

Newsletter – WC 15th January 2024

Inspiring success through learning, community and faith.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

– Philippians 4:13



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

CURLEWS - Toby

For creative thinking when building and evaluating models in the construction area.

BITTERNS – Charlie K

Amazing and impressive knowledge of the countries of the world when locating rainforests

HARRIERS – Sienna

For a positive attitude and willingness to work hard in every lesson. She's a joy to teach!

Attendance – this week

Curlews = 88.2%

Bitterns = 88.6%

Harriers = 86.6%

Staffing

STILL opportunity for some hours of work in after school club. If anyone is interested in 3hrs, for one night a week, please tell the office. We are yet to fill the site supervisor post too. If you (or anyone you know) would like to clean 2.5 hours a day (before or after school) and then do 1x 2.5 hours a week maintenance (can be blocked together to make longer shifts over a term) then, please see Miss Sanderson for job description. We also need lunchtime staff!

If you would like some or all of the above – we would love to hear from you!

Friday Thought

Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.
Isaiah 1:17

Outdoor Education

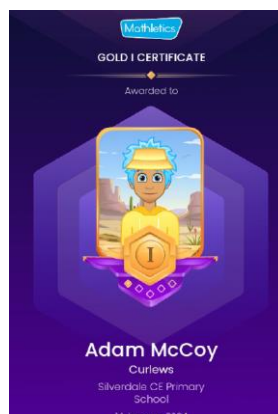
Miss Sanderson visited High Borran's Outdoor Centre on Wednesday evening. It was amazing. The staff so lovely, welcoming and caring. The rounds were beautiful!

They have climbing walls on site, ropes courses and a small lake for canoeing and kayaking. Our first trip will be with Nursery and Reception on 19.02.24. Dan Willan coaches are taking us. Year 1 and 2 have theirs on 21.02.24. Miss Sanderson will be driving the minibus. Year 3/4 are having their overnight stay/trip on 22/23.02.24. We will be taking the minibus and cars for this one.

Mrs Taylor

Mrs Taylor will not be in the office next week.. Please email Miss Sanderson if you have any questions, and she will try to answer them. Mrs Holmes will be in the office from 09:00 – 09:30 doing lunches. Please be patient with us, as we answer calls, emails and the door!

New Gold Winner - Mathletics!



Well done to Adam McCoy, who has his first Gold award for Mathletics. Adam has been getting consistent silver awards for a few weeks now. We are very excited that he has at least got a gold. AMAZING efforts from Adam!

Class Blogs

It's Bitterns' class this week! Please [click](#) on the link to gain an insight into what the children have been learning in class. Please also check out our school [Facebook](#) page.

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Many of us make new year's resolutions—a change to better ourselves—why not start to read more or try different types of stories or books. Here are some that might inspire your children:

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/t/heread-down/kids-and-young-adult-comingsoon/>

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/blog/2024-preview-brilliant-childrens-books-to-lookforward-to-next-year-6567>

A huge well done to children in Bittern's class. Out of the children who were struggling to meet the magical 'read 90 words per minute' to demonstrate fluency, ALL children made good progress, and 42% of them, can now read fluently.

For those children struggling with reading, we have interventions in school. However, nothing compares to reading at home and listening to stories. Why not try [paired reading](#) or check out [Oxford Owl](#) for tips and guides to reading at home. OR, just cozy up on the sofa and enjoy a cuddle and a story

Lunches



Week 1 WC 22.01.24

Church News



Next Week...

- 22.01.24 – Miss Sanderson meeting out of school at 14:45
- 24.01.24 – School advisors in school
- 25.01.24 – Miss Sanderson and Mr Edge meeting
- 25.01.24 – Whole staff epilepsy training

Attendance

On Tuesday, some families received emails regarding attendance for the period of 4th September 2023 to 22nd December 2023.

We do this to highlight it to families, but also so we can support.

Please remember that even just 3 days off school (6 sessions) can take you to the 90% threshold. Our [attendance policy](#) states that 'a pupil is on track to becoming a persistent absentee when their attendance falls to 90% or below at any point during the school year; whether the absences are authorised or unauthorised'.

If you would like to discuss attendance with Miss Sanderson, please email her on head@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk.

Playground Project

We will have more details to share with you on this, by the end of next week. We thank you for your patience. There has been much to discuss and lots of people to liaise with.

Mid-Morning Snack

The children are enjoying flapjack for mid morning snack. We have done this to be inclusive (not all children have snack), and also to try and limit the amount of single use plastic some children have. It is healthier too, than some of the chocolatey/sweet treats we've spotted! Flapjack is 20p. Why not give your child a £1 for the week? We may try an alternative snack for next half term, as the weather warms up! Ideas appreciated.

What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called "hate speech" and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics; referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for human rights activists, a collection of toolkits of self-empowerment, equality, diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the app.

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