



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

Curlews – Mrs Tetchner

For always being so calm, quiet and thoughtful. You bring peace wherever you go! The children love your smile

Bitterns – Mrs Hodgkinson

For being so creative, funny and wonderfully thorough. The children love your giggles!

Harriers – Miss Jackson

For being so gentle and consistent. You are so reliable and conscientious. The children love your musical flair (and dance moves!)

Easter Competitions

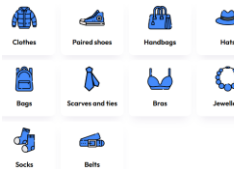
Please see attached poster to see what competitions the children can get involved with. The judging will be on Monday 7th April. This event is run by our school council.

Staffing

We are delighted to share that we appointed two new teaching assistants on Tuesday. Miss Sanderson and the governors observed maths interventions and went through a rigorous process of formal interviews at Bleasdale. Fiona Kitchen will start at the beginning of May and Chimene House will start after Easter. We welcome them both to our school family.

Bags 2 school

The children will be bringing home a bag today. Please fill them up and return to the front of school on Friday 2nd May.



Lunches

Week 3 WC 07.04.25

Please can all children bring a packed lunch on Tuesday!



Outdoor Education

We sang, we climbed, we balanced, we paddled. We laughed and we felt nervous at times... What a week! A huge thankyou to James and the team at High Borrans. They really looked after us throughout the week. The staff at the Outdoor centre were really impressed at just how brave some of our children are. They were particularly impressed with Bitterns, as they climbed Tilberthwaite ghyll – there wasn't an air of hesitation in the air... And even more so, when lights were out at 10:15pm and everyone was asleep! The children were tired, but ever so well behaved, and great fun to be with .

Easter Bingo

Thank you to all who took part in this. It was a lot of fun. The PTA raised £190 which is awesome. Thanks to Mia and the team

Big Walk and Wheel



Our overall position for very small school was 27 out of 124. A great effort. Well don't everyone.

This has been a lot of fun. The children have loved coming to school on bikes, scooters, or even just enjoying a little walk with friends. Up to and including yesterday, our daily average of children big walking or wheeling, was 71%.

Report Cards

These will be going home on Monday. If you would like to talk to class teachers, please make a morning appointment on Tuesday 8th April. Your child's attendance will also be recorded on the report card.

Friday Thought

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. —1 Corinthians 1-27

Newsletter – WC 31st March 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 SERVICE

Reading Corner



As part of our commitment to developing a culture of reading for pleasure and a lifelong love of reading, we are excited to announce that your child will be participating in Accelerated Reader, as from September. A guide will be shared with parents in the summer term. We need books! If you have any books on the [AR book list](#), and you no longer want them, then please bring them into school.

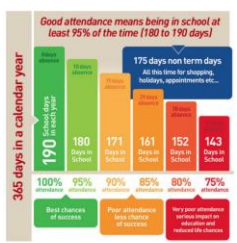
Wrap Around Care



We have had just 40% of you reply to the Wrap Around Care questionnaire. Even if you don't use this service, please complete the questionnaire as if you might in the future.

What would you like to see offered? As we continue to improve our provision - giving children the best possible opportunities out of school. Please scan the QR code or click the [link](#)

Attendance



Did you know? A two week holiday in term time means the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%.

The sickness bug last week meant our attendance was challenged quite significantly. However, as we monitor the last three weeks more closely, we can see improvements.

Thankyou to all parents for supporting us, and giving feedback on this matter.

Raising money

Mrs Taylor is doing a sponsored run on the 24th May. Why not sponsor her using the QR code below? Its to raise money for a brain tumour charity. Please see Millhead poster re outcome of the 55mile Limestone Round.

Next week in school...

- 07.04.25 – Bitterns visit to Trowbarrow
 - 07.04.25 – Easter competitions judged by School council
 - 08.04.25 – Bring a toy to school day. Bicycles, scooters also allowed. Toys MUST have names on, or at least be easily identifiable.
 - 08.04.25 – SCHOOL FINISHES FOR EASTER
- Please don't forget to check the [online calendar](#) for future events

Attendance

A huge 'well done' to Harriers this week. This is fantastic work. Thankyou to all families

Curlews	94.2%
Bitterns	91.5%
Harriers	95.3%
Average school	94.0%

Enrichment clubs

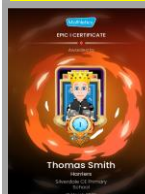
Knitting Club	KS1 and KS2 (Max 8)	Tuesday (during lunch time)	FREE
Sewing Club	KS1 and KS2 (Max 8)	Tuesday 3.15 - 4.15	£20.00
Korfball Club	KS2 (Max 15)	Tuesday 3.15- 4.15pm	£20.00
Rounders Club	Y2 - Y6 (Max 20)	Thurs 3.15 - 4.15pm	£10.00
Football club	Y1 - Y6 (Max 25)	Friday 3.15- 4.15pm	£25.00

Please complete the form sent home last week, if you would like your child to be involved in an enrichment club. The link to the electronic version can be found [here](#).

Forest School

Bitterns will be going to Trowbarrow next Monday as part of a memorial. Young Lancashire has been a charity supporting young people and their organisations for 100 years. They have commissioned three woodland Oases in the County - one being at Silverdale that allow young people to experience Forest School. Pam Beswick was one of their trustees from Lancaster who died from cancer and the charity wants to dedicate this facility to her memory.

Mathletics



Well Done Thomas Smith on his first 'first'!
Remember: 1 point per correct answer in Live Mathletics
•2 points per correct answer within the student's bonus level of Live Mathletics
•10 points per correct answer within individual Mathletics curriculum activities*
•20 points per correct answer within a curriculum Are You Ready? or Topic Test*



Easter Competitions

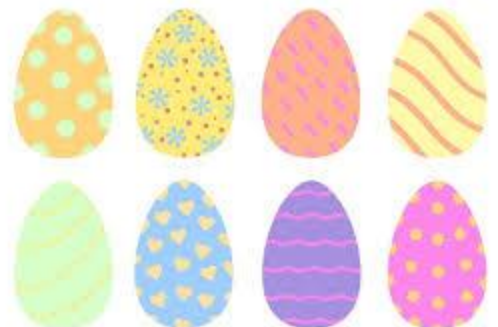
run by school council.

Closing date **MONDAY 7TH APRIL 2025**

EASTER BAKING COMPETITION!

What to do:
1. Pick any Easter-themed treat to make.
Take a photo of your finished treat and send to Miss Sanderson by email, by Monday 7th April

PRIZES TO BE WON!

A collage of various Easter-themed baked goods including cakes, cupcakes, and decorated eggs.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

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®



Endure Morecambe 24 Hour Prom Relay

24th-25th May 2025

On the 24th and 25th May 2025, *Let's Run Morecambe* and *Lancaster Runners* will be taking part in a 24-hour relay on the Prom to raise vital funds for *The Brain Tumour Charity*.

The Brain Tumour Charity is the world's leading brain tumour charity, and the largest dedicated funder of research into brain tumours.

If you would like more information, or to donate please visit

<https://tinyurl.com/24Hr-Prom-Relay>

or scan the QR code below.

For more information about *The Brain Tumour Charity*, please visit

<https://www.thebraintumourcharity.org/>

**LANCASTER
RUNNERS**





Millhead 10's fundraiser for CancerCare North Lancashire & South Cumbria

Ray (Baine's dad) started at 4.40am doing leg one.

Stewart (Harry's dad) did leg two.

Laura (Seb's and Max's mum) did leg three

Katie and John (other parents from the team) did Leg four

Steve (coach) did leg five. Finishing just under 12 hours at 16.39.

The football team ran the last 5km with Baine, Harry and Charlie coming in first together.

They have raised £1525 so far for CancerCare.

The team ran the last 5km to raise money for their football club. Amount to be confirmed.

Many thanks to those parents that have donated.