

Newsletter – WC 21st September 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. (see photos below!)

Steve E

For being so proactive with our resident badger and how to deter it from the football pitch

Mia

For being astute in her sightings of badger markings on the field as she does a site inspection

Mrs Taylor

For the loan of the camera as we try and spot the badger at night time and show the children!

Google Classroom

Please get into the habit of checking google classroom for all homework links and messages home. If you download the app [here](#), you will be able to access on all your devices.

Other schools use interfaces such as class dojo. Google classroom is free to use and is very user friendly. Please use your child's login details to access. Ask your child for them or ask class teachers. You then just need to accept your invite to the relevant classrooms. Any personal messages (not for the eyes of children) will be sent to email.

Curriculum Corner

We are looking forward to working with Mathshubs this year, as we enrol on the Mastering Number for Reception and KS1 programme. Miss Jackson, Miss Sanderson and Mrs Hodgkinson have already enjoyed the first session. The programme comes with a wealth of resources and will provide an overview of the key systems, structures and materials that underpin the foundations of maths teaching and learning.

Open Day 2026

There will be an open day for existing and prospective parents on **Wednesday 21st October**. There will be three 'tours' throughout the day. **09:30, 10:45 and 13:30**. Our School Council will be helping show case our wonderful school. Please spread the word about open day to anyone you think might be interested.

Young Minds Yellow Day

Friday 9th October is 'Hello Yellow' day. We are inviting children to wear yellow, as we raise awareness of young people and their mental health. There are days when all of us struggle with how we are feeling. Things can get tough, and it can be difficult knowing how to cope. For so many young people, when this happens, they don't always get the help they need, when they need it. They don't know where to turn, who to talk to, or even if anyone else feels the same.

The children can wear yellow clothes and accessories and [donate](#) what they can.

Harvest Festival

'Well done' to Curlews and Bitterns for leading us on the Harvest Worship this morning. All food collected will be taken to Morecambe Foodbank again this year. You still have time to donate tinned spaghetti, bolognese, ravioli, sausage, cup a soup etc (see list below). Head Boy and Deputy Head boy will be taking all the food collected to Steph Knowles (food bank manager). Thanks to all those who have donated already.

Friday Thought

Do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

—Hebrews 10:35-36

Newsletter – WC 21st September 2026

Inspiring success through learning, community and faith.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

- Philippians 4:13



Please don't forget to remind your children to bring book bags into school every day. We need reading bags and reading records to we can record any observations. Our volunteers and staff to listen to children read at every available opportunity. Having the reading record gives us chance to give feedback.

Music Lessons

For KS2 pupils interested in taking music lessons from September 2026 please visit this [link](#) below for further information.

Open Day

Do you know anyone who is turning 4 this year and will be starting school in September 2027? If so, please let them know that our open day is on **Wednesday 21 October from 9:30am – 11:30am**; spread the word! You must apply by 15th January 2027 (see poster below)
[Click here for primary school applications.](#)

Poetry Day

A popular Silverdale St John's school event. This will be held in school on **Thursday 8th October**. Get practising children!

FLU VACCINATIONS

The School Nurse Team will visit us on Thursday 26th November 2026 to administer Flu Vaccinations.



Lunches

Week 3 WC 28.09.26

Next Week...

28.09.26 – Year 5/6 leave for Tower Wood residential
29.09.26 – Carnforth High School open evening 18:00
30.09.26 – Tower Wood residential return
02.10.26 – Linda Catlow leading worship
02.09.26 – Miss S out Diocesan HT conference
PLEASE CHECK SCHOOL [WEBSITE CALENDER](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

Attendance

A Massive well done to Bitterns this week
Bitterns 100%
Harriers 98.8%
Curlews 97.1%
AVERAGE SCHOOL 99%

Tower Wood

We will be leaving school at 09:45 on Monday. Children need to be in school for the normal time of 08:45 as we ensure kit is checked, we have meds etc, and we can confirm bedroom/group configurations. Children need a packed lunch on the Monday. Preferably in a disposable bag.
We will return to school around 14:15/30 on Wednesday.

We are looking forward to a lovely three days together. If there any changes to any forms, please contact the office asap.

Individual Health Care Plans

We in the process of updating our health care plans. Class teachers will be in touch (if they haven't already) to arrange a meeting with any parents whose children have particular medical needs. We are trying to maintain a consistent approach on the forms we use. So, please do bring along any doctors, paediatricians notes etc to these meetings, so the information can be transferred onto our school format.



Silverdale St John's CE Primary School Wildlife Park!



**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
PRIMARY**

APPLY NOW!
at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2027

You must apply if your child has a 4th birthday between 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

If you're a non-Lancashire resident apply through your own local authority.

Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website or get a copy from them.

CLOSING DATE
15 January 2027

lancashire.gov.uk



School transport



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk or scan the QR code.



Lancashire
County Council



© Lancashire County Council 2025

Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest 2025, our food bank provided 267 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Tinned Spaghetti

Bolognaise

Tinned Vegetables

Tinned Fruit

Tinned Beans with

Sausage

Tinned Ravioli

Tinned Macaroni

Cheese

Cup A Soup

01524 932001

morecambebay.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1176579).



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DISCORD

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(with a 17+ app rating on app stores)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is strongly associated with video games, it also hosts communities for almost anything you can imagine, such as books, music, influencers, cooking and sport. Some large servers focus on popular games like Minecraft or Fortnite, but many are private, invite-only spaces where friends or communities with shared interests can chat across phones, computers, and gaming consoles.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can become a real time-sink. Although it does not rely on endless scrolling in the same way as some apps, constant messages, group chats, and voice channels can keep young people engaged for long periods, especially in larger servers. As Discord is closely linked to gaming, it may also increase the time they spend playing games.

STRANGER DANGER

Users can choose to stay within private servers with only people they know, but joining public servers will most likely bring them into contact with strangers. Many users are just friendly enthusiasts, yet others could have harmful intentions, including grooming, extortion, or radicalisation. In these types of environments, anyone can claim to be another teenager, which can make it harder for young people to judge who is safe to talk to.

A HARASSMENT RISK

There is also a risk from people a young person already knows in the real world. Bullying in the real world can continue online, and Discord servers can make this feel more intimidating, especially if someone uses anonymous or multiple accounts to carry out threatening behaviours. Because Discord works across computers, phones, and gaming consoles, unwanted contact can follow young people into online spaces that should feel safe and private.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

This huge amount of choice can help young people "find their tribe", especially when they have niche interests. However, because users can create servers around almost any topic, younger users may still encounter unsuitable or distressing content. Even in spaces linked to child-friendly games, Discord cannot directly control every conversation, image, or video shared by other users.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is free to use, but users can still spend real-world money on it. This may include Discord 'Nitro', a monthly subscription that unlocks customisation features and larger media uploads, or purchases through the 'Shop' for profile cosmetics and game-related items. Small purchases can add up quickly, especially if spending controls are not in place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of Discord's 'Family Centre', which gives an overview of a younger user's activity while respecting their privacy. Messages are not shared, but adults can view an activity feed and receive weekly email summaries. Discord says this is designed to support conversations about online behaviour, rather than be about constant monitoring.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review Discord's privacy settings together, including who can send them friend requests or private messages. Use this as a chance to talk to them about strangers, privacy, and personal information, making sure young people know to question suspicious behaviour, such as requests to keep conversations secret. Show them how to block and report these kinds of users and reassure them that asking for help will not get them into trouble.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree clear expectations around when and how Discord can be used, especially during homework, bedtime, and family time. Encourage young people to turn off unnecessary notifications and leave servers that feel overwhelming. If Discord is mainly used alongside gaming, discuss healthy limits for both activities so that schoolwork, sleep, and offline friendships are not affected.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk openly about paid features such as Discord Nitro, profile cosmetics, and in-game purchases. Make sure the young people in your care understand that digital items still cost real money. Check payment settings on the device they use, avoid storing card details where possible, and consider adding approval requirements for purchases, particularly for younger or more impulsive users.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 23.09.2026