

# Newsletter – WC 16th January 2023

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.

## Stars of the Week

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

**Starlings** - Evie – For a super start to nursery. You are a great friend already!

**Curlews** – Georgia - for being so kind and helpful when getting ready for forest school. You helped others before you got yourself ready.

**Bitterns** - Bradley – for always sharing good facts in science!

**Harriers** - Athena – For growing in confidence in maths and attempting tasks independently.

## Chinese New Year Day

Isaac's dad and other friends of the Chinese community from Lancaster, did an amazing job of entertaining and teaching us about China today. We created crafts, cooked dumplings, used chop sticks and generally learnt a lot about this amazing and diverse culture. Thanks to David Amor and Liming who helped us on the day. The children were brilliant in their questioning and their participation.

## Reading

The New Ofsted Education Inspection Framework now includes a "deep dive" in reading, and this will form part of every inspection for primary schools. The sequence of reading books must show a cumulative progression in phonics knowledge that is matched closely to the school's phonic programme. Although our reading scheme runs loosely alongside the phases of phonics, we have identified it is not quite specific enough and we don't have enough books. Therefore, we have started the arduous task of sorting out our reading scheme so it matches directly and means teachers can give children sufficient practice in reading and rereading books that match the grapheme-phoneme correspondences they know. This needs to be done both at school and at home. Please be patient with us, as we make the transition. Don't forget to read every night at home, and bring books in every day for changing, if need be.

## Attendance

As it is the start of a new term, we have been analysing our attendance figures once again. There is a major focus on raising attendance in schools by the government and we are asked to monitor it and act when there are persistent offenders. The target for attendance remains at 96% nationwide and we know that good attendance helps children with their progress. Having analysed the information from last term, we can see that most absences have been due to illness. To be clear, we appreciate how difficult it has been for parents and families, as there have been many mixed messages over the last couple of years since COVID – one minute it is stay at home, and the next it's come into school. Very confusing and frustrating for many. That said, this term is a suitable time to start a fresh. We would encourage you to bring your children into school as much as possible. Little sniffs, coughs and colds should not be a reason to keep them at home. They are missing crucial elements of their education and it impacts on friendships, mental health, and well-being. On a physical level, we want to build up the immune systems of your young people after lock downs. If your child's attendance falls below 90%, they are classed as a persistent absentee. We will therefore be contacting parents where attendance is in danger of falling below 90%. We value your support when trying to improve our attendance throughout school and we will continue to be as understanding as possible. Please, just come and talk to us if you are worried or want to share further information that will inform patterns of attendance.

## Thank you

Ian Ellershaw came to visit us yesterday. Ian is a pastor at [Carnforth Free Methodist Church](#). He taught us about having faith & determination through the difficult times, using Saul (Paul) as an example. Thanks to Ian. We loved having him, despite his love of Manchester United! ⚽ Although, I think some of our Harrier's boys were quite fond of him!

## Friday Thought

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?  
—Psalm 56:4

## Football at playtime

The boys (and girls) love playing football at playtime, but in the winter months, it can be rather a squeeze on the playground for them. We have decided to try football on the grass for a few weeks, to see how it goes. There will be a rota. Bitterns Monday. Harriers Wednesday. Bitterns and Harriers Friday. Children must wear old clothes if they're playing football. These can be kept in school and must only be worn for football times.

## Movie Night

It's movie night in school tonight. FOSS are running it and would love to see as many children as possible. Tickets are £3 each. £2.50 for siblings. Tickets will get...

- Sing 2 (the movie)
- A hot dog
- Sweets and a drink

Movie night starts at **16:30**. Children need picking up **18:30**.

## Children's safety

A little reminder, that it is illegal to park on yellow zig-zag lines anywhere. Rule 243 of the Highway Code indicates a range of places where motorists must not park, including on a bend, a dropped kerb or the brow of a hill. It also states that drivers must not park near a school entrance. Please remember this at pick up/drop off times. **Parking outside a school may obstruct visibility for parents and children trying to cross the road and is thus highly dangerous.**

## Lunches

### New Menu

Week 3 WC 23.01.23



## Mrs Taylor

Mrs Taylor is out of the office next week... Arghh!! Please pray for Miss Sanderson, as she navigates admin, the office, lunches (thanks for your help with this Mrs Holmes), enrichment clubs and registers. Please be patient with telephones and the reception window. If you need to book your child into ASC or BC or if you need to let the school know if your child is absent or have any other messages, please email Miss Sanderson at [head@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk).

## The week ahead...

Mrs Taylor not in office all week.  
25.01.23 – Scott in Rugby  
26.01.23 – Bitterns trip to Leighton  
26.01.23 – Big School's Bird Watch live  
<https://bbc.in/3WNIDF3>



## Curriculum news

Our Curriculum Overviews are now on the website.  
For subject visions and drivers [click here](#)  
For subject overviews [click here](#)  
For theme overviews [click here](#)  
Staff have worked hard to make our curriculum bespoke to our school – ensuring we have coverage of the National Curriculum, and we show a progression in skills. If you have any questions, please talk to Mrs Knight or Miss Sanderson

## Further afield...



THIS SATURDAY AT 2 PM  
**Garden Tool Care & Repair workshop**  
Created by Simply Repair South Lakes  
Interested Going

## Church News

Reverend Mary is on sabbatical for 5 weeks. Her husband will be taking services at St John's in the time being. Sunday at 09:00 for 40 minutes. A time of informal worship for all.  
Stay for Bacon Butties after the service.

