

Newsletter – WC 23rd June 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

Curlews - Evie

For fantastic problem solving in Maths using multiplication facts. Well done Evie!

Bitterns - Seb

For working methodically on times tables and completing all of the addition and subtraction work set this week to a high standard.

Harriers – Marnie

For being an all-round superstar, she is hardworking, kind, respectful and a joy to teach!

Props making day

Thanks to all the people who helped at the props making day. The hall was a buzz of action and a LOT of work got done. Particular thanks to Chimene, Rachel, Trueman, Lucy, Mia, Alice and Mrs Greenall

Secondary school open days/evenings

Ripley St Thomas: Thursday 10th July 2025, 6 – 8.30 p.m.

Dallam School – September 18th Thursday and Wednesday 24th 6-8pm

Sports Day

This will now be on Monday afternoon (30th) We wonder who will be the winning team this year? The children are in their teams and ready to go. PE kits must be worn. Colour group accessories can also be worn. Multi skills starts at 1330. Races at 1415. See you there.

Staffing

We need welfare staff from September 12:00-13:00. If you are interested please call the school office. All, or some of the week. Anything would help.

We also still need a site supervisor/cleaner. Again, call the office for a job description and details about salary and hours

Friday Thought

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?

—Matthew 6:25

Summer production

The date is next Friday. The show times are 1330 and 1830. A letter has gone out this week along with details of the production and information about tickets.

If anyone knows anyone that can film the performance, we would really appreciate it.

Class Blog

It's Curlews' class blog this week. [Click here](#) to gain an insight into what a week in the life of a Curlew might look like.

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

Lunches

Week 1 WC 30.06.25

Please note lunches will be increasing to £2.80 in September.



Giving fortnight

It is giving fortnight WC 30th June. This was decided at the PTA AGM on the 13th June. If you would like to give to the playground project, please click on this [link](#).

Polite reminder

If you want to contact the office on Tuesday and Friday by email, please ensure you use s.alderson@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk

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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.

Year 6 Leavers arrangements

Monday 30th June 2025 – Leavers Service

Blackburn Diocese Leavers service at Chorley Cathedral 10:00-12:00

Monday 7th July 2025 – Leavers Photos

We will take photos of our Year 6 leavers which will be available to download free of charge. We will take individual photos as well as friendship groups.

Thursday 17th July 2025

Year 6 leavers Party – TBA

Tuesday 22nd July 2025 - Shirt Signing

We are looking to give your child the opportunity to get their shirt signed in school, so please could you ensure your child has a shirt in school that they can have signed as well as the one that they are wearing.

Tuesday 22nd July 2025– Leavers Presentation and picnic

11am in church. Our Year 6 children will take this opportunity to present to you their memories of primary school and look forward to their next challenges at secondary school. They will be handed their end of year trophies and Bibles.

This will be in church, followed by a whole school family picnic.

11+ Registration

11+ REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 ENTRANCE:

[LGGS - REGISTER HERE](#)

[LRGS – REGISTER HERE](#)

Please see [this link](#) for more information on an 11+

Summer School with Tutor Doctor.



Diary Dates next week..

30.06.25 – Home visits Reception Sept 2025
30.06.25 – Leavers Service Chorley
30.06.25 – Inclusive worship training
30.06.25 – New intake evening Dallam
01.07.25 – New Intake day Dallam
01.07.25 – Online safety training Miss S
02.07.25 – Curlews visit to church - Baptism
02.07.25 – Teddy Bears picnic – new intake
02.07.25 – Induction eve QES
04.07.25 – Welcome morning QES
04.07.25 – Summer production 13:30 and 18:30

Attendance

Well done to Harriers this week. Thank you to all families

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Harriers | 97.7% |
| Bitterns | 93.1% |
| Curlews | 86.3% |
| Average school | 92.9% |

Sponsored Run

Our annual sponsored run is now on **Thursday 10th July**. The team from Growing Well will be joining us, which is very exciting! Belinda is helping to organise again. Please can you get in touch with her if you are available to marshal. It will just be a short time commitment.

The children have taken sponsor forms home.

Please sponsor them!

It's a long way for little legs. Why not scan the QR code here. Or click [here](#)



Mathletics

Well done to Teddy for getting your very first certificate in Mathletics. Awesome work!



Governors

You don't need to be a parent or education expert to be a governor. Schools require a combination of hard and soft skills to ensure their boards operate effectively. Why not apply [here](#) to become a school governor?



The Jungle Book

A Brand New Musical Adaptation
Tom Kirkham and Matthew Crossey

Friday 4th July
13:30 and 18:30.
Tickets available from the
school office

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 4 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



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



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

