

Newsletter – WC 5th January 2026

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 – Paisley

For always being motivated to learn new things. A fantastic start to the new term!

Bitterns - Toby

For super story ideas and adventurous vocabulary choices.

Harriers - Solomon

For a mature and sensible attitude and being a good role model for others

Google Classroom

Don't forget to keep checking Google Classroom. There are links on there to online platforms and messages from teachers!

Friday Thought

Stop trusting in man, who has but a breath in his nostrils. Of what account is he?

—Isaiah 2:22

Attendance

Well done to Harriers and Bitterns this week

Harriers	96.1 %
Bitterns	96.1 %
Curlews	94.3 %
Average school	95.8 %

Playground

Awesome work team. Contractors have finally taken the skip, done the markings and fitted the benches. The children have loved using it all this week. The gates will be fitted very soon. Thank you for all your support. New goal posts next and finish the EYFS area.

Class Blog

It's Curlews' class this week to share their [blog](#). What a busy first week back they have had!

Outdoor education

These trips will be taking place WC 2nd March 2026. They are always such a good opportunity for children to develop their resilience in the outdoors, to work collaboratively and to have new and exciting experiences. We will be working with the team at Borwick Hall this year. This outdoor centre comes with a very good reputation. They have climbing walls on site, rope courses and a small lake for canoeing and kayaking. Our first trip will be with Nursery and Reception on 03.03.26. Miss Sanderson will be driving the minibus. Year 1 and 2 have theirs on 04.03.26. Miss Sanderson will be driving the minibus. Year 3/4 are having their overnight stay/trip on 05.03.26/06.03.26. We will hopefully be taking the minibus and cars for this one. We will also be taking the Year 5s sailing in June (a bit later in the year this time, as it is warmer). There may just be a little extra treat for our Year 6s later in the year too!

Payments for Borwick Hall trips are due by 13th February 2026

Enrichment Clubs

Enrichment Clubs have started this week. As always, we provide a wide range of experiences for your children. This half term, we have...

Tuesday – Basketball

Wednesday – Knitting

Thursday - Chess

Friday – Football

For the clubs sign up letter, please click [here](#)

Start of school day

Please remember school starts at 08:45.

Children need to be in the line on the playground, just before this time. Please encourage children to come in the building by themselves. It can feel like quite a tight bottle neck at the back door with parents saying goodbye to children.

Lunches

Week 2 WC 12.01.26



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Some quotes to remind us all just how important reading is:

'You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax all you need is a book!' Dr. Seuss

'There's always room for a story that can transport people to another place.' J.K. Rowling

'Books train your imagination to think big.' Taylor Swift

'There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island.' Walt Disney

PTA meeting

Thanks to those who attended the PTA meeting last night. Minutes can be found [here](#). Events in the diary for this half term are

Coffee morning – Saturday 24th January

We need cakes, donations for tombola and raffle, sweets and any Bric-a-Brac items!

Valentines Disco - Friday 13th February

We need volunteers for this

Curriculum Overviews

New curriculum overviews are now on the website. The creative curriculum theme for this term is 'Watery Worlds'. We have an English week planned, trips to Aquarium of the Lake, walks to the shore and so much more.

It's going to be a brilliant term, with lots to see and do and learn. Curriculum overviews are available for... Curlews [here](#) Bitterns [here](#)

Harriers [here](#)

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

University of First Age

Thanks to all our volunteers. The first sessions of the UFA courses have gone well today. New skills learnt. New relationships made. New commitments made.

Next Week...

12.01.25 – School nurse in school

13.01.26 – Mrs T CPD..

13.01.26 – Speech and Language therapist in

14.01.26 – School adviser in school

15.01.26 – Mrs H CPD

[CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

School Applications

Has your child turned 3 this term? We have spaces available in Nursery starting after Easter.

Please come and have a look around our wonderful provision or contact the office for a booking form. The application process for primary school places for September 2026 is now open. Tours are still available during the school day, please ring to book. [Primary applications](#) close on 15th January 2026. Why not take a look at our [promotional video](#) to see what life at Silverdale St John's is all about.

Lunchtimes

We have talked about New Years resolutions in school this week. We started with healthy eating and what food does for our bodies, not just physically, but emotionally and mentally too. We also discussed why we have the teeth we have, and why we use cutlery to eat with. The children's responses were interesting! For the month of January, we are having a focus on lunchtime – eating nicely, manners, taking turns, enjoying food and mealtimes. Please encourage your child to do the same at home.

We had a lot of giggles about triceps and biceps when cutting up food, and hand/eye co-ordination. Here are our 'lunch bunch' rules. Each Week we are choosing four 'Lunchtime Legends' to sit at the Friday top

Table. This is a trial for this half term

LUNCH BUNCH RULES



1. STAY IN YOUR SEAT
2. EAT YOUR FOOD
3. TALK QUIETLY
4. CLEAN UP YOUR AREA
5. USE KIND WORDS



New Family

Huge welcome to Eddie and Joe. They have made firm friendships already, and are very welcome to the Silverdale St Johns school family



COFFEE MORNING



Silverdale St. John's
Church of England Primary School, Silverdale



SATURDAY
24th
JANUARY
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

at The Gaskell Hall



**All
Welcome!**



All donations to go into school PTA funds.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

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