

Newsletter – WC 19th 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 – Roman

For fantastic work in Maths this week, counting, creating patterns and adding groups of penguins!

Bitterns – Evie

For working hard in all areas of curriculum – particularly maths

Harriers - Reuben

For always working hard every day and being a great role model

Friday Thought

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." —Matthew 7:7-8

Coffee Morning

Coffee morning – Saturday 24th January

We still need cakes, donations for tombola and raffle, sweets and any Bric-a-Brac items! We also need help on the day. Please see Carly if you can contribute – your time on the day, or donate a prize, or bake a cake. Please take all cakes to the Gaskell hall on Saturday morning. Anything else can come to school.

Class Blog

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

Lunches

Week 1 WC 26.01.26



Mathletics first 'firsts'



Well done to Axel for getting his first GOLD award in Mathletics

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. Borwick have climbing walls on site and rope courses. Our first trip will be with Nursery and Reception on 03.03.26. Year 1 and 2 have theirs on 04.03.26. Year 3/4 are having their overnight stay/trip on 05.03.26/06.03.26. We will also be taking the Year 5s sailing in June.

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

Watery World Week

Week beginning the 2nd February, we are having a 'watery world week' in school. There will be lots of reading, writing and creativity around this terms theme. The children will be fully immersed (pardon the pun) in lots of watery activities! On Friday 6th February, we will be asking the children to dress up in watery themed clothes. Fancy Dress! Yippee!

Do we have any budding pirates, mermaids, rainbow fish out there? The children will also be sharing their work from the week on worship! Watch out for some crazy creativity in the corridors too!

School Field

We are so blessed to have wonderful grounds. We are currently discouraging children from wearing school shoes on the field, as it is so muddy. If children want to play on the grass area (not the football pitch) then they MUST bring wellies or alternative footwear in to school. Children must change into this footwear in the shelter, NOT in school. We need to preserve our carpets!

Attendance

Well done to Harriers this week

Harriers	99.4%
Bitterns	92.2%
Curlews	88.6%
AVERAGE SCHOOL	94.7%



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

Year 6 SATs

The Year 6 SATs will take place WC Monday 11 May, and finish on Thursday 14 May. We know you won't be planning a term-time holiday as these are always unauthorized, but please ensure you avoid these dates

Playground equipment

We love our new playground equipment, and it is great to see the children using it. Please be aware that children must be supervised by parents when using it before or after school, especially the younger children.

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

Big Schools Bird Watch

The [RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch](#) is an annual, free UK-wide survey where school children spend one hour counting birds in their gardens or school grounds during the first half of the spring term. It's designed to connect children with nature, it helps the RSPB monitor bird populations while encouraging educational, hands-on environmental engagement. We looked at identification sheets in worship today, and Miss Sanderson showed the children how to record results. Why not spend an hour this weekend observing and enjoying nature with your children? You can submit your results [here](#)

Next Week...

26.01.26 – Miss S SEND meeting
27.01.26 – Miss S Outdoor First Aid
27.01.26 – Accelerated reader training
28.01.26 – Miss S Outdoor First Aid
29.01.26 – Cross Country at Archbishop Hutton
29.01.26 – Group 2 Farm Visit
[CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

Farm Club

Farm club for Harriers has been such a success. The risk assessments have been immense, but it has been worth it to see the children enjoying farm life.

Milking cows, rounding up and medicating sheep, planting trees, feeding beef cattle, administering first aid to calves. All in a day's work at [Arnside Tower farm](#)! Thanks to John and Emmie Bland for their wisdom and knowledge. The children are loving the sessions. Why not check out our [facebook page](#) to see photos?

Outdoor Learning

Forest school sessions will start again at the end of February – initially with a group of Year 5 children. Our very own Reverend Eve is training to be a forest school practitioner! This will be so good for school, as we have so many areas to utilise when it comes to outdoor learning – Trowbarrow, the church, Eves wood, and of course our very own school grounds.

Miss Sanderson has also nearly finished her Lowland Leader qualification. This means we will be able to take children a little more 'off piste' in our wonderful surroundings. Roll on spring and summer!

Eve and Miss Sanderson are both doing their Outdoor First Aid training days next week.

Lunchtime Legends

Our 'Lunchtime Legends' this week are Suzie, Torvi, Oscar and Charlie. The children had a great time at the top table, reading jokes, colouring, and drinking out of goblets! Lunchtime legends are chosen Mon-Thu for good manners, kindness, scraping and eating as much food as possible!



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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



#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

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- 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