



Eccleston St Mary's C of E Primary School

Newsletter 5 | 3rd October 2025

SCHOOL NEWS

Our Motto:
Believe & Achieve

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

A Prayer For Harvest by Leo Y3

Dear God

Thank you for the food you give us and the farmers who harvest it.

Thank you for the food banks that give to the homeless and help us not to waste the food.

Thank you for the farm machines that pick the crops and clean them.

We thank you for parents that provide us with food, we are sorry that we sometimes don't eat everything provided.

We ask this in Jesus' name,
Amen

☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Monty	
Reception	Axton	Ella
Year One	Brodie	
Year Two	Olivia	
Year Three	Cassie	
Year Four	Freddie	Pippa
Year Five	Reuben	Lola
Year Six	Eliza	Aria

WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

YARROW

Please click to find out more
about our school

[Facebook](#)
[Twitter](#)

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

Phil 4:13

Little Explorers

This week, Little Explorers have enjoyed collecting more apples from their garden. They had lots of fun 'apple rolling', pushing them down the tubes and watching them splash into the water!

They also enjoyed pouring water on them and washing them too!



Harvest

What a wonderful Harvest Festival we celebrated this morning at St Mary's Church! Thank you to Bishop Philip and Father Jordan for leading our service, to Year Three for their thoughtful prayers and of course, to everyone for all of the generous donations of food and toiletries. It was certainly a morning to feel blessed and thankful!



Year 4

Year Four have had a busy week, visiting two of our local churches.

Firstly, on Monday, Fr Jordan welcomed them into St Mary's and yesterday they explored Eccleston Methodist Church with Mr and Mrs Ryding.

When back in school, the children have been able to explain the similarities and differences between the buildings, with very thoughtful responses.



Boys' Football

Over the last 4 weeks, our Year 5 and 6 football team have been playing in the Chorley Sports Partnership football league. They have played excellently as a team and represented our school brilliantly. Although they didn't make it through to the finals, they never let it affect their spirits and played their best through each game. Well done to Elliott, Lucas, Finlay, Thomas, Daniel, Freddie, Henry, Robert and Oliver.

Go Team St Mary's!



Parents' Evening

Parents' evening is on **Monday 20th October**.

Appointments will go live to book on your Spider App, at **6.00pm on Monday 6th October**.

The booking system will close at 12.00pm on Monday 20th October.



Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 8th October	4.00pm	Y6 Girls Football (Parklands)
Thursday 9th October	3.30-4.30pm	PTFA AGM (Please Join Us)
Friday 10th October	8.45-9.15 am	SODA Y5
Monday 13th October	8.00am	School Photographs
Friday 17th October	8.45-9.15am	SODA Y4
Monday 20th October	2.00-7.00pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 21st October	9.05-9.30am	Open the Book
Wednesday 22nd October	9.00—10.30am	Y2 & Y3 Worship at Church
Thursday 23rd October	1.30-2.30pm	Y2 Fire Safety Talk
Friday 25th October	8.45—9.15 am	SODA Y3
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.

Tuesday 4th November	9.30am	NCMP YR & Y6
Wednesday 5th November	1.00pm	School Library Bus Visit
Friday 7th November	9.30am - 11.00 am	School Open Morning
Tuesday 11th November	10.45 am	Remembrance Service
Friday 14th November	9.00am	Y3 Class Worship (Please Join Us)
Wednesday 19th November	1.15-3.15pm	Flu Immunisations
Friday 21st November	8.45-9.15am	SODA YR
Monday 24th November	All Day	Staff INSET Day
Wednesday 26th November	9.00-10.30am	Y5 Worship at Church
Friday 28th November	8.45-9.15am	SODA YN
Friday 28th November	4.00pm	Winter Wonderland

Upcoming Dates — Cont..

Monday 1st December	1.30—3.00 pm	Open Afternoon
Tuesday 9th December	9.30am	Infant Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 9th December	2.00pm	Choir Performing for Over 60's Club Bateman Hall
Wednesday 10th December	9.00am-1.00pm	Panto at Winter Gardens
Thursday 11th December	2.00pm	Infant Performance
Thursday 11th December	6.00pm	Infant Performance
Friday 12th December	All Day	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12th December	12.00pm	Christmas Lunch
Friday 12th December	1.30pm	Junior Dress rehearsal
Monday 15th December	2.00pm	Junior Performance
Tuesday 16th December	9.30am	Junior Community Performance
Tuesday 16th December	6.00pm	Junior Performance
Wednesday 17th December	10.00-11.00am	Choir at Caffè Manna (TBC)
Thursday 18th December	9.00am	Junior Christmas Party
Thursday 18th December	1.00pm	Infant Christmas Party
Thursday 18th December	5.30pm	Carol Service St Mary's Church
Friday 19th December	9.00-10.00am	Carol Singing

**School Closes for Christmas on Friday 19th December at 2.00pm
and reopens at 8.45am on Monday 5th January**

Letters Home

Whole School—Little Voice-Email

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 >>>> **Lancashire**
County Council

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.



**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



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

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

School Photographer

The school photographer will be in school on Monday 13th October to take individual and family photos.

Pupils with siblings not in school are welcome to come in from 8.30am to have their family photos taken.



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





HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB!

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

ECCLESTON ST MARYS C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL
THE GREEN, ECCLESTON, CHORLEY, PR7 5TE

PRICE: £26 PER DAY OR £110 FULL COURSE | 50% DISCOUNT FOR ANY EXTRA SIBLING
1 WEEK COURSE RUNNING 27TH | 28TH | 29TH | 30TH | 31ST OCTOBER
TIMES: 8:30AM - 4:00PM

BOOK NOW TO SECURE YOUR PLACE AT WWW.JMCOACHINGACADEMY.CO.UK OR SCAN QR CODE BELOW



WHAT TO EXPECT
MULTI SPORTS GAMES | FOOTBALL | GOLF
| HANDBALL | DODGEBALL | BASKETBALL |
FRISBEE | FUTSAL | NETBALL | ATHLETICS
GAMES | STRIKE & FIELD GAMES | CLASSIC
HOLIDAY CLUB GAMES | AND MUCH MORE

FURTHER INFO CONTACT
JORDAN: 07896030716

@JMCOACHINGACADEMY

 

St Mary's School Open Days

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

During the remaining sessions on the 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!

OPEN DAY

You are warmly invited to visit
Eccleston St Mary's CE Primary School
and
Little Explorers Nursery

Thursday 2 nd October	4.30 - 6.00pm
Friday 7 th November	9.30 - 11.00am
Monday 1 st December	1.30 - 3.00pm

Meet our Headteacher, Mrs Birchall

Visit our classrooms

See lessons in action

Chat with our friendly staff and pupils

Enjoy refreshments in the school hall

Our school is a very special place where children are happy in their learning with endless exciting opportunities.

For more information please email bursar@st-marys-eccleston.lancs.sch.uk or phone 01257 451317

At the heart of the community for 150 years

10 WAYS GAMING CAN SUPPORT POSITIVE OUTCOMES in Children and Young People

Gaming, of course, is phenomenally popular with children and young people. In 2021, for instance, more than three-quarters of teenagers played online games, with almost 70% of primary school aged children doing likewise. If enjoyed in moderation and supported by a healthy routine (staying hydrated, good sleep habits, taking breaks and so on), gaming can actually benefit a person's mental health. As long as we stay alert for potential risks, games can be much more than what we see on the surface: they can be a way to socialise, an avenue for creativity and a route to solving problems. Check out our top ten tips on how gaming online can sometimes work to your child's advantage ...

THE FEEL-GOOD FACTOR

Gaming is so popular because at the base level, it's enjoyable for the player. Succeeding in any game or contest releases dopamine in our brains: the 'feel-good' chemical that makes us happy or excited. Those emotions can be incredibly beneficial for mental wellbeing – as long as young players don't become reliant solely on playing video games to make themselves feel happy.

ACHIEVEMENT & PRIDE

A sense of achievement is incredibly important to all of us and can be particularly valuable to someone who's feeling unhappy or distracted. It's easy to get caught up in our thoughts, which can sometimes take a negative turn. So even achieving something small – like finishing a difficult level in a Mario or Sonic game – can feel like conquering Everest and give us renewed optimism.

SOCIAL SALVATION

Gaming can be an incredibly social activity. When playing online with trusted friends, what usually start out as chats specifically about the game can often develop into conversations about school and life. Even if they've had a bad day, simply knowing that a friend is there, on the other end of their headset, can provide young gamers with a sense of security and some welcome laughs.

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

In many online games, teamwork is crucial to winning. Often, people who are struggling with their mood tend to feel like they fail or let others down a lot. Working as a team with trusted friends or family in a game can reinforce a young person's self-importance: striving for a common goal and succeeding together can remind them that they're an integral part of something bigger.

REAL-WORLD RELATABILITY

Because many major releases are shooting or action games, when some people hear "gaming" they think of guns, explosions and violence. What's less recognised is how many titles explore relatable issues such as overcoming anxiety or coping with grief. These games allow young players to understand their emotions more deeply and realise they aren't alone in how they might be feeling.

A DIGITAL COMFORT

Video games can provide a reliable constant. No matter what happens in school or between friends, playing a favourite game is something that youngsters can look forward to all day and can help them de-stress. Let's not forget, games are fun – and, when approached safely, an interactive activity in which the player has a degree of control over what happens next can feel immensely reassuring.

PROBLEM-SOLVING PRACTICE

It can be difficult for young people to handle the feeling that nothing is going right or that their problems are insurmountable. Gaming can help alleviate that by presenting challenges to be overcome, either solo or alongside trusted friends. Defeating a powerful monster or solving a tricky puzzle reminds young gamers that even the most daunting obstacles can be faced and conquered.

THE GREAT ESCAPISM

A certain amount of escapism is fabulous – allowing us to temporarily park some stress while exploring a world other than our own. For children, gaming can be like reading a novel or watching a film: a moment in the day when the fantastical becomes real, firing their imagination and immersing them in a story. Who wouldn't want to venture to the stars? Or battle monsters to save the planet?

TRIED & TRUSTED

There can be reassurance in repeating tasks. It often promotes a controlled outcome, which is ideal when life feels overwhelming or out of control. Replicating an experience, such as playing the same level of a game over and over to perfection, gives the player a sense of control and familiarity: it's like listening to a favourite song that always makes you feel happy or confident.

ENCOURAGING CREATIVITY

Inventiveness is a huge part of many modern games: in Minecraft and Roblox, for example, players regularly dream up amazing structures or new ways to play. Using our imagination to create something (whether digitally or physically) is massively beneficial for the brain; that's why Lego is sometimes used in the medical sector as both a stress reliever and a brain injury rehabilitation tool.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer who specialises in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. Author of 15 guidebooks for children on games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft, his work has also been published in the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247.



Source: https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/234809/childrens-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2022.pdf

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#WakeUpWednesday



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