They may well move on to something else before you need to spend so much as a penny.

### REMEMBER, IT'S A PEGI 16

Despite its often-relaxing nature, Final Fantasy XIV carries a PEGI 16 rating for violence and drugs (although the latter is due to a character smoking a pipe on occasion). There's minimal blood, but characters can attack enemies (and other players) with weapons and spells. Take a look at some gameplay videos to see if the content is appropriate for a younger player.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor-in-Chief of GGRecon, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A longtime fan of online games, he's also a parent, and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has previously been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/final-fantasy-14>

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