



**A massive St John's well done to all our Silverdale Stars this week.**

**Curlews' Class - Jax**

For 100% effort and motivation in Maths this week. Well done Jax!

**Bittern's Class – Oscar**

For being a super friend – so compassionate, so kind, so loving!

**Harriers' Class – Audrey**

For a mature and sensible attitude. She was amazing at Forest School yesterday!

## Christmas Markets

We had a fabulous meeting on Thursday night.

Firstly, thanks again to Carly, Andy, Vicky and Emma for being our main 'overseers' of our new PTA. Secondly, thanks to Kirstie, Mia and James for being on the sub-committee of the Christmas fair. A huge thanks to Mrs Tetchner for being our link staff representative.

Emma has done minutes of the meeting, but for now we need...

**Volunteers for the stalls**

**Someone who has contacts for LOTS of local businesses, so we can ask for raffle prizes**

**Shredded paper**

**Small toys for the lucky dip**

**Outdoor lights**

Our getting together 'craft night' is going to be on **27.11.24 at 17:30**. Put the date in your diary!

## Lunches

**Week 2 WC 18.11.24**



## Saying Goodbye

If anyone would like to contribute to a leaving gift for Mrs Knight or Mrs Holmes, please leave donations at the office. We are in communication with them both, as they decide on what they would like their parting gift to be from the school family of Silverdale St John's Primary School.

## PTA

### Outside area

We are awaiting costings for a gazebo and play equipment outside for the raised areas. Playdale and ESP have been to school and measured up, as have a local company called 'Soul'. We will let you know when we have something to share, but it is looking in the area of 10k.

### Minibus

We have tentatively researched options for purchasing a school minibus. It could be somewhere in the region of £15-20k for this. We will investigate funding and sponsorship to help with this. We will continue to update you and thank you in advance for your support with this. A minibus would be a lifeline to us giving our children those cultural capital experiences.

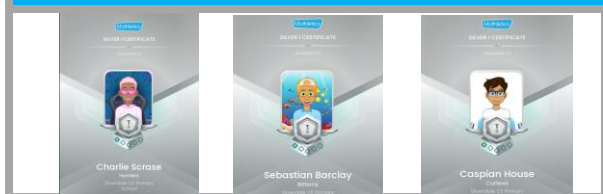
### Asda Cashpots

Thank you to all who have signed up. We have raised £109.61 so far from this which will be put towards the minibus. If you shop at Asda, you can continue to scan until the end of November.

## Swimming apologies

Apologies for the cancellation of swimming over the last few weeks. Circumstances were totally out of our control. We hope normal services will resume next week.

## Mathletics – first 'firsts'



## Squeals of joy!

... Were had by year 1 this week, when the firefighters arrived and we could go on the fire engine and use the water hose. We love a spontaneous invite! Thank you to the crew at Silverdale Watch!

## Remembrance Day

Thank you to Bleasdale school for hosting the remembrance service in their therapy gardens. There were some lovely Makaton songs and poems, and readings from the children.



# Newsletter – WC 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Inspiring success through learning, community and faith.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

- Philippians 4:13



We want to develop a love of reading at Silverdale St John's. Here are some links to wonderful book recommendations for our older children:

[https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year 4](https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year4)

[https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year 5](https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year5)

<https://www.thereaderteacher.com/upper-ks2>

We hope they try some of these remember if you come across a brilliant book you can share this with us at: [head@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk)

## Workshops

There will be a **phonics workshop on Tuesday 19th November**. This is for parents of children in Curlews class. It will be at 17:00.

## Masked Reader

If any member of our community would like to come into school and read a favourite story to the children, then please email class teacher. Why not dress up as a character, and surprise us?!

## Friday Thought

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. —

Hebrews 11:13

## Attendance

**A huge 'well done' to Harriers this week.**

<b>Curlews</b>	<b>96.0</b>
<b>Bitterns</b>	<b>93.8</b>
<b>Harriers</b>	<b>98.1</b>
<b>Average school</b>	<b>96.3</b>

Don't forget anything less than 100% attendance means that your child is missing out on their education.

For example, 90% attendance is the same as missing half a day each week, or one whole month a year off school.

Punctuality is also very important. School starts at 08:45 each morning. Did you know, that being just 15 minutes late each morning means your child would miss the equivalent of 10 days from school each year.

## Class Blog

It's Bitterns' this week! Click [here](#) for an insight to a week in the life of being a Bittern!

## Next Week...

- 18.11.24 – Miss J assessment updates
  - 18.11.24 – Curlews/Starlings forest school
  - 19.11.24 – Miss S DSL refresher course
  - 19.11.24 – Speech and Language therapist in school
  - 19.11.24 – Phonics workshop 17:00
  - 20.11.24 – Individual and Family photos
  - 20.11.24 – Barnados in school
  - 20.11.24 – Dallam X County KS2
  - 21.11.24 – SEND nominated governor visit
  - 21.11.24 – Opera Magic Harriers class
  - 21.11.24 – Y1/2 multi skills Carnforth High school
  - 22.11.24 – Dogs Trust Assembly and workshops
- SEE SCHOOL [WEBSITE CALENDER](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

## Reading

In school, we focus on 2 main aspects of reading —the learning of reading skills, both decoding and comprehending, and also the development of reading for pleasure. In terms of reading for pleasure we provide many opportunities:

Class stories

Shared reading with younger children

Guided Reading

We seek to develop all of these at school as much as we can, but it has always been the case (even many years ago, when I was at primary school!) that children need to read to adults at home and, importantly, for adults to read to them too.

In pupil interviews with Ofsted Inspectors, all the children said they like being read to, but many of the KS2 children said that adults no longer read to them.

Please try to build both practising reading skills and reading for pleasure into your home routine, we notice a big difference and children love this quality time spent curled up with books! We really want to encourage reading as a pleasure rather than a chore. Some children in our school no longer have a 'love of reading'. We want to change this narrative for them.

The words of Jesus: Our Christian Value this week is HOPE

# 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, signalling 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 RIDE cycling UK

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

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

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# *Silverdale* **CHRISTMAS MARKET**



**FRIDAY  
29th NOVEMBER**  
**from 5pm until late**

**At The Silverdale Hotel**  
**Shore Rd, Silverdale**

*Festive games, mince pies, school  
carol singers, mulled wine & plenty  
of local artisan gifts & crafts*

