



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

Curlews

Noah - For making a great start in Curlews class. It is wonderful having you with us

Flynn - For a positive start to the new term and amazing mark making. You always try your best. Keep up the good work Flynn!

Bitterns

Henry B - For listening, being an overcomer and being a brilliant friend

Harriers

Robin - For making a great start in Harriers class. It is wonderful having you with us!

Edinburgh trip

Harriers' class will be going to Edinburgh on Thursday 15th May. It is going to be sooo good exploring the city, experiencing a live show and seeing some of the sights Edinburgh has to offer. 1st payment for this trip is due on 17th January.

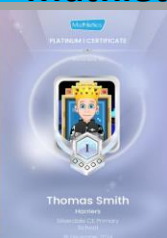
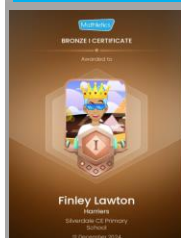
Primary Nursery Admission

We have spaces available in Nursery. Please come and have a look around our wonderful provision or contact the office for a booking form. The application process for primary school places for September 2025 is now open. Tours are still available during the school day, please ring to book. To apply use this online form, please [click here](#).

Primary applications close on 15th January 2025.

Why not click [here](#) to see our welcome video?

Mathletics



Well done to Finley and Thomas for getting their first 'firsts' in Mathletics.

Curriculum Overviews

New curriculum overviews are now on the website. The creative curriculum theme for this term is 'Time Travel'. The children are learning space dances in PE. They are learning about the Romans in English and in History. They are exploring sculptural techniques from the past.

They will be visiting places of worship in Preston. And we are very excited to be building up links with another primary school with a completely contrasting demographic. Its going to be a brilliant term, with lots to see and do and learn. Curriculum overviews are

available for...

Curlews [here](#)

Bitterns [here](#)

Harriers [here](#)

Charity of the Year

We will be handing over a cheque of £245 to Alderhey children's hospital in the next few weeks. Well done everyone, for supporting this wonderful cause.

Our new charities are Growing well and Destiny Africa. School council will be talking about fundraising ideas in the next few weeks. If anyone has any ideas of how we can raise money, then please let school council know, or Miss Sanderson. If you would like to know more about our new charities, then please click on the

links provided

[Growing Well](#)

[Destiny Africa](#)

Attendance

Schools are now required to monitor attendance more closely and report any absences to local authorities more frequently. This will involve more regular checks and communications regarding your child's attendance record.

Remember, illnesses are authorised, but will be VERY closely monitored. Holidays are unauthorised.



Newsletter – WC 6th January 2025

Inspiring success through learning, community and faith.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

– Philippians 4:13

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

Reading Corner

Some quotes to remind us all just how important reading is:

‘You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax all you need is a book!’ Dr. Seuss

‘There’s always room for a story that can transport people to another place.’ J.K. Rowling
‘Books train your imagination to think big.’ Taylor Swift

‘There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate’s loot on Treasure Island.’ Walt Disney

Outdoor Education

These trips will be taking place WC 24th March 2025. They are always such a good opportunity for children to develop their resilience in the outdoors, to work collaboratively and to have new and exciting experiences. We will be working with the team at High Borrans again this year. This outdoor centre comes with a very good reputation. They have climbing walls on site, rope courses and a small lake for canoeing and kayaking. Our first trip will be with Nursery and Reception on 25.03.25. Dan Willan coaches are taking us. Year 1 and 2 have theirs on 26.03.25. Miss Sanderson will be driving the minibus. Year 3/4 are having their overnight stay/trip on 27/28.03.25. We will hopefully be taking the minibus and cars for this one. We will also be taking the Year 5s sailing on 20th June (a bit later in the year this time, as it is warmer). There may just be a little extra treat for our Year 6s later in the year too!

Payments for High Borrans trips are due by 14th February 2025

Lunches

Week 1 WC 13.01.25



Friday Thought

Stop trusting in man, who has but a breath in his nostrils. Of what account is he?

—Isaiah 2:22

Class Blog

Class Blogs will start again next week with Bitterns’ class.

Next Week...

- 13.01.25 – New work experience student starts in Harriers class
- 13.01.25 – Whole staff epilepsy training
- 14.01.25 – Speech and Language therapist in school
- 14.01.14 – Anaphylaxis and asthma training – whole staff
- 16.01.25 – Miss S training after school
- 17.01.25 – Chinese Day in school. Children can wear red. Workshops all morning with the team from Confucius institute

Attendance

A huge ‘well done’ to Bitterns this week.

Curlews	<u>96.1</u>
Bitterns	<u>97.1</u>
Harriers	<u>93.2</u>
Average school	95.1

After school club

Mia and Trudy desperately need games, jigsaws, toys. All in good working order. Please support our WAC (Wrap Around Care) We want to make it the best it can be. If you would like to give feedback on how we can improve WAC, whilst staying within budget and meeting the individual needs of the children, then please email Mia and Trudy on m.croston@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk t.postlethwaite@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk

Enrichment clubs

These start next week. As always, we provide a wide range of experiences for your children.

This half term, we have...

Tuesday - Lego
Wednesday - JAM club (at lunch)

Thursday - Gymnastics

Friday – Football

For the clubs sign up letter, please click [here](#)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about JUSTALK KIDS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

JusTalk Kids is a child's version of the JusTalk app – a highly popular social networking platform – designed for users up to 13 years of age, allowing them to video call, message and participate in group chats. While adults can link their own JusTalk account to their child's and make use of parental controls, it's important to understand the risks associated with the app.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While JusTalk Kids is free, there's the option to subscribe to a kids' premium account or a premium family account. At a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with others in a call; exclusive stickers; a badge denoting them as a premium subscriber; and exclusive ringtones and themes.

RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

JusTalk Kids endeavours to allow children the sense of having a chat-based app while allowing parents to set controls (within the app or from their own adult JusTalk account). The basis behind this is positive; however, some children are challenging their parents by refusing to use JusTalk Kids, preferring to use the adult version without any restrictions in place.

KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After downloading JusTalk Kids, parents can set a passcode which users must enter to add contacts. The parental controls help to manage which content can be viewed and who children can add as a contact: this then allows children to chat with friends in a controlled environment. However, prospective contacts don't have to know a specific username. In theory, someone could type in a random name and then add them as a friend.

POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

JusTalk and JusTalk Kids claim to be secure and encrypted, going so far as to state that even the developers themselves won't access your data. However, a security lapse in 2022 highlighted that messages were not in fact encrypted – leading to concerns around the security of the app and the transparency of the development team.

CYBERBULLYING

Online chats can provide a sense of anonymity, leading some users to post things which they wouldn't normally say in person. Combined with the option of group chats, there's a risk that young people might join in with this kind of behaviour, escalating it further and potentially turning what should be a fun experience into something deeply negative.

TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME

A report by the UK Parliament Education Committee highlighted a 52% increase in children's screen time between 2020 and 2022 – as well as finding that 25% of children used their smartphones in a manner consistent with screen addiction. Introducing children to social networking apps when they're too young can lead to bad digital habits and a reliance on technology from an early age.

Advice for Parents & Educators

JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their child to use JusTalk Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to make the app safer. Make sure the child knows not to put their full name on the account and doesn't use a photo of themselves as their profile picture. This type of open discussion will help to ensure that a child is aware of the app's potential risks and knows how to reduce them.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children could be excited to use this app. However, highlight that they must do so in a positive, respectful and responsible manner. While it can be easy to get caught up in a group chat, it's important to talk to others politely and call out any unpleasant behaviour. Discuss the importance of limiting their contacts to people they know in real life and use parental controls to enforce this.

DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Some children might not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. Set clear guidelines around what *is* and *isn't* safe to share on the internet, and discuss the concept of a digital footprint. Children need to understand that the things they say and share online can never be completely erased. Even if they delete it themselves, it can be saved and distributed by others.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like JusTalk can sometimes lend themselves to bullying behaviours. Parents should monitor what their child is sending and receiving, check in with them regularly and encourage them to share their feelings (both positive and negative) at home. Remind them that they can block a contact if someone is treating them disrespectfully.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College®

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