



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

**Curlews - Toby**

For a fantastic report on Christopher Columbus.

Keep up the good work Toby

**Bitterns – Adam**

For being such a good friend and for being so enthusiastic about school

**Harriers – Harry**

For his enthusiasm for learning and super participation in every lesson. Well done Harry!

## Coffee Morning

We have a school coffee morning booked, to raise money for the PTA. It's from **10:00 to 12:00 Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February at the Gaskell Hall.** Vicky and the team could do with helpers to set up at 09:00 and to tidy away at 11:30 (ish).

**WE NEED...**

Helpers for stalls, raffle, tombola, helpers for tea/coffee, Bric a brac, Cakes  
Raffle and tombola prizes (alcohol, unwanted Christmas presents, chocs and multi packs of Chocs we can separate).

Thanks so much in advance. It will be a super morning, and an excuse to clear out your cupboards, and get baking!

**PLEASE BRING ALL CAKES TO school today or to Gaskell Hall at 9am tomorrow.**

## Reminders

Absence: please let the school office know if your child is going to be absent before 9.30am. If you leave a message on the answerphone, you must give a reason for the absence.

Flapjack: the cost for flapjack at morning break is 20p. Please send the correct money if possible.

Friday Family Worship: a reminder that this starts at 08:55. Please set an atmosphere of 'quiet' as the children arrive in the hall.

It is such a special worship, and we want to thank so many of you for joining us.

## Rock and Roll Supper Dance

Very excitingly, we have this now booked in the Gaskell Hall on

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March – 7pm till 10pm.**

**Tickets will go on sale after half term.**

Remember all proceeds will go towards the school playground equipment, and also (as we think even longer term), a school minibus.

It will be a lovely community event.

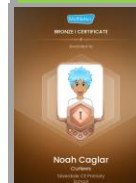
## School Council

Did we announce our school council?! We did it in family worship, but maybe not on the newsletter! Here they are...



School Council have been busy this week allocating jobs for the coffee morning. Please say 'hello' on Saturday to them whilst they sell cakes, and help with the games.

## Mathletics



Well done to Noah, for getting your first Mathletics certificate!

## Governors

Are you interested in becoming a governor? Get in touch with our Chair, Steve Edge, if so [s.edge@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.edge@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk)

A school governor's relationship with the school's leadership team involves challenging existing processes to drive school improvement. School governors usually attend around six meetings per year.

Although becoming a school governor requires drive and commitment, you'll enjoy many professional and personal rewards, including career development opportunities and the chance to support young people's futures.

# Newsletter – WC 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

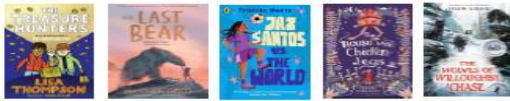
Inspiring success through learning, community and faith.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

– Philippians 4:13

## Reading Corner

Harriers Class – Year 5/6 best books?  
Check out BooksForTopics.com. These primary school reading experts have selected a list of the top 50 recommended books for children aged 9-11.



## Love is...

### Feel Good Friday!

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025



Another half term is almost over and that means that we have **Feel Good Friday** to look forward to! The one just before October half term was a lovely day with all children enjoying a range of **wellbeing workshops** across the day.



All we need is fantastic ideas and most importantly... **wonderful friends** of our school to pledge to give a little time to organise and run the activities!

Workshop ideas last time included dance, karaoke, mindfulness colouring, crafts, slime making, baking, nails and hair pamper time, body art, jigsaw puzzles and board games and dog walking.

So what are you waiting for? If there's something you are amazingly skilled-up on or just love to do to promote your own wellbeing, and feel you can share with the children ... sign up now!



**You don't have to commit to all day, just stay as long as you can help out.**  
Email Mrs Tetchner  
and let her know how you would love to help



## Lunches

Week 2 WC 10.02.25



## Enrichment Clubs

**SEWING CLUB**

Each week your child will work on a range of different projects to develop their sewing skills.

**BENEFITS OF HAND SEWING**

- Improves fine motor skills
- Hand eye coordination.
- Enhances creativity & expression.
- Can also help to calm through mindfulness.

**Tue**  
25<sup>th</sup> Feb  
3.15 - 4.15pm

**Key Stage 1**  
£5  
Materials included

For more info contact school or julieclarke@silversdale.co.uk

We really need help with our enrichment clubs. If you would like to lead running club, games club, outdoor learning club, art club etc... Anything! Then please get in touch with Miss Sanderson.

We thank Julie Clarke for this exciting opportunity on a Tuesday night. Sewing club, next half term, is for KS1.

The price is £5 a session. All resources included in the price and the children will be bringing home some really lovely masterpieces!

## Class Blog

Its Bitterns' class Blog this week. Click [here](#) to see a day in the life of a Bittern!

## Next Week...

- 10.02.25 – First placement students start in Curlews and Bitterns
  - 10.02.25 – Y2 and Y6 Child safe and road safety talk with fire service
  - 11.02.25 – Safer Internet day
  - 11.02.25 – NISCU assembly 14.15
  - 11.02.25 – SATS info evening Year 6 parents
  - 12.02.25 – Year 3/4 Gymnastics Dallam
  - 13.02.25 – TAG Rugby Y5/6 - L&M College
  - 14.02.25 – A special 'LOVE IS... Feel Good Friday!'
- Please don't forget to check the [online calendar](#) for future events

## Attendance

A huge 'well done' to Harriers this week.

Curlews	89.4
Bitterns	87.7
Harriers	95.9
Average school	91.8

## World Book Day

Our World Book Day celebrations will take place on **Thursday 6th March 2025**. The children can come as their favourite book character. No theme.

## Educational Visits

Bitterns' class enjoyed their visit to Preston. As part of their RE theme, 'Places of Worship', they travelled to Preston on the train ~ taking in the sights of the coast line and the fringes of the city. They visited the Masjid E Saliheen Mosque & Gurjarat Hindu Temple. They also had a great time at St Stephen's school. Check out the photos on [facebook](#)

## Friday Thought

No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.  
—1 John 4:12



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

## "CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

## SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such plays often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

## YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

## FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

## PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

## FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

### ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk](https://OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk) for more.



### TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

### BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fake-news-and-scams>