

Newsletter – WC 1st December 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 – Flynn

For amazing work in phonics this week.

Well done Flynn!

Bitterns – Suzie

For being soo hardworking with spellings and such an encourager

Harriers – Harry

For having a positive attitude to learning. Harry throws himself into every task with great gusto!

Mathletics First 'firsts'!



Here are this weeks first 'firsts'!

Friday Thought

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. —Romans 1:16

Lunches

Week 3 WC 08.12.25



Class Blog

[Click here](#), to see what a week in the life of being a Bittern is like

Attendance

Well done to Curlews this week

Curlews 97.82 %

Bitterns 96.43 %

Harriers 96.43 %

Average school 96.89 %

Wrap Around Care

As a member of Silverdale St John's, children automatically have the right to use Breakfast and After School Club facilities at any time. We have breakfast club from 7.45am that offers a range of healthy breakfast foods and a chance to catch up with your friends over a bowl of cereal! Breakfast is available until 8.30am to allow time for clearing away before school starts.

At the end of the school day we have an after school club which runs from 3.15pm until 5.30pm. Simply telephone the school office to let us know your child needs a place until you can collect them.

Breakfast Club :

Children need to be in school before 8.30 if they require breakfast.

1st child in family £4.50

2nd child £4.00

after 8.30am £2.00 per child

After School Club Charges :

3.15pm - 4.30pm: £4.75

4.30pm - 5.30pm: £3.75

Playground Project

The forest shelter, the hollow tunnel, the reading hut and the log stride are all now installed. Yippee!

The pond is nearly ready to be viewed and the mud kitchen in EYFS is underway. Gosh, we have worked hard as a team on this...

Thankyou to all. We still need a shed! If anyone knows of one. It's for outside play storage for EYFS. Approx 1.5mx 3m, then please let us know.

Letters to Santa

Make sure you send your letters to Santa by 10 December. Don't forget to include a full name and address on the back of the envelope so Santa can reply.

Send your letters to: Santa/Father
Christmas Santa's Grotto Reindeerland
XM4 5HQ



Great reads for children this Advent include classic stories like *The Polar Express* and *The Nutcracker*, and books based on traditional Advent themes like the Jesse Tree story. For younger children, there are many picture books from authors like Jan Brett and Eric Carle, while older children might enjoy longer narratives or interactive Advent calendar books

Food Hygiene Inspection

Thanks to our wonderful Midday Lunch Supervisors team, we have maintained our 5 star hygiene rating. Mrs House, Mrs Amor, Mrs Alderson, Miss Kitchen, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Postlethwaite all work really hard to make lunchtimes safe, and fun. We thank them for their hard work

School Applications

The application process for both secondary and primary school places for September 2026 is now open. Primary applications close on 15th January 2026. [Click here for the application form](#)

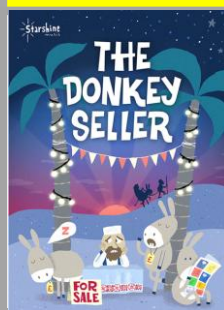
Posada

Join the Posada Journey This Advent! Be part of a beautiful Silverdale tradition this Advent season, starting the first day of advent Sunday 30th November! Wooden figures of Mary and Joseph are travelling through our community, staying in a different home each night as they symbolically re-enact their journey to Bethlehem. A wonderful way to connect with neighbours, reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, and prepare your heart for the Christmas season. How to Get Involved: Sign up today to host Mary and Joseph on their journey!

Next Week...

09.12.25 – Miss S school adviser
09.12.25 – Dress rehearsal KS1
09.12.25 – Miss S Online safety training
09.12.25 – Christmas movie night. See info below
11.12.25 – The Donkey Seller Nativity 13:30/17:30
12.12.25 – Y1/2 (selected) Christmas multi skills L&M college
12.12.25 – Elf Run 14:30 KS1. 14:45 KS2
12.12.25 – Santa coming to Silverdale 17:15
[WEBSITE CALENDER](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

The Donkey Seller



KS1 will be sharing the Christmas story through 'The Donkey Seller' production on Thursday at 1330 and 1730. All welcome to come and watch. It will be AMAZING!!

Santa visiting Silverdale

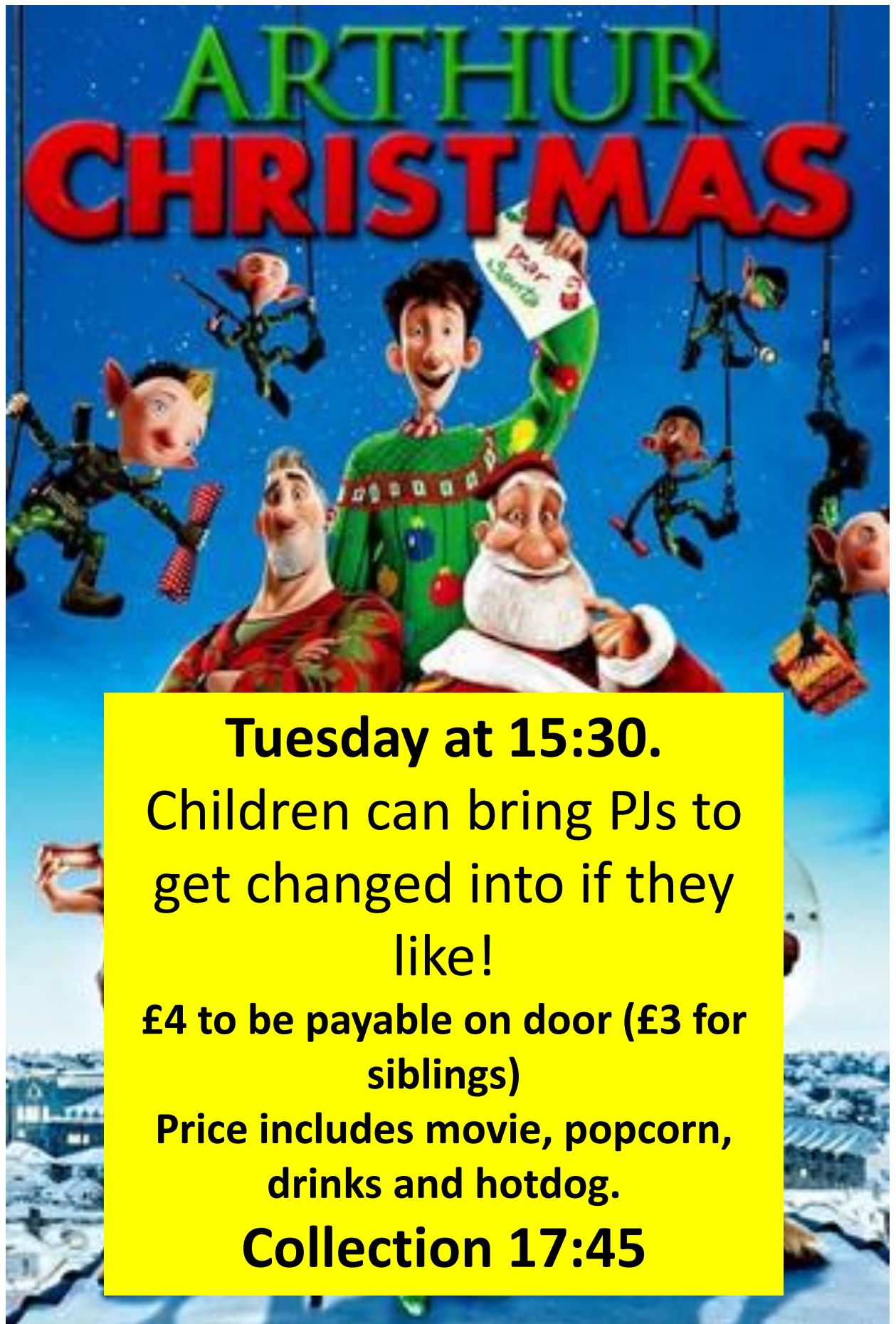
Santa is visiting the Silverdale hotel next Friday at 17:15. The choir will be singing some of their favourite Christmas songs. We hope to see you there.

Elf Run

This is next Friday 12th December. Please note there is a change to the normal morning time, as some of our KS1 children are at a multi skills event. KS1 will run as many laps around the field at 14:30. KS2 will run around the school field and Bleasdale field at 14:45. We need helpers. Please email Miss Sanderson if you can marshal this event. Children will be bringing home sponsor forms today.

Early Years Entitlement

For all new or current nursery children, the new [early years funding agreement](#) is now available to view on the website. Please read carefully



Tuesday at 15:30.

**Children can bring PJs to
get changed into if they
like!**

**£4 to be payable on door (£3 for
siblings)**

**Price includes movie, popcorn,
drinks and hotdog.**

Collection 17:45



Elf Run!

We will be taking part in the
St John's Hospice Elf Run on

Friday 12th December at 14:30



Remember to get sponsored for this fun
run for the local Hospice, providing care
for patients with life limiting conditions!

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games.

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'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

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CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

HELLO OSCAR

WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnite rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

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STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

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Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Breakfast & After School Club

Safe, fun, and friendly care for your children before and after school!



Breakfast Club

7:45 AM – 8:45 AM

Enjoy a healthy breakfast, fun activities, and great start to your day!



After School Club

3:15 PM – 5:30 PM

Homework support, games, creative activities, and lots of fun with friends!



Book Your Place Today!

Contact: 01524 701467

bursar@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk

h.robinson@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk

- Experienced and caring staff
- Safe, welcoming environment
- Snacks and drinks provided

www.silverdale.lancs.sch.uk

STAY & PLAY



Our sessions are
every Friday
morning.
Term time
In our early years
classroom.
09:00-10:30
All welcome



Silverdale St John's Primary School



Silverdale St John's
CofE Primary School & Nursery
Learning, Community and Faith

Vacancy Available

Welfare Assistant

Foundation living Wage

Salary £24,310 pro rata

£12.60 per hour

Term Part-time.

Permanent.

Required 05.01.26

Hours 8.25 hours a week

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday