



A massive St John's well done to all our Silverdale Stars this week.

Reception Class

For being so brave and so enthusiastic about your first day at school

All of our children

For settling in so well to school and for being absolutely bloomin brilliant. Your teachers have had a super two days back!

Meet the Teacher

Meet the teacher is on Monday 21st September. Miss Sanderson will be sharing the headlines of data, all the new initiatives we have put in place and sharing the school improvement plan for this year. There will be an opportunity for you to have input into the SDP.

Class teachers will then be available to talk about routines for class for this academic year. The time slots are 17:00-17:20 with Miss Sanderson in the hall, and then each teacher will hold a 17:20-17:40 and a 17:40-18:00 slot. This is so those of you with more than one child can attend all classes.

Fair Trade Fortnight

It's Fairtrade Fortnight, starting 21st September - 4th October 2026.

The theme for Fairtrade Fortnight 2026 this year is "Do it Fair," which centres on Raise awareness about exploited farmers and workers who grow everyday items like coffee, tea, bananas, and chocolate. School Council will be talking about Fair Trade in worship on Friday 18th September

Secondary Open Evenings

Dallam for year 5 and 6 on 17th and 23rd September - click [here](#) to book

QES for Year 6 22nd September – click [here](#) to book

Westmorland Show

Year 6 are attending the Westmorland show on **Thursday 10th September**. Please ensure you have returned your permission slips to the school office.

Friday Thought

"I AM the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go." —Isaiah 48:17

Safeguarding at Silverdale St John's

As part of our bespoke training on Wednesday, we discussed the outcomes of the safeguarding audit we had in July. The headlines are that...

Safeguarding is at the heart of our school. Our staff work hard to create a safe, caring and welcoming environment where every child feels valued, respected and supported.

Children know that they can talk to trusted adults if they have a worry or concern.

Our staff receive regular safeguarding training so they are confident in recognising concerns, responding appropriately and knowing when additional support may be needed.

We have systems in place to identify children who may need additional help. We provide pastoral support and work with families and other professionals when appropriate.

We believe that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to make sure children receive the right support at the right time.

We do have some next steps that we will share with you at Meet the Teacher. But for now, we are happy that we have a culture in school that means every child feels safe, valued and supported.

Newsletter – WC 31st August 2026

Inspiring success through learning, community and faith.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

- Philippians 4:13



Welcome back to reading corner. We hope you have all had a lovely summer. Please see below some links to some brilliant return to school books that might inspire your child to read more:

<https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/blog/60brilliant-back-to-school-books-for-the-start-ofthe-new-term-6420>

Year 5/6 Residential

Towerwood residential information evening will be on Tuesday 15th September at 15:30.

All welcome. You will receive all the information you need for the 2 night stay, which is on 28th -30th September.

Enrichment Clubs

Clubs start this week; with a small staff, we work really hard to ensure there is something on offer for all children. We try and get at least one sport, one arts and one well being club for all year groups, although it has been quite difficult this half term. If you have a skill that you think could be used to run an enrichment club, please contact Mrs Taylor for a chat . We start with Basketball – Tuesday, craft club – Tuesday lunch, chess club – Thursday, Football - Friday

Forms

Please don't forget to return your Code of Conduct agreements and your annual permissions forms to the office asap

Next Week...

07.09.26 – New shed installed
07.09.26 – Miss S to meet Georgina – Transfer of Control meeting
08.09.26 – Acoustics testing in the hall
10.09.26 – County Show Year 6
11.09.26 – Stay and Play starts
11.09.26 – Reception class photo
CHECK THE SCHOOL [WEBSITE CALENDER](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

Harvest

There will be a harvest service led by Curlews and Bitterns on Friday 25th September in church at 09:30

McMillan Coffee morning

Lorraine Greenall is holding a coffee morning at Gibraltar farmhouse on Friday 25th September at 10am . All welcome!

Happy Healthy Me

Our current theme for Autumn term is 'Happy, Healthy Me'.

Each class has a breakdown of what objectives are being taught each week, in a half termly overview. These overviews will be shared with you at Meet the Teacher evening, along with the class newsletter with all other class housekeeping information – homework, accelerated reader, mathematics, spelling shed, PE days, forest school etc.

Lunches

Week 3 WC 07.09.26



Passwords and Logins

Your child will be bringing home passwords and login details for all the online platforms we use in school. The most important one is their google login, as most work is posted on there, as are all the links to our online platforms. Please make sure your child has managed to log into Mathematics, TTRS, spelling shed and purple mash by the end of next week. If you have any problems, please contact class teacher.

Top Tips for SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S RETURN TO ROUTINE

Returning to school after the holidays can be challenging for some children and young people, and both families and education settings can play an important role in helping them readjust. Consistent routines, clear expectations, and supportive communication can support children and young people's wellbeing, self-regulation, and academic success. These practical tips can help make the transition back to school feel more manageable.

1 START EARLY



Gradually reintroduce school-day sleep, meal, and wake-up routines around a week before term begins. In education settings, familiar routines and expectations can also be introduced from the start of term to help pupils settle back in. A gradual and predictable approach can make the transition feel less abrupt and give children and young people the time they need to readjust to the structure of school life.

2 REBUILD ROUTINES TOGETHER



Involve the children and young people in your care in the rebuilding of familiar routines at home and in education settings. Having a say in their daily schedule can increase predictability for them and give them a greater sense of control. This might include discussing morning routines at home or reviewing classroom timetables, expectations, and activities together at the beginning of the school day.

3 ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBILITY



Giving children and young people age-appropriate responsibilities can help foster their autonomy and engagement. For younger children at home, this might include getting dressed independently or checking their school bag. In education settings, children and young people could organise their learning materials, complete simple classroom tasks, or follow a familiar morning routine. These manageable responsibilities can help them feel more involved in the school day while developing useful skills.

4 RECONNECT WITH PEERS



Re-establishing friendships can help children and young people feel more confident and connected when they return to school. Families might arrange opportunities for their children to speak to or spend time with school friends, while educators can use group activities, 'buddy' systems, or collaborative tasks to help rebuild classroom connections.

5 SUPPORT HEALTHY NUTRITION



Regular, balanced meals, particularly at breakfast, are linked to improved concentration, behaviour, and academic outcomes. Families can gradually return to familiar school-day mealtimes, while education settings can reinforce healthy eating routines at the start of term and signpost breakfast provision where available. Consistent access to food can help support children and young people's energy levels and concentration throughout the day.

6 COMMUNICATE OPENLY



Talk to the children and young people in your care about how they feel about the return to school and give them the opportunity to share any worries or questions. Anxiety around going back to school, particularly when starting a new year group, can be common, and children and young people may benefit from your reassurance and support. Parents and educators can all help with this by listening calmly to concerns and questions, and sharing relevant information with one another where appropriate.

7 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING AND PEERS



Light educational activities before term begins can help children become familiar with learning routines again without creating any unnecessary pressure on them. In school, low-pressure recap activities and familiar tasks from the previous year group can serve a similar purpose during the first few days back. Keeping learning positive and achievable can help rebuild children's concentration, confidence, and academic motivation as they settle back into their usual routine.

8 PRIORITISE SLEEP



Ensure the children and young people in your care get age-appropriate sleep and begin returning to their usual bedtime habits before term starts. Reducing screen use before bedtime may also support better sleep quality. Educators can also be mindful that tiredness may temporarily affect children's concentration, behaviour, and emotional regulation as they readjust to school routines.

9 PREPARE AHEAD



Organising uniforms, bags, lunches, and other school essentials in advance can reduce unnecessary stress when school mornings begin again. Educators can also help by preparing pupils for any changes to classrooms, timetables, staff, or behaviour expectations. Giving children clear information about what to expect ahead of time can make the return feel more familiar and help build up their confidence and independence.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE



Children adjust to changes in their routines at different rates, so your patience and flexibility can be important during the first days and weeks back. Some may settle quickly, while others need longer to adapt to earlier mornings, classroom expectations, or busy schedules. Parents and educators can support children and young people's readjustment by maintaining consistent routines, all the while recognising that concentration, behaviour, or confidence may temporarily look different for them.

WELCOME BACK!



Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School, and a business development specialist for Minds Ahead, which works with schools to improve their mental health provision.



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