

Newsletter – WC 12th May 2025

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

We will celebrate our stars of the week next week in Worship. Watch this space for more wonderful children displaying our Christian values around school.

Year 6 SATS

Year 6 were amazing this week. Some arriving at school at 07:45!! Very keen. They endured and persevered in what can be a stressful situation. All the children tried their best and will always make us proud no matter the outcome.

PTA

There will be an AGM and a planning meeting for PTA on **Friday 13th June at the cricket club**. It will start at 6pm. All welcome. Carly Taylor will be sending out an agenda closer to the time. Please come along. Your support is very much appreciated and needed.

EYFS outside provision

As we continue to develop out outdoor area, we are desperate for your help. We need outdoor chalkboards, we need a new shed. We need large cable reels and we need someone to reinstate our water wall on to the fence. With regards the fence, thanks you to all those who have helped paint it.

Frank Cramer, Helen Donahue, John Howes and Steve Edge. You have done a super job, and we are very grateful!

We also need someone strong with a pickaxe to turn over the soil in the garden area. The ground is hard and dry and has a tree stump in the middle of it!

Friday Thought

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." —Acts 13:2

Field day

Field day is happening on Sat 21st June 2025.

The fancy dress competition is open to all ages to enter, there's no theme so you can get creative with your costumes. You can enter as a single person, a double act or as a group. Sam Mason needs volunteers! First Aiders, marshals for the fell run etc. Please see Sam if you can help with the above.

School also needs support with giving out drinks whilst the fancy dress parade is on and then manning the SSJ stall. Shuffle board, tombola etc

Transition Year 6 to Year 7

Dallam - Welcome evening for Parents and pupils - Monday 30th June
Induction day Tuesday 1st July.

QES - Welcome evening for Parents and pupils - Wednesday 2nd July
Induction morning for pupils Friday 4th July

Open Day LRGS

Lancaster Royal Grammar School is opening the doors to prospective families interested in applying for a place in September 2026. Families are welcome to attend the Open Day on Saturday 21 June from 9am-1pm.

EYFS 2025 Intake

Admission offers for reception classes in September 2025 have been released this week. Currently, we have 7 children down to attend. If you know of anyone who is unhappy with their choice of school, please let them know that we have room!

Lunches

Week 1 WC 19.05.25



Forest School

Thanks to Belinda again, for some awesome sessions of forest school at Trowbarrow. We are truly blessed to have such opportunities on our doorstep. And truly blessed to have Belinda!

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The words of Jesus: Our Christian Value this week is ENDUARNCE AND PERSEVERANCE

Reading Corner



Accelerated Reader™

We have started scanning books! But we need more. Please leave any unwanted books (preferably age 6 and up) in the reception area. This is part of our commitment to developing a culture of reading for pleasure and a lifelong love of reading. Accelerated Reader should be set up and running, as from September.

Assessments

Y1 phonics: every Y1 children will take a phonics assessment in the week beginning 9 June This is a 1:1 verbal assessment of their phonics knowledge where they try to read 40 words, both normal and nonsense words. This will be administered by Miss Sanderson

Multiplication tables check: All Y4 children sit an online tables test in the week beginning 9 June. This tests their knowledge of times tables up to 12x12 and they have 6s to answer each question.

Y2 assessments: although we no longer have to statutorily report results of our Y2 assessments, the children will sit internal assessments along with Y3,4,5 in week beginning 16 June. This allows teachers to accurately assess which knowledge is embedded, and what needs re-teaching next year.

EYFS: children will be assessed on the areas of learning in the EYFS curriculum. This is teacher assessment and no test is taken..

School spaces

We currently have spaces available in some of the classes. If you know anyone who may be interested ask them to contact school.

School bags and Unifrom

Miss Sanderson modelled the school rucksack to the children this week. Compartments for book bags, water bottles. Letters home will ever get lost again. They are also easily identifiable for us and you! Most of all, they are compatible with scooting and cycling to school! Please ask Mrs Taylor if you would like to purchase one. The uniform is available for ordering on the website. [Click here](#)

Next week in school...

19.05.25 – Walk to School Week
19.05.25 – Bitterns Visit to Lancaster Castle
19.05.25 - Health & Safety in School
22.05.25 – SSN Olympics, Salt Ayre
23.05.25 - Pedal & Scoot
23.05.25 - School Closes for Half Term
02.06.25 - INSET DAY – No School
03.06.25 - School Re-Opens
Please don't forget to check the [online calendar](#) for future events

Attendance

A huge 'well done' to Curlews this week. This is AMAZING work. Thank you to all families

Curlews	100.0%
Harriers	98.2%
Bitterns	95.4%
Average school	98.0%

Bay Cycle way

See poster below for the Bay Cycle Way's 10th Birthday Challenge. Is anyone up for joining Miss Sanderson for Option 2?

Reverend Eve

It was lovely to welcome Eve to the village of Silverdale on Sunday. A wonderful service at St John's church of hymns, Bible readings, promises and commissioning. Eve popped her head into school on Wednesday! Just by chance, some of the children were doing RE. They talked enthusiastically about worship and what it meant to endure and persevere. We can't wait to get to know Eve even more. We love that she loves birds and Leighton Moss. I wonder if she has worked out the names of our classes yet?!

Lost property

Hopefully you have seen the basket in the foyer that is full of school jumpers, cardigans and the odd t-shirt. If your child needs one, just to put them on until the end of term—please feel free to take one.



Love
Morecambe
Bay



Bay Cycle Way's 10th Birthday Challenge

June-August 2025



Want to take part?

Visit www.morecambebay.org.uk/what-we-do/stories/bay-cycle-way-10th-birthday-challenge
or scan the QR code to find out how to take part &
why Morecambe Bay needs your support.



**Morecambe
Bay**
Partnership

Registered Charity: 1173489

morecambebay.org.uk



Choose from 4 Challenges

Pay £10 per person (or per family for the Family Challenge) to register and complete during June, July or August 2025.



OPTION 1: 1-day Individual Challenge (81 miles); for keen cyclists!

- Fundraise whatever you can
- Raise over £300 and receive a commemorative Bay Cycle Way t-shirt
- Your name will be added to our official Bay Cycle Way Roll of Honour

OPTION 2: 1-day Corporate/Team 'Sunrise to Sunset' Challenge (81 miles)

- Get competitive with your workmates and aim for the top of the leaderboard
- Teams of between 5-10 people
- Pledge to raise or donate a minimum of £1,000
- Ride 81 miles as a group or divide into sections as a relay
- Raise £1000+ and you'll receive a commemorative t-shirt and a social media 'shout out' to celebrate your team & workplace
- When you complete the challenge, your organisation will join the official Team leaderboard

OPTION 3: 'Take Your Time' Summer Challenge (81 miles)

- Ride leisurely, without pressure, and enjoy the views!
- Bike the route in sections to suit your fitness over June, July & August
- Fundraise whatever you can
- Raise over £300 and you'll receive a commemorative Bay Cycle Way t-shirt
- Your name will be added to the official Bay Cycle Way Roll of Honour



OPTION 4: The Family Challenge – Lancaster to Glasson Dock (5.6 miles or 11.2miles there and back)

- A grand day out that's all off-road and family-friendly
- Fundraise whatever you can. Could you raise £100 in sponsorship?
- You'll be entered into a Prize draw to win tickets to local attractions or cycling goodies



**Want to
take part?**

Visit www.morecambebay.org.uk/what-we-do/stories/bay-cycle-way-10th-birthday-challenge or scan the QR code to find out how to take part & why Morecambe Bay needs your support.

When you join up & register, all cyclists receive:

- ✓ A welcome pack with tips
- ✓ Step-by-step guide to set up your fundraiser
- ✓ A place to fundraise, share your story and photos of biking by the Bay
- ✓ Safety guidance
- ✓ Ideas of where to refuel along the Bay Cycle Way
- ✓ Downloadable certificate of completion
- ✓ Entry into the 10th birthday prize draw



**Morecambe
Bay**
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morecambebay.org.uk





**Love
Morecambe
Bay**

Want to
take part?



Bay Cycle Way's 10th Birthday Challenge

June-August 2025



**Take on the Bay Cycle Way this
summer and raise money for
Morecambe Bay!**

You'll be raising vital funds to protect the Bay's spectacular nature, precious heritage, and helping community projects that help everyone access the coast and countryside.

The Bay Cycle Way, created in 2015 by Morecambe Bay Partnership (with Sustrans), has reached its 10th birthday! This spectacular long-distance cycle way hugs the coastline of Morecambe Bay taking in 81 miles of awe-inspiring sea, sand, mountains and sky, from Walney Island to Glasson Dock.



Registered Charity: 1173489

morecambebay.org.uk





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**



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



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