



Newsletter – WC 16th September 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' Class - Caspian

For a positive outlook and confident approach to new routines and systems in Year 2. Well done Caspian!

Bittern's Class – Adam

For being so brave and being an overcomer. You are a wonderful year 3 student!

Harriers' Class – Jaxson

For having such a super start to the year. You are always 'learning ready' and so much fun

Curriculum

Our current theme for Autumn term is 'Happy, Healthy Me'. Each class has a breakdown of what objectives are being taught each week, in a half termly overview. Please click on the following links to see what your children are learning.

[Curlews](#) [Bitterns](#) [Harriers](#)

You will also find welcome letters and Meet the Teacher powerpoints on the class pages.

Growing school family!

We are really pleased to share that yesterday, we appointed two wonderful new members of staff to join our learning support team (teaching assistants). Naomi Accialini and Joanna Barker will start with us as soon as the clearance process is completed. These are exciting times for SSJ and we know they will be very happy here with us.

Lunches

Week 3 WC 23.09.24



School applications

The application process for both secondary and primary school places for September 2023 is now open. To apply use this online form, please [click here](#). Secondary applications close on 31st October 2024 and Primary applications close on 15th January 2025

FOSS

Some diary dates for now...

05.10.24 Grounds morning in school: tidy, paint, cut down trees and clear.

10.10.24 – FOSS meeting

17.10.24 – Movie Night

22.11.24 – Christmas Fair

01.04.25 FOSS Easter bingo

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to all those who attended 'Meet the teacher' on Wednesday. It was a good turn out and great to share how your children have settled into new routines and with their new teachers and class mates.

If you would like the PPT for the evenings from each class, and from teachers – they can be found here. As always, if you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Poetry Day

All children are encouraged to join in with this, writing or reciting a poem and sharing it in a creative and imaginative way... actions, expression, rhythm, rhyme and props. Learning it off-by-heart is also encouraged. All classes will be learning a poem to perform together on the day too.

This is a 'House Team' competition and everyone who enters gains house points for their team. There are also prizes awarded to each year group as well as 'special effort/outstanding performance' prizes. We have a cracking line up of VIP judges this year who can't wait to see what we can do! Parents, grandparents and friends of the school are very welcome to attend –we will provide cups of tea and biscuits at the interval!

Support your child by helping them to choose a poem/rhyme, practise it at home and prepare to perform on Thursday 3rd October. Please email Miss Sanderson to inform us of their choice so that we can prepare a running order for judges by Tuesday 1st October.

The words of Jesus: Our Christian Value this week is Thankfulness



Helping your child to learn to read, and importantly to learn to love reading, is one of the most rewarding things you can do as a parent. The booklet below produced by The Book Trust, provides lots of ideas to support you with this:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/globalassets/resources/misc/reading-with-yourchild/reading-with-your-child-booklet-forparents.pdf>

Fashion Show

The Friends of St John's have a fundraising fashion show with Kitty Brown on Thursday **24th October at the Institute**. Diane Smillie is asking for models and help with selling tickets. If you can support (money raised goes to school and church) Please can you email Miss Sanderson on head@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk

IMPORTANT allergy information

Please remember that we are a nut-free school. We have children in school with severe allergies and it is important that they are not exposed to any nut products. Please be careful with chocolate spreads, biscuits and pain au chocolates to make sure these don't have hazelnut in. We appreciate this is difficult but thank you for your cooperation as we try to keep all our children safe.

Open Day

We are excited to announce that we are holding an open day for existing and prospective parents on **Tuesday 15th October**. There will be three 'tours' throughout the day. **09:30, 10:45 and 13:30**. Our School Council will be helping show case our wonderful school. Please spread the word about open day to anyone you think might be interested.

Class Blog

It's Bitterns this week! Click [here](#) for an insight to a week in the life of being a bittern!

Next Week...

CYCLE TO WORK WEEK

23.09.24 – Science staff meeting

24.09.24 – Carnforth secondary school open evening 1700-2000

26.09.24 – Speech and Language therapist in school

26.09.24 – Dallam Open evening 1800-2000

27.09.24 – Miss Sanderson at Head Teacher conference CHECK THE SCHOOL [WEBSITE CALENDER](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

Harvest


As always at this time of year, we are collecting produce for the food bank in Morecambe. A box will be in the foyer for the next two weeks.

Please can we have your non perishables, in particular

Tinned chicken meals.

Biscuits.

Tinned Ravioli.

Tinned Steak mea 

Cereal.

Toothpaste.

Toothbrushes.

Tinned Macaroni Cheese.

Please come and join us for our Harvest festival at St John's church at 09:30 on Friday 4th October. All welcome.

Friday Thought

Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.—[Ecclesiastes 9:18](#)

Secondary Open Evenings

Dallam for Year 5/6
19th 26th September – click [here](#) to book
Carnforth for Year 5/6 24th September
2024

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

FINAL FANTASY XIV

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
16

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The video game Final Fantasy XIV launched in 2010, and, despite being critically panned, it saw an overhaul that has made it one of the biggest success stories in gaming. Its huge world, epic story and versatile combat system have continued to draw in new players, but there's a lot that trusted adults need to be aware of – not least the cost of paying monthly to play.

ALWAYS ONLINE

Final Fantasy XIV is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Much like World of Warcraft, players create a character in a chosen class and level up by completing quests to gain power and items. The game requires a constant internet connection, whether you're playing on PC, Mac, Playstation or Xbox, and there's no option to play offline.

REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As with similar titles in the genre, players can purchase expansions to unlock additional content for the game. These without the expansions will be locked out of certain new quests and activities, meaning that young people who play regularly will potentially have the next release earmarked on their calendar, ready to buy it as soon as possible.

IN-GAME PURCHASES & SUBSCRIPTION FEE

Users need to pay £8.99 per month to play Final Fantasy XIV, but there is a free trial. If someone stops paying, they'll lose access to their character (although they'll be able to pick up the payments again and resume where they left off). If a player forgets to cancel their payments, however, those subscription fees will continue rolling on automatically.

FREE TRIAL

VOICE & TEXT CHAT

Final Fantasy XIV lets players send chat messages in-game or speak to each other over voice chat. On the one hand, that provides plenty of choice for how those enjoying the game can interact with their fellow fans. On the other hand, however, it's easier than in many games to receive unprompted messages from a stranger, with whom you constantly share your play space.

VIOLENCE

While Final Fantasy XIV has a fairly light tone throughout some of its quests, many involve killing enemies and sometimes even wild animals. The violence isn't especially strong – more comparable to a cartoon or anime style – but the act alone may make some children feel uncomfortable, if they're not yet able to separate fictional harm from the real kind.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

As with World of Warcraft, there's an element of addiction to Final Fantasy XIV. The gameplay loop can be quite engrossing, as minutes turn into hours and hours into days while playing alone or with friends. This can potentially lead to missing real-life events, a lack of interest in any activities not related to the game and procrastination around responsibilities like schoolwork.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MANAGE PLAYTIME

Playtime limits are a great way to counter the addictive qualities of games like Final Fantasy XIV. They allow you discuss why it's still important to enjoy things outside of gaming while still letting a child enjoy playing online with their friends when it makes sense to do so. It's all well and good to have fun with a game, so long as they're able to step away and reconnect with the real world.

MAKE USE OF THE FREE TRIAL

The Final Fantasy XIV free trial is a generous one, with no limits on how long someone can play until their character hits level 70. That's easily dozens of hours for a child to go through the game, complete quests, and see if they enjoy it before purchasing expansions or subscribing to a membership. They may well move on to something else before you need to spend so much as a penny.

PLAY TOGETHER

The free trial makes it extremely easy to jump into Final Fantasy XIV and play alongside a child, provided they're old enough. Not only does that help you ensure that settings are adjusted for their privacy and safety, but it may also end up becoming a bonding experience for you both and any other family members that want to try it out.

REMEMBER, IT'S A PEGI 16

Despite its often-relaxing nature, Final Fantasy XIV carries a PEGI 16 rating for violence and drugs (although the latter is due to a character smoking a pipe on occasion). There's minimal blood, but characters can attack enemies (and other players) with weapons and spells. Take a look at some gameplay videos to see if the content is appropriate for a younger player.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor-in-Chief of @@Beacon, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A longtime fan of online games, he's also a parent, and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has previously been published at sites including iDN, Techradar and plenty more.



WakeUp Wednesday

The National College