

Newsletter – WC 5th October 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.

Ezra (Curlews)

For having an amazing attitude to learning, since coming back to school after the holidays. Your hand is up for every question!

Evie (Bitterns)

For always being so kind and helpful.

Henry (Harriers)

For being a Tech Whizz Kid in class and in worship! Well done, Henry!

Absence and Holidays

UPDATES

The new 'working together together to Improve School attendance guidance 2026, now clearly states in Chapter 2: Expectations of School – day to day processes' that as a minimum schools should include arrangements to proactively manage lateness and set out in the attendance policy the length of time the register will be open, after which a pupil will be recorded as absent. This should be the same for every session and not longer than 30 minutes. Therefore, our **register will now close at 09:15**, not 09:25, as previously stated in our attendance policy.

Good attendance is vital for your child to make good progress.

Reporting Absences

If your child is absent, call the School Office on the first day

No reason given = unauthorised absence

Medical Appointments

Provide appointment evidence to the School Office

Only for unavoidable appointments during school hours

SEND

Miss Sanderson is the SENDCo in school. If you have any concerns about your child, first raise them up with your child's class teacher, who will be able to speak to you about observations and signpost to Miss Sanderson if needed. If your child has a pupil passport, these are reviewed every term, and will be updated in time to share with you at parents evening. If you have any further SEND questions, please email Miss Sanderson to arrange an appointment.

Young Minds Yellow Day

Thankyou to all children who took part in 'Yellow Day' and donated to the charity. You can do this [online](#), or bring money to the office and we will do a BACS transfer for you. This is a very worthwhile charity, who do great things in schools. There are always days when we can 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.

Christmas Pantomime

We are delighted to have re-booked Lancaster Grand Theatre for **Wednesday 16th December**, where we will be watching Robin Hood. Thanks to the generosity of PTA, every child will also enjoy an interval ice cream. The cost of the trip is £14.00 per child, and payments can now be made in advance via Scopay.

Friday Thought

O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. —Psalm 63:1



Newsletter – WC 5th October 2026

Inspiring success through learning, community and faith.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

– Philippians 4:13

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

Workshop Week

These are being held in school **WC 09.11.26**.
There will be a **phonics workshop** on Monday 9th at 17:00 with Mrs Hodkinson and Miss Sanderson.
There will be a **SATS workshop** for year 6 parents on Tuesday 10th at 17:00 with Mrs Tetchner.
There will be a **maths workshop** on Thursday 12th, with Miss Jackson. Please email these teachers, if you would like to join these workshops.

Music Lessons

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

Open Day 2026

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 21st October from 9:30am – 11:30am**; spread the word! You must apply by 15th January 2027 (see poster below)

Poetry Day

It was funny. It was poignant. It was crazy, competitive and chaotic. It was a lot of fun! Thanks to our judges, Mr Barfoot, Mrs Edge and Mr Greenwell. They had a tough job, but they eventually settled on 3 winners and 3 runners up. Well done to...

Jasper – Winner

Reuben – Runner Up

Caspian – Winner

Roman – Runner Up

Alfie – Winner

Leonie – Runner Up

Each winner won a poetry book. Runner up a delicious treat!

Next Week...

12.10.26 - Staff CPI Training
12.10.26 – Miss S Inclusion funding meeting
13.10.26 – Welfare Meeting
14.10.26 – Precision teaching training Caton
14.10.26 – Morecambe Bay Day
15.10.26 – Chocolate and Chat Year 7 return!
PLEASE CHECK SCHOOL [WEBSITE CALENDER](#) FOR FUTURE DIARY DATES

Attendance

Well done to Bitterns this week
Bitterns 98.7%
Harriers 97.6%
Curlews 94.3%
AVERAGE SCHOOL 97.4%

Parent Meetings

These will be taking place WC 16.11.26.
Curlews will be on Tuesday 17th November
Harriers on Wednesday 18th
Bitterns on Thursday 19th
Please complete the reply slip with your preferred time, and return to class teacher asap.



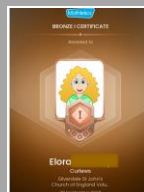
Lunches

Week 2 WC 12.10.26

FLU VACCINATIONS

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

Mathletics



‘Well done’ to Elora on her first ‘first’ this week!



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

**"A fun, thriving,
beautiful school"**

OPEN DAY

Wednesday 21st October 2026

- Weekly outdoor learning with forest school accredited teachers
- Creative curriculum
- Educational trips
- Set in an area of outstanding natural beauty
- Before & after school clubs
- Nursery places

**Chance to look around 09:30-11:30. Just turn up,
and our school council will show you around!**



t. **01524 701467**
e. **bursar@silverdale.lancs.sch.uk**
www.silverdale.lancs.sch.uk



**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



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



Stay and Play

at school



Friday

09:00 – 10:30

We would love to see you.

Parents, grandparents,
aunties, uncles –
all children great and small.



**Snacks
provided**

**and a LOT
of fun.**

Top Tips for Educators

PUPIL WELLBEING CONVERSATIONS

It can feel difficult to know how to start a conversation with a pupil about their wellbeing, either because you do not feel equipped with the information you think you need, or because you do not feel confident opening it up. You do not need to be a specialist. This guide covers how to start, what to say about confidentiality, and what to do with what you hear.

1 NURTURE WARM, TRUSTING, & KIND RELATIONSHIPS



When pupils have a consistent, emotionally available adult who shows they care and who holds them in mind, they thrive. They are also far more willing to open up and seek support. Positive, trusting relationships are an important part of supporting pupil wellbeing and complement more formal wellbeing programmes or sessions.

2 KEEP CALM, EVEN IF YOU'RE WORRIED



When a pupil discloses, stay calm while showing that you take it seriously. Panic can raise their anxiety and teach them that telling an adult makes things worse. Your steadiness can help them to keep calm and give them enough space to say the rest. Calm does not mean unmoved, and it is fine to tell them that what they have said is important and will be heard.

3 HAVE SIDE-BY-SIDE CONVERSATIONS



Many pupils find it easier to talk when a conversation does not require them to sit face to face with an adult. For example, conversations might take place while walking, tidying the classroom, or taking part in a lunchtime club. Sitting alongside someone removes the demand of eye contact, allows longer thinking time and lowers the intensity of the exchange. This can be particularly true for neurodivergent pupils, and for anyone who needs a moment before answering.

4 THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU ARE



Consider whether the pupil can speak without being overheard or interrupted. If a pupil has already started talking, avoid unnecessarily disrupting the conversation by moving elsewhere. Where a more appropriate location is needed, explain why you need to move and give the pupil the opportunity to continue what they were saying.

5 BE HONEST ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY



Never promise to keep information to yourself. Schools have a legal duty to share information relevant to a pupil's safety or welfare. Tell them at the start that you may need to pass something on, and who to. Then involve them in what happens next, as far as their age and understanding allow. Ask what they want to happen, what they want to say, and who they want to be told. Be honest that some things will need to happen whether they agree or not. A pupil who helped shape next steps is far more likely to tell someone again.

6 CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT



Provide a classroom free from belittling and shame-based behaviour management. Pupils who expect to be humiliated will not disclose. Where they feel listened to and see that difficulties are acted upon, they share worries earlier and whilst those worries are still small. If pupils hear adults belittling or talking about other pupils openly, it damages trust and they are likely to assume their worries will also be handled this way.

7 DO NOT CARRY IT ON YOUR OWN



Hearing something difficult can stay with you. When informing your designated safeguarding lead, share with them how it left you feeling and whether you feel you need further support. Your role as a trusted adult is what makes all of the above possible, and just as you have a responsibility to protect pupils' welfare, your school has a responsibility to protect yours.

HELPFUL OPENERS



- I've noticed you've been quieter. How's your week been?
- You don't seem your usual self, when might be a good time to catch up today?
- Sometimes it's hard to know what to say, but I'd like to understand?
- You don't have to talk now. I'll check in with you later?

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is a mental health and wellbeing specialist with nearly thirty years in education. She is a multi-academy trust director, special adviser, and a former adviser to the Department for Education on its mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

ig @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: 07.10.2026