



# St. Francis

## Church of England Primary School

Joy from faith, joy of learning, joy in the journey

Week ending: 06.02.26

*'I have told you this so my joy may be in you' John 15:11*

### Upcoming dates

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**February:**

Children's Mental Health Week

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February:**

Safer Internet Day

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February:**

Non-uniform day for a £1

**16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February:**

School closed for half-term

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February:**

Entries in for the Walk to School badge competition – see below

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March:**

World Book Day – see below

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March:**

Y5 Let's Go Sing at Ice Arena

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March:**

Rocksteady Concert at 9.15am;  
Swimming Gala – 6pm

This week has been filled with meaningful moments of faith, achievement, and reflection. Our collective worship theme centred on 'trust in the Lord', exploring powerful narratives of resilience and belief. We delved into the biblical story of Joshua, who broke down the walls of Jericho through unwavering trust in God's promise, and drew inspiration from Bethany Hamilton - the remarkable American surfer who, after losing her arm in a shark attack at just 13 years old, returned to surfing in an extraordinary 26 days, demonstrating profound faith and determination.

Our children have been exceptionally active this week, representing our school with remarkable spirit. Our Year 3 and Year 4 gymnasts participated in an inter-schools' tournament, while our boys' football team competed against other Blackburn schools. Mr Turner has been immensely proud of their performance, highlighting not just their skills, but their outstanding behaviour, sportsmanship, and commitment.

We had to bid a poignant farewell to our beloved school caravan this Thursday. With a heavy heart, we watched it being towed away after months of inactivity due to local trespassers. While its time with us has come to an end, we fondly remember the countless moments of joy and adventure it provided for our children during its prime.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to share an upcoming event that celebrates literacy and community spirit. On World Book Day, 5th March, we're hosting a 'blind' book swap. We invite families to wrap up a book they no longer want and bring it to school, creating an opportunity for our children to discover new literary treasures.

We are continuing to plan for our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations next month. Parents and carers will be invited to our special anniversary school worship in our hall at 2.45pm on this day. The details for the rest of the day for our children in school will be shared next week, but in the meantime, please do remember that your child is encouraged to come to school dressed in an outfit from the 1960s.

### Reminder to sign up to Arbor

We are now in the process of moving all our communication systems from School Spider to Arbor. If you haven't done so, please look out for an email from Parent Pay to register for Arbor. The email might be in your junk mail.

If you are struggling to access the new system, please do let us know.

### Best Attendance of the week!

Low attendance for most houses this week – due to a number of sickness bugs, flu and colds keeping our children off school.

The percentages were:

Spring 94.1%; Summer 95.1%; Autumn 95.4%;  
Winter 98.6%

Well done to our Winter house team for their excellent attendance this week!

Reception class award winner



Year 1 award winners



Year 2 award winner



Year 3 award winner



Year 4 award winners



Year 5 award winner



Y6 award winners



Our Y3/4 gymnasts



### WOW Walk to School badge competition – reminder!

Thank you to those children who have already submitted their entry for the school badge competition. We have already got some really good entries to choose from! Encourage your child to enter the national competition below. You can print out the sheet from this newsletter or get your child to pop into the office to ask for a printed copy.

Closing date for your child's entry to be returned to school is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Winning school entries will be sent to the national competition on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February and the theme for next year's Walk to School badges is Walk the Senses.



### Reception class plea for outdoor toys!

The wet weather over the last few months has taken its toll on our youngest children's outdoor play equipment.

If you have any toys or equipment – in very good condition – that could be played with by our Reception children in their outdoor area, please drop them off with any of EYFS class team.

Thank you in advance!

### Outstanding Payments

We still have a number of families who are owing substantial amounts of money for lunches and breakfast club.

If you are struggling to pay, please do contact the office.

Unfortunately, some of our children may need to have a packed lunch brought into school if their school lunches continue to be unpaid.

As a school our budget is extremely tight and we sadly do not have available funds to contribute towards children's lunches or breakfast club attendance.

Wear what  
you love!

**Non uniform day!**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

**Please donate £1 via parent pay.  
All proceeds go towards the  
PTA!**

**Clothes of your choice, any colour!  
No football kits.**





LET'S  
WALK TO  
SCHOOL

Badge design competition 2026

# WOW – the walk to school challenge

## WALK the SENSES



### WHAT SHOULD YOU DRAW?

What do you see, hear, smell, taste or feel as you walk or wheel to school? Have you spotted a fluffy cloud in the sky or a cute dog passing by? Maybe you like the sound of feet walking. Or do you like the smell of flowers or wild garlic on the journey to school? Maybe it's the taste of your favourite yummy snack or it could be feeling the rain on your skin.

### EXAMPLES MAY INCLUDE:

- Seeing a tree, a rainbow or wildlife
- The sound of birds singing or people talking
- The smell of flowers or food from a shop
- Tasting your favourite snack on the journey to school
- Feeling sun or snow on your skin

WHATEVER  
WAKES UP  
YOUR SENSES,  
DRAW IT!

### SUSTAINABILITY AND WOW BADGES



Our WOW badges are made in the UK from repurposed plastic material, including old fridge trays, plastic plates and off-cuts of yoghurt pot material. WOW badges can also be recycled. Find out more: [livingstreets.org.uk/recycling](https://livingstreets.org.uk/recycling)



### CLOSING DATE

TUESDAY 24 FEB 2026

PUPILS

Pupil name:  Age:

What did you draw? How does your picture use one of your senses?

TEACHERS

School email:

School name and address:

Local authority:









National  
Online  
Safety

# 7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

#WakeUpWednesday



1



Which apps/games are you using at the moment?

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE. BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

Which websites do you enjoy using and why?

AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.



2

3

PLAY AGAIN?  
YES NO

How does this game/app work?  
Can I play?

SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.



Do you have any online friends?

CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD. FOR EXAMPLE: "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.



4

5



Do you know where to go for help?

ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.



Do you know what your personal information is?

YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.



6

7

Do you know your limits?

CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEM SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.

