



SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

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

Prayer

Creator of All,
Continue to open our hearts and hands to those children in our world whom we can see are in need.

We are confident that their need is not unseen by you, their cries are not unheard by you, or their lives unremembered by you. We ask that you show them to us, and open our ears to their pleas to build a better world for every child.

Amen

Please click to find out more
about our school

[Facebook](#)
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'I came to give life - life in
all its fullness.'

John 10:10

Year 3 Class Worship

Well done to all the children in Year 3 who presented their Class Worship this morning.

They thoroughly enjoyed telling us all about the very important Christian Value of Service and it was wonderful to see so many parents and friends who came along to support them.



Children in Need 2024



What a wonderful day we've had today! We dressed in Pudsey clothes, had a catwalk show to show off our wonderful bandana designs and the Student Council held a biscuit sale where we welcomed a very special visitor-all in aid of raising money for a very special cause.

Thanks to everyone's generosity, we have raised a grand total of £410.50. Thank you so much!



Grand Total—£410.50



Year 1

Year 1 made very tasty fruit salads on Wednesday!

They used their cutting skills of the bridge and claw methods to cut the fruits into bite-size pieces and mixed their favourite fruits together to create their own healthy snack. Year 1 then thoroughly enjoyed tasting their creations as you can see from the smiles on their faces!

Well done Year 1.



Little Explorers

Little Explorers had a lovely visit to the library on Monday to celebrate National Nursery Rhyme week.

They enjoyed singing some nursery rhymes, listening to some nursery rhyme stories and learning some alternative nursery rhyme songs. They also took part in a craft activity to make some cars linked to the rhyme 'Car, car, truck, jeep'. After that they looked at some of the library books and chose some to bring back to read at school.



Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 19th November	9.05am	Open the Book
Friday 22nd November	9.00am	Start of the Day Activity Y1 (Please join Us)
Monday 25th November	All Day	Staff Inset Day
Wednesday 27th November	4.30-6.00pm	SPAG Challenge Y5 & Y6 (Tarleton Academy)
Friday 29th November	9.00am	Start of the Day Activity YR (Please Join Us)
Friday 29th November	1.30 pm	Music Alive Jazz Band performance
Monday 2nd December	9.00am	Nursery Library Visit
Tuesday 3rd December	1.30-3.00pm	Open Afternoon
Friday 6th December	9.00am	Start of the Day Activity Nursery (Please join us)
Friday 6th December	4.00-6.00pm	Winter Wonderland (Please join us)

Letters Home

Whole School—Winter Wonderland PTFA Grotto Letter

Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtime
Tuesday	Archery Games KS1 & KS2	3.20-4.20pm
Tuesday	Choir	3.20-4.15pm
Wednesday	Spanish Club-All Years	8.00-8.45am
Thursday	Girls Football After School Club KS1 & KS2	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

Dates for your Diaries

As December is a busy time for everyone, we want to share some important dates for you to add to your diaries. These dates can also be found on our website.

Wednesday 11th December	9.45-10.45am	EYFS/KS1 Dress Rehearsal
Thursday 12th December	All Day	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 12th December	2.00pm & 6.00pm	EYFS/KS1 Performance (Please join us)
Friday 13th December	Whole School	Pantomime-Cinderella (Blackburn)
Friday 13th December	12.30pm	Christmas Lunch
Monday 16th December	9.30am	KS2 Dress Rehearsal
Monday 16th December	6.00pm	KS2 Performance (Please join Us)
Tuesday 17th December	9.30am	KS2 Community Performance (Please join Us)
Tuesday 17th December	2.00pm	KS2 Performance (Please join Us)
Thursday 19th December	9.30am	KS2 Party Day
Thursday 19th December	1.00pm	KS1 Party Day
Thursday 19th December	5.30pm	Carol Service St Marys Church (Please join us)
Friday 20th December	2.00 pm	School closes for Christmas



St Mary's School Open Day



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

Tuesday 3rd December

1.30pm to 3.00pm

During this session 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.

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

School Photographs

Please make sure you send your child's school photograph request and payment back to school by **Friday 29th November**. Thank you.

**PTFA
CHOCOLATE
TOMBOLA**

PTFA are organising a chocolate tombola for Winter Wonderland and would greatly appreciate any donations. Please send into school by Friday the 29th November.

Thank you!

**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
PRIMARY**

APPLY NOW!
at 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**

School transport 

Need transport to school? Please don't forget to check your eligibility for free transport. Search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk or scan the QR code.



Lancashire
County Council 

lancashire.gov.uk >>>>

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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