



Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 27 | 4th April 2025

SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto: Believe & Achieve Our Mission Statement: Through Jesus we love, learn and grow

Prayer—A Prayer for Easter

God made you and God made me, He made the world for us to see. God loves you and long ago, He sent his son to tell us so. Jesus showed us many things, To love and share and dance and sing, To learn and pray, to help and care, He promised he's always be there. He died but then came back to life, Let's celebrate for he's alive! Amen



Please click to find out more about our school

Facebook Twitter

'I came to give life - life in all its fullness.'

John 10:10

Open the Book

This week, in Open the Book Worship, Year 3 helped act out the Easter Story.



Year 2

Year 2 re-enacted the last supper on Wednesday, they started by washing each other's feet. They then went on to look at the symbolism

of and taste a Sedar plate.







School Lunches

We have been notified by Lancashire County Council that, due to ever rising costs, the price of school dinners will increase in April to **£2.90**.



This rise will take effect after the Easter holidays.

A Spring/Summer menu will also be introduced when we return to school after Easter, with some delicious and nutritious new meals. A paper copy of the new menu has been sent home with your child this week. This can also be found on our website.

Dance Day

What joy we shared during 'Hannah's Dance for Joy' yesterday! Everyone (staff included!) visited 8 different dance stations during the day; we shared a picnic lunch in the sunshine; and we performed a group dance for parents to

Hannah's favourite song at the end of the day.

We always want to remember Hannah for the joy she brought to all of us and sharing her love of dance together seemed like the most appropriate way to do it. Thank you for all the joy, Hannah!



















Dance Day Continued...



Spring Watch

Saffron in Year 5 has produced a Spring Watch spotting sheet on behalf of the Eco Council.

She would like children and families to go out for a walk over the weekend or after school and try to spot some signs of Spring which are on her sheet.

The Eco Council would love to hear what children have found on their Spring watch walks!

Well done, Saffron and Happy Spotting, everyone!



Upcoming Dates

School Closes at 2.00pm on Friday 4th April for the Easter Holidays Remember there will be no Care Club on this day!

School Reopens at 8.45am on Tuesday 22nd April

Tuesday 22nd April	10am	Hartbeeps Taster Session
Wednesday 23rd April	4.00-6.00pm	Orienteering Y5/Y6 (Astley Park)
Thursday 24th April	All Day	Bikeability Y5
Thursday 24th April	2.00-3.00pm	Compass Bloom Y6
Friday 25th April	All Day	Bikeability Y5
Wednesday 30th April	8.50-10.40am	YR Worship at Church
Thursday 1st May	4.00-6.00pm	Netball Y5/Y6 (Holy Cross)
Tuesday 2nd May	1.15-2.15pm	Choir with Lancashire Sings
Monday 5th May School Closed for Bank Holiday		
Tuesday 6th May	9.05am	Open the Book
Tuesday 6th May	6.00-7.00pm	New Intake Meeting Reception Starters 2025
Wednesday 7th May	9.05am	Sleep Hygiene Assembly
Thursday 8th May	4.00-6.00pm	Netball Y5/Y6 (Holy Cross)
Monday 12th May	All Week	SATS Week

Letters Home

Whole School Hannah's Dance for Joy—Letter Year 1 Phonics Screening—Letter Whole School Multi Sports After School Club—Flyer Whole School Girls After School Football—Flyer







At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com. What Parents & Educators Need to Know aboutollow GERESTRICTION

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

WHAT ARE

THE RISKS?

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

. / **RISKS OF GOING LIVE**

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The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

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THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

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SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional reeing left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

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OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION



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Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

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SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss Al features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

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