



Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 15 | 20th December 2024

SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

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

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of Jesus.

Thank you for our families, who we can enjoy celebrating with at Christmas this year.

Thank you for providing us with everything we need – food, love and shelter. We pray for people who are less fortunate than us, those who don't have a home during this cold and wet winter time, and for those who need food and water.

Please give strength to those who are weak or sick this Christmas and help those who are lonely.

We pray for a peaceful Christmas time for everyone in our school, our community and around the world, especially those who are living in horrible conditions where wars are raging.

Finally, God, we pray for families who are grieving. Please let them know that we are thinking of them and give them your love and strength this Christmas and always.

Amen

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

DOUGLAS

WINNING HOUSE THIS TERM

YARROW

**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

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

**Merry
Christmas**

Junior Christmas Performance

The Juniors were in fine voice as they performed 'Christmas Around the World' to three packed houses. The show was a real celebration of the joy of Christmas but also reminded us that the birth of Jesus is the most important reason to celebrate. A big well done to all the children and staff involved and to all those of you who came along to watch. It just wouldn't be the same without you!



Choir Community Performance



Also in fine voice, were the 'Singing Sensations', who entertained shoppers at the Carrington Centre with a selection of Christmas songs and carols.

Thank you to Father Jordan for his expert conducting and to Angela from Caffé Manna for her wonderful hospitality. A warming hot chocolate and a Christmas cookie were the perfect way to round off the morning's fun!

Donation Total

Thank you so much to everyone who gave so generously at both of our Christmas performances and choir community carol performance. You have all helped to raise a phenomenal **£950.00!** Thank you also, to the **Post Office, Ecclestone**, for their very kind donation to top up this amount. This year we are splitting the total between two worthy charities close to our hearts, **The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital** and **Derian House Children's Hospice**. Thank you again!



Year 2



Y2 made some beautiful angels, which formed part of the Christmas displays at St. Mary's Church.

Haven't they done a great job?



Christingles

Year 4 had a very busy morning when they made Christingles as part of their learning in RE. They now know about the significance of each element—and are really looking forward to eating the sweets when they get home!



GIFT Group

A huge thank you from GIFT Group for the generous donations for LV Storehouse.

It was the children's idea to donate to this worthy cause so they are really grateful for all your support.

All the donations were safely delivered on the last morning of term.



PTFA Show

This year's show is **Trial and Error** and, as always, performances will sell out quickly.

Please remember to return your ticket requests along with payment as soon as possible when we return after the Christmas holiday, to avoid disappointment. Thank you



Upcoming Dates

Monday 6th January	8.45am	School re-opens
Monday 6th January	All Week	DT Week
Thursday 16th January	All Day	School Census Day
Friday 17th January	9.00-10.00am	SODA Y2
Tuesday 21st January	9.00-10.00am	Y4 Class Worship
Friday 24th January	4.00-6.00pm	Y5/Y6 Basketball Competition (Southlands School)
Tuesday 28th January	9.05am	Open the Book
Wednesday 29th January	9.00-10.30am	Y3 Worship at St Mary's Church
Friday 31st January	4.00-6.00pm	Y5/Y6 Basketball Competition (Southlands School)
Friday 31st January	7.30pm	PTFA Show
Saturday 1st February	7.30pm	PTFA Show

Letters Home

Whole School—Carol Service, Mrs Scard Assembly and Choir at Caffe Manna

Compass Bloom—Letter

Whole School— PTFA Show Letter

Lancashire
County Council

Lancashire FAMILY HUBS NETWORK
CHORLEY

Monday 30th Dec
Duke Street Family Hub
Duke Street
PR7 3DU
11am-3pm



CHRISTMAS CRAFT DROP IN
Non-bookable event

Tuesday 31st Dec
Highfield Family Hub
Wright Street
PR6 0SL
11am-3pm





RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Rainbow Hub will collect & recycle your real Christmas tree to save you time & hassle
Collecting Friday 10th - Sunday 12th January 2025

To book your tree collection, please scan the QR code or visit:
<https://www.rainbowhub.org>



We will be collecting trees in the following postcode areas:
PR1, PR2, PR4, PR5, PR6, PR7, PR8, PR9, PR25, PR26, WN6, WN8, L39, L40, BL6

With thanks to our event sponsors:



01704 823276 | [rainbowhub.org](https://www.rainbowhub.org) | e.parish@rainbowhub.org




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Every day is a life changing day

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Christmas Services at Eccleston, St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 22nd December	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 6.00pm
Christmas Eve	Crib Service at 4.00pm
Christmas Day	Said Eucharist at 10.30 am



Admission to Primary School 2025 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 2025 is 23.59pm on 15th January 2025.



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.gov.uk

Lancashire
County Council

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

TEACHING CYCLE SAFETY

Cycling is an amazing way to spend quality time together as a family, as well as keeping everyone healthy and active – and it's an excellent exercise, whatever the age of your children. Getting started can sometimes be daunting, and there are obvious safety concerns over youngsters who are still getting used to a bike – so follow our top tips to help you ride with confidence.

1 CONSIDER CYCLE TRAINING

Courses like Bikeability are extremely useful, and training in general has come a long way since cycling proficiency began; there are Bikeability courses for adults, too. Cycle training teaches invaluable skills (such as good road positioning, signaling and visibility), and can help both parents and children feel more at ease on busy streets.

2 USE A SUITABLE BIKE

Find a bike of an appropriate size for its rider and resist the temptation to have children 'grow into' theirs by buying one too large for them. A bigger bike will be heavier and more difficult to control, making accidents more likely and potentially putting youngsters off cycling forever. If your child has any specific physical needs, or has dyspraxia, then try out a trike, handcycle or other adaptive cycle to see what works best.

3 TRY A CARGO BIKE

Cargo bikes, particularly the box-bike style, are ideal for transporting small children around. Depending on the type of bike chosen – as well as the size and age of the children – it can be possible to transport up to four little ones in this way, with additional space for other cargo as well.

4 INSPECT YOUR CYCLE

It's a good idea to do some routine checks on any bike before going for a ride to make sure everything's working correctly. The 'M check' is particularly useful: assessing the condition and position of the bike's wheels, handlebars, brakes, pedals, chain and saddle, working from front to back. Online tutorial videos can also teach you how to carry out basic repairs if needed. For more complicated fixes, head to your local bike shop.

5 BRING SUITABLE GEAR

Ensure whatever you're wearing, and any attachments for your bike, are suitable for the ride. A waterproof jacket will let you cycle safely in almost any weather. Make sure any helmets are fitted correctly. If you're riding after dark, remember to fit your bikes with a white front light, a red rear light and a red rear reflector. These are required by law.

6 STICK TO FLAT TERRAIN

Take a smooth, flat route if possible, so it's more suitable for younger cyclists. You might be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there may be in your area. Don't be put off by an indirect but easier path as opposed to a shorter, busier one. Look out for the National Cycle Network, canal towpaths and even parks that you can cut through.

7 STAY ALERT AND IN SAFE FORMATIONS

For maximum protection and visibility, ride in a line with children in the middle and adults at either end. If you're the only adult present, take up a position at the rear to ensure all children remain in your sight. Don't be tempted to hug the kerb if cycling on the road – riding approximately a metre out will make you more noticeable to other road users, and you'll also stay clear of any debris in the gutter.

8 AVOID PARKED CARS

When riding past parked cars, try to stay at least a metre away, just in case anyone inside opens a door unexpectedly or the vehicle itself starts to move. This precaution will also deter anyone driving behind from trying to squeeze past you when there isn't enough space, so don't be afraid to ride in a prominent position.

9 START A 'BIKE BUS'

Cycling to school with other families is a potentially fun experience – one which comes with the added benefit of safety in numbers, in case anything goes wrong along the way. Team up with other parents, carers and educators and pick a day to cycle to school together. Who knows – maybe, in time, you'll have other folks asking to join you?

10 HAVE FUN!

Keep in mind that cycling should be fun! A good bike ride can be really enjoyable for adults and children alike, while also being a superb form of exercise. Ease children into the hobby by starting them off with shorter journeys – such as a trip to the park – and build them up to longer, more complicated outings. Some children may get bored on a longer ride, so try to keep a conversation going with them.

Meet Our Expert

Sophie Gordon is the campaigns manager at Cycling UK, a charity which inspires and enables people to start cycling. She has spent six years campaigning for safer roads and more protected cycle paths, while supporting communities to call for better cycling conditions where they live.

we are
cycling
UK

#WakeUp
Wednesday

The
National
College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/teaching-cycle-safety>

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