



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

Curlews – Charlie C

For being so enthusiastic about school and being a super star! Thank you, Charlie

Bitterns – Charlie L

For being so brave at the gymnastics. Those forward rolls were hard. But you conquered it!

Harriers – Flynn

For making a big effort to stay focussed in class and improving the presentation of his work.

Coffee Morning

What a fabulous morning. We raised a massive £749.66. Amazing! Thanks to all that supported us in buying cakes, bric-a-brac & playing the games. Thanks to all the parents & school community for helping too.

Gymnastics

The year 3/4 Gymnastics at Dallam, was so much fun on Wednesday. Forward rolls, spring boards, vaults, team spirit... And a whole load of fun! The children were well behaved & enthusiastic throughout. Thank you to the students at Dallam School for being so encouraging.

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

OFSTED

OPEN CONSULTATION: IMPROVING THE WAY OFSTED INSPECTS EDUCATION Ofsted are asking parents, carers, professionals and learners what they think about the proposals to improve education inspections and new report cards for providers. The consultation closes at 11.59pm on 28 April 2025. Tell Ofsted what you think: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ofsted2025>

Rock and Roll Supper Dance

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

Saturday 15th 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.

Millhead Dynamos Fundraiser

Millhead Dynamos U10s are raising money for

CancerCare North Lancashire and South Cumbria. Connor and Charlie's dad, Baine, Paisley and Sienna's dad, and Harry's dad are all running the 55 mile Limestone round as a relay team. The QR code to sponsor them, is attached to this newsletter. Please support this wonderful cause and get involved. Their target is £1000!

Mathletics



Wow! What a brilliant week for new starters on Mathletics! Well done to Patrick, Reuben, Henry and Robin. **Curlews class** were the class with the most certificates this week. 🙌

Love is...

Love is patient, love is kind.
It does not envy,
it does not boast,
it is not proud.

It is not rude,
it is not self-seeking,
it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil
but rejoices with the truth.

It always protects,
always trusts, always hopes,
always perseveres.
Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

In worship on Monday, Miss Sanderson spoke to the children about what Love is. She shared that love isn't cards or flowers (although they are nice!) it's not a one off 'festival' that we celebrate on Valentine's Day. No, it's what God says about love, and is ongoing, all the time... Why not practise sharing some love these holidays?



Reading Corner



Frank Cottrell-Boyce

Current Waterstones Children's Laureate: 2024-26

Frank Cottrell-Boyce is a multi award winning children's book author and screenwriter. Millions, his debut children's novel, won the prestigious CILIP Carnegie Medal.

Class Blog

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

WC 24th February

- 25.02.25 – Starlings and Curlews trip to Greenlands Farm
- 25.02.25 - Running club, sewing club, knitting club start
- 26.02.25 – Full Governor meeting 17:00
- 26.02.25 – Miss Sanderson at HT Diocesan meeting
- 27.02.25 – Dance club starts

Please don't forget to check the [online calendar](#) for future events

Lunches

Week 1 WC 24.02.25



Attendance

A huge 'well done' to Harriers this week.

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|----------------|------|
| Curlews | 90.9 |
| Bitterns | 90.8 |
| Harriers | 96.9 |
| Average school | 92.7 |

Ready for September?

Lancashire Family Hubs are holding a 'School Readiness One Stop Shop' to help parents and children get ready for starting school. If your child is starting school or nursery, this could be a great opportunity for you to discuss any concerns you may have with professionals as well as other parents and make sure that your child is ready to start school. Click [here](#) to find out more

Enrichment Clubs

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| <p>SEWING CLUB</p> <p>From week your child will learn how to make a range of different projects to develop their sewing skills.</p> <p>Key Stage 1 £5 Materials included</p> <p>Time 25th Feb 3.15 - 4.15pm</p> | Knitting Club | KS1 and KS2 (Max 15) | Tuesday (during lunch time) |
| | Sewing Club | KS1 and KS2 (Max 15) | Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm |
| | Running Club | KS2 only (Max 10) | Tuesday 3.15 - 4.15pm |
| | Dance Club | KS1 and KS2 (Max 16) | Thurs 3.15 - 4.15pm |
| | Football club | Y1 - Y6 (Max 25) | Friday 3.15-4.15pm |

Your child should have brought information about enrichment clubs home, with them. If you have not received it, please click [here](#) for a copy.

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.

Spring Horticultural Show

The children will be bringing home a copy of the programme for the Spring Horticultural show very soon, which will be on Saturday 12th April. There are lots of different categories they can enter, so if they are looking for a fun project over the holiday they could keep themselves busy making or planting something that has the chance of winning a prize in the show. If you have never been to the show it is a lovely village tradition, which the children love to be part of with so many colourful crafts/plants on display and of course lots of homemade cake!

Art Day for Spring Show

We are having an Art Day on March 18th, and need a team. All art work will be submitted into the Spring Horticultural Show. If you can support, please get in touch with class teachers. Each class will be submitting entries into the show. We want a range of media. The theme is **Morecambe Bay**. There are DEFINITELY some budding artists out there amongst you, and we need your help.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the 'hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages and sexual comments.

SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a 'loan' to cover a train ticket).

UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A TikTok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

SKewed PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE (www.raiseducation.org.uk) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safety and healthy relationships.



VERIFICATION STAMPS

Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.



Millhead Dynamos U10's fundraiser for CancerCare North Lancashire & South Cumbria

The parents from the Millhead Dynamos U10 team will be undertaking the challenge of the 55 mile Bay Limestone Round as a relay team. Please help us raise much needed funds for CancerCare.



Help us reach our £1,000 target!

Make a donation with **JustGiving**