



Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 3 | 19th September 2025

SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

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

Prayer

Father God,
We thank you for the gift of our friends and classmates. We are so grateful to be able to play and share together. At times, we know we may not be the best version of a friend that we can be. Help us to have patience and show kindness to others

Amen

☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Ellis	
Reception	Elijah	Aspyn
Year One	Luna	
Year Two	Ruairi	Archie
Year Three	Maisie	
Year Four	Austin	Teddy A.
Year Five	Violet	Harry
Year Six	Tilly	Amy

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

RIBBLE

Please click to find out more
about our school

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

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

Phil 4:13

Open the Book

It was lovely to welcome the Open the Book team back into school for the first time this year. They performed the story of Moses in the bulrushes, with the help of Year 1, who did a fantastic job of playing their parts.

We look forward to seeing the team again soon!



Little Explorers

This week ,Little Explorers have been focusing on colours. They were very excited to go on a colour hunt around school and found lots of different colours! Later in the week they did a colour experiment with some skittles and explored colour mixing and how colours change.

They were very surprised when it turned into a rainbow!



Reception

Reception Class have been learning about colour mixing this week. We found out that the primary colours are red, blue and yellow. We loved painting our hands two different colours and we soon discovered the new secondary colour they made by rubbing our hands together. Finally, we loved creating our own handprint pictures.



Exciting New Reads for KS2!

We're thrilled to share a snapshot of our KS2 children enjoying our *brand new reading books*, which have already made a huge impact in our classrooms! These fantastic resources have been generously funded by our wonderful PTFA – **thank you so much for your continued support.**

With a wide range of genres now available, from gripping adventures and laugh-out-loud comedies to heartwarming stories and thrilling mysteries, our pupils are enjoying a rich and varied “*reading diet*.” It’s been wonderful to see the excitement and enthusiasm growing, as children explore new stories, recommend books to friends, and dive into their next reading adventure.

Book talk is alive and well at school, and it's lovely to hear the lively discussions happening around favourite characters, unexpected plot twists, and "must-read" titles.

Thank you again to the PTFA – you've helped spark a real buzz around reading!



Charity Walk-Hannah's Memorial Garden

Local company, Heyes Boilers and Heating, are planning a sponsored walk and would like to donate all the proceeds to Hannah's Memorial Garden Fund. Details of the walk can be found on the leaflet, which was sent out earlier this week.

Please scan the QR code if you would like to sponsor them or visit their JustGiving page:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/heyes-boilers?utm_medium=CR&utm_source=CL

They would be delighted to have members of our school community join them on the walk so if you'd like more information please contact Rachel McGoff or the school office. Thank you.



St Mary's School Open Days

You are warmly invited to come along to our school open days.

The evening session (2nd October) will be an opportunity to see the school environment and talk with staff and governors.

In addition, during the following two sessions (7th November and 1st December) you will be able to visit each of our classrooms whilst lessons are in progress and speak, not only to staff, but to the pupils too.

Staff and governors will be on hand to guide you around and answer any queries you may have. Mrs Birchall, our headteacher, will also be available to speak to you, should you have anything you wish to discuss.

We look forward to showing you around our wonderful school!



Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 24th	4.00-6.00pm	Y6 Girls Football League (Parklands)
Thursday 25th September	4.00-6.00pm	Y5/6 Boys Football League (Holy Cross)
Friday 26th September	8.45-9.15am	SODA Y6
Thursday 2nd October	All Day	School Census
Thursday 2nd October	4.30-6.00pm	Open Evening
Friday 3rd October	9.30-10.30am	Harvest at St Mary's Church
Monday 13th October	8.00am	School Photographs
Friday 17th October	8.45-9.15am	SODA Y5* (please note the change of date)
Monday 20th October	2.00-7.00pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 21st October	9.05-9.30am	Open the Book
Thursday 23rd October	1.30-2.30pm	Y2 Fire Safety Talk
Friday 24th October	2.00pm	Celebration Assembly (Please join Us)

School Closes for Half Term on Friday 24th October at 3.20pm and re-opens on Monday 3rd November at 8.45 am.

Letters Home

Whole School—PTFA Christmas Card Design Template

Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtime
Tuesday	Judo Club	8.00-8.45pm
Tuesday	Multi Sports Club	3.20-4.20pm
Thursday	Spanish Club-All Years	8.00-8.45am
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY

APPLY NOW!

at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2026

You must apply if your child has a 4th birthday between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026.

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 2026

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



SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SECONDARY SOUTH

Do you have a child starting secondary school in September 2026 and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 31 October 2025

You **must** apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school.

Apply for a school place now by scanning the QR code or visit lancashire.gov.uk/schools



HAVE
YOUR SAY

If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call 01772 532109.

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces and click 'school admission policies'.

lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire
County Council



Boogie Bingo

Tickets are still available for the church's Boogie Bingo on Saturday 4th October. Tickets are free but you will require a ticket to attend. There is no limit per family.

<https://tinyurl.com/dtp6pvad>



HARVEST MISSION 2025

ECCLESTON AND CHARNOCK RICHARD
SATURDAY 4TH & SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER



**OCT
4TH**

PET BLESSING

2.30PM CHARNOCK RICHARD
(ACTIVITIES FROM 11.30AM)

BOOGIE BINGO
FREE TICKET NEEDED 5.30 PM
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

**OCT
4TH**



**OCT
5TH**

HARVEST EUCHARIST

8.45AM CHARNOCK RICHARD
WITH BRUNCH FROM 8AM

WELLIE WALK

9.30 AM
FROM ST MARY'S SCHOOL TO CHURCH

**OCT
5TH**



**OCT
5TH**

HARVEST EUCHARIST

10.30AM ST MARY'S, ECCLESTON
FOLLOWED BY FOOD

**CELEBRATE HARVEST
LIKE NEVER BEFORE**



HARVEST WELLY WALK

Come join our **Harvest Welly Walk**! Enjoy creation around you, as we walk and create together. Bring your friends and family, as we do crafts and learn about God on our way to the Harvest service at St Mary's Eccleston!



5TH OCTOBER 2025 | 9:30 AM

Meet at St Mary's Primary School

**ST MARY
THE VIRGIN**
ECCLESTON



**CHRIST
CHURCH**
CHARNOCK RICHARD

Jellybeans

fun activities

Jellybeans sessions for under 4s

songs

10am to 11am

in the school hall at
Eccleston St. Mary's CE Primary School

stories

Every Thursday

Children must be
accompanied by an adult

£2
per family

Refreshments
will be
served

please share this information
with other families in the village.

native/fluent & DBS checked teacher

FUN SPANISH CLUB!

world culture • crafts

games • songs • stories

LEARN WHILE HAVING FUN & TRY THE CLUB WITH OUR TASTER SESSION!

AT ECCLESTON ST MARY'S PRIMARY

Fun Spanish Morning Clubs Before School:
Our Fun Club is now **moving to Thursday mornings** - OPEN TO RECEPTION UPTO YEAR 6 in Autumn Term, 8am-8.50 before school, 50 mins £6.20/wk x 13wks plus £13.95 membership pack fee. Sibling discounts & Monthly DD/Standing Order available to spread cost. Sign up now for a **No-Obligation TASTER**, by signing up at link below & **only PAY AFTER the session** if continuing, or email chris@boltonlanguages.co.uk for more info. Reception parents should await feedback after the taster before continuing to pay for term so we can ensure their child's readiness & suitability.

MEMBERSHIP WITH EL CLUB ESPANOL INCLUDES:
SPANISH SONGBOOK & CD OR
STICKER/ACTIVITY/STORY BOOK • STICKERS •
FOLDER • STICKER CARD • STREAMING MUSIC
+ online Gamezone + more!

SIGN UP & ONLY PAY AFTERWARDS IF CONTINUING. AT:
[HTTPS://WWW.BOLTONLANGUAGES.CO.UK/ENROL](https://www.boltonlanguages.co.uk/enrol)

Looking to Get Back Into Work?
Why Not Start With Volunteering?

**HOME
START**
Central
Lancashire



No Experience Needed

Just bring your enthusiasm – we'll provide the support and training.

Your child has just started nursery or school – now it's your time too.

Volunteering is a fantastic way to build confidence, gain skills, and ease back into the workplace.

Why volunteer with Home-Start Central Lancashire?

- ✓ Flexible Hours
- ✓ Build Your CV
- ✓ Boost Your Confidence
- ✓ Meet New People

Interested? Let's chat!

Contact Katie-

volmanager@homestartcentrallancs.org.uk



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

I WANT TO BELIEVE

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/conspiracy-theories>

@wake_up_weds

/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: 10.09.2025