



Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 11 | 24th November 2023

SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto: Believe & Achieve

Our Mission Statement: Through Jesus we love, learn and grow

Prayer

Lord God,

Thank you for always being a light in the dark places of the world and the dark places of our lives. Our hope is in you, for you are the light of the world and you call us to be lights for others. May your light and love blaze in us and in all the world.

Amen.

☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Brodie	
Reception	Hugo	Stanley
Year One	Isla	
Year Two	Max	Fearne
Year Three	Violet	Teddy
Year Four	Eliza	Thomas
Year Five	Freddie	William
Year Six	Grace G	Lilly-Ann

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

RIBBLE

Please click to find out more about our school

Facebook

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.'

Phil 4:13



Reception Class

Reception Class have been learning about prepositions this week.

What better way to use and understand them, than to practise each one as part of an outdoor obstacle course.









Construction Club

By popular demand, this week's session was all about Lego! We worked both individually and in teams.

We designed an array of things from hen cabins to holiday villages and helicopters.









School Dinner Payments

Please remember to pay any school dinner arrears as soon as possible. School dinner payments should ideally be made on a weekly basis.



It is possible to upload a credit amount onto school money to avoid having to remember to log on and pay each week. Payments will automatically be deducted from this credit, making school dinner payments easier to manage.

Winter Wonderland



Our Winter Wonderland Enterprise Event will be held on **Friday 1st December.** Please put this date in your diaries and come along to support this fantastic event!

It promises to be a lovely start to the Christmas festivities. For more information, please see the poster later on in this newsletter.

Chocolate Tombola

Our PTFA would be grateful for donations towards the Winter Wonderland chocolate tombola.

Any chocolate items you can bring to school to support this event would be much appreciated. Thank you.



Christmas Hamper Raffle

We are sorry to have to keep asking for donations, but we want Winter Wonderland to be the best it can be and one of the highlights is the Christmas Hamper Raffle. You will have received a message via Seesaw and an opportunity to choose what you would like to donate so please send in any donations as soon as possible, if you feel able to.



Please be assured we are VERY grateful for everything we receive and really appreciate your support.

Reception Class Parents' Evening

Mrs Barden's catch up Parents' Evening will be held on Thursday 30th November from 2.00pm.



Admission to Primary School 2024 is now open.

If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools
It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your



Furniture donation

As you may be aware, we recently took delivery of new furniture for the Infant classrooms, following our purchase of new furniture for the Juniors last year. We are so pleased that all the children are now able to enjoy sitting at and on bright new tables and chairs and are very grateful to the PTFA for funding this major outgoing.

We were concerned, however, at the prospect of adding to the national landfill issues by simply throwing the old furniture away. We were, therefore, delighted to be able to donate it to International Aid Trust and have heard, just this week, that it is currently winging its way to Sierra Leone to be used in the New Hope Academy—a brand new school that was officially dedicated on Sunday 19th November.

We would like to wish Good Luck to all students and staff at the new Academy!

Please see pictures of the official opening below.





Shoeboxes for Ukraine Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has already filled a shoe box to support this worthy cause.

Next week is the last week to send your shoeboxes in to school, in preparation for them being sent to Ukraine in early December, so why not use this long weekend to put yours together?!

If you would like to help out but feel you couldn't fill a whole shoe box, we would be happy to receive individual items, which can then be grouped together to form extra boxes. Thank you!



Upcoming Dates

Monday 27th November	All Day	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 28th November	am/pm	Debt Awareness Y5 & Y6
Tuesday 28th November	9-9.30am	Bears and Prayers YN & YR
Thursday 30th November	All Day	Sean Perkins Author Visit
Friday 1st December	4-6.00pm	Winter Wonderland
Monday 4th December	9.10 am	Worship led by Rev Jo
	10.30am	Journey to the Stable
		(Y3 & Y4)
Tuesday 5th December	9.10am	Ben Green Worship

9.00am

All Day

Shoe Boxes Collected

Christmas Jumper Day

(from school)

Letters Home

Thursday 7th December

Friday 8th December

KS1—Nativity Costume Letter Whole School—Winter Wonderland PTFA Grotto

Reception Class—Parents Evening Whole School—Christmas Cinema Trip

St Marys Singing Sensations—Winter Wonderland Letter

Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtimes
Tuesday	Construction Club KS1	3.15-4.00pm
Tuesday	Dodgeball KS2	3.20-4.20pm
Wednesday	Spanish Club Yrs1-6	8.00-8.50am
Wednesday	St Marys Singing Sensations	3.20-4.20pm
Thursday	Multi-Sport Skills KS1	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

PERFORMANCES BY THE SINGING SENSATIONS AND THE GUITARISTS



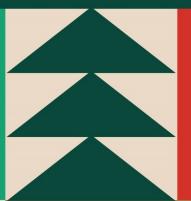
SANTA'S GROTTO



WINTER WONDERLAND







ECCLESTON ST MARY'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER GATES OPEN AT 4PM RAFFLE FOR CHRISTMAS HAMPERS. DRAW TO TAKE PLACE AT 5.30PM.

GAMES FOR CHILDREN



ALL WELCOME





Top Tips for Safer Online Shopping on

BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become established as two of the year's biggest shopping events, giving consumers the opportunity to snap up a stash of stunning bargains. While this is generally good news, of course, the resultant retail frenzy can lead to people dropping their guard – especially online. In previous years, a seasonal surge in cyber-crime has seen schemes such as phishing emails and credit card scams being unleashed on unwary buyers. Our guide has some essential pointers on keeping your details – and your money – safe while you shop.

ENSURE A SITE'S SECURE

Before inputting sensitive information (like your card details) into a website, check that the site's secure. The key thing is to look for a padlock symbol in the address bar and check that the URL begins with "https://" – the "s" indicates that the web address has been encrypted with an SSL certificate. Without that, any data entered on the site could be intercepted by criminal third parties.

TRUST YOUR

If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. Be especially wary if a site offering unbelievable discounts doesn't look professional (for example, if it's covered with pop-up adverts or it looks particularly outdated) – this often serves as a red flag that the seller might not be entirely trustworthy. Minimise risk by sticking with well-known, reputable retailers instead.

REVIEW BANK STATEMENTS

Even if you've followed all our tips, it's probably worth checking your next bank statement for any unusual transactions. Criminals know that on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lots of people make numerous purchases online: they're hoping that any stolen money will get lost in the crowd of other transactions. If you see a payment or payee you can't identify, raise it with your bank straight away.

BEWARE OF SUSPICIOUS EMAILS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday often bring a significant spike in phishing emails, as criminals use the events' sense of urgency as cover for stealing personal information. Even if they look legitimate, be wary of emails requiring you to do something unusual or suspicious: providing your personal details in exchange for access to last-minute deals, for example, or clicking on a link to an unfamiliar site.

CHECK IT'S THE REAL DEAL

It's not just cybercriminals you need to be wary of. Research has shown that some online retailers increase the price of certain items in the weeks before Black Friday and Cyber Monday – enabling them to then advertise "discounts" (which, in reality, have simply restored the cost to normal levels). Use an online price comparison tool to verify whether these "reductions" truly equate to a saving.

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MINIMISE MICROTRANSACTIONS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions extend to digital items as well as physical ones. Some gaming companies will offer discounts on in-app and in-game microtransactions such as loot boxes. If you're concerned about how much your child might spend on these upgrades, you can restrict their ability to make purchases (via their device's settings) or remove any linked payment methods.

SET STURDY PASSWORDS

A strong, unique password is one of the most straightforward ways to protect yourself from cyber-crime. As most of us have multiple online shopping accounts, it can be tempting to use the same password for them all – but this puts your personal data at greater risk. You could try using a password manage to create a different, robust password for each online retailer that you yield.

DITCH THE DEBIT CARD

Where possible, it's safest to shop online with a credit card (as opposed to a debit card) because it offers additional protection. If a purchase is made fraudulently on your credit card, there's a fair chance of your bank reimbursing you. Should criminals obtain your debit card details, however, they could empty your account in moments – and it can be difficult to recover your money.

RESIST THE INFLUENCE

Recommendations from social media influencers are another thing to remain vigilant for on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. While many of these will be legitimate, remember that influencers are often paid to promote products – and to publicise deals that aren't quite as amazing as they might seem. Don't feel pressured into buying purely on their advice; look at everything with a critical eye.

TAKE CARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media scammers are more active on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, as they know people are hunting for deals online. These scammers tend to concentrate on platforms such as Facebook and instagram, posting malicious links that can compromise shoppers' personal details. Other scammers, meanwhile, falsely advertise products in an attempt to trick users out of their hard-earned cash.

Meet Our Expert

Carry Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The inquirer, Carry is now a freelance technology lournalist, editor and consultant.







National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday







