



Newsletter

10th October 2025

Growing in Faith

Dear Parents and Carers,

We end another joyful week at our school, where learning, laughter, and faith continue to flourish.

This week's Gospel reading was the parable of the Mustard Seed. In this passage, Jesus teaches His disciples about faith and humility. He reminds us that even faith as small as a mustard seed can achieve great things, and that true discipleship means serving others without seeking reward. It's a powerful message that encourages us all—children and adults alike—to trust in God's strength and to live with humble hearts. The children were set a secret mission: to carry out small acts of kindness quietly, without seeking praise or being noticed—and they rose to the challenge brilliantly! From anonymous notes of encouragement to teachers, to lunchtime litter-picking and beautifully polite behaviour around school, their thoughtful actions have made a real difference.

In encouraging our pupils to carry out hidden acts of kindness, we are helping them live out the Gospel and embody Pope Leo's call to be "a presence of consolation and hope" in the world. We hope that their small, secret deeds continue to ripple outward, bringing light and love to our school community.

This spirit of quiet compassion was beautifully reflected in our Mini Vinnies this week, who spent time with residents at Arrowsmith Care Home. Their warm presence and gentle conversations brought joy to many, and they've already promised to return soon—with stories in hand and songs to sing.

Wishing you all a peaceful and blessed week ahead.

Thank you for your continued support as we love, learn and follow Jesus every step of the way.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sophie Bridge.
Headteacher



Class Romero - Weekly Update

It has been a lovely week in Class Romero. In English we have been exploring our books, 'You cannot take an elephant on the bus' and 'The hundred decker bus'. Reception pupils have been super creative in Drawing Club, Year 1s have been making predictions and writing about their own experiences on a bus. We have finished our first maths units - place value and creating simple patterns. I am looking forward to starting new units next week. In history we have been exploring transport, this week the children have been sorting and organising pictures of transport into past and present. They were amazed at how transport has changed over time! We have also had a continuous provision enhancement - all about autumn!

Miss McEvoy.

Class Acutis - Weekly Update

I cannot believe it is the end of another week! The children in Class Acutis are providing me with so many "Wow" moments. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading their animal narratives which have been inspired by The Hodgeheg and I am looking forward to seeing their final drafts. In Design and Technology, they did a super job of creating prototype cams - not an easy task! On this note, if any parents or grandparents would like to come in and talk to the children about their knowledge and experience, please let me know! The children are enjoying their sessions with Coach Scott and in PE with me they have created some excellent gymnastics sequences. The next step will be to introduce apparatus. Most children have now completed homework tasks on the new learning platforms. If you have not done so yet, please have a go this weekend. Any problems let me know and many thanks for all your continued support.

Mrs Lawman.



Class Kolbe - Weekly Update

The children in Class Kolbe have been enjoying week two of the Rosary Challenge where we have been focusing on the Sorrowful Mysteries. RE wise, we have been continuing to explore the acts of sin and redemption - the children produced their own modern-day stories showing this. In English, we have moved onto our new unit which focuses on debate. We have started to explore the National Geographic non-fiction text focusing on pyramids and will use this information in order to answer the question 'Should Ancient Egyptian pyramids be explored and emptied?' Math wise, Year 5 have been focusing on addition and subtraction, whilst Year 6 have been looking at long multiplication and short division. A firm highlight of the week was our visit from 'Let's Go Sing' on Tuesday morning where the children from KS2 joined together and learnt some of this year's songs ahead of the concert in Blackburn Cathedral next year.

Miss Bottomley





In other news...

50th Birthday Celebrations: On 23rd October 2025, St Joseph's will celebrate its 50th Birthday with a special party after school. All are invited to attend (see invitation attached to this newsletter). If you have any photographs or memories of St Joseph's that you would like to contribute to our exhibition, please send them into school for the attention of Mrs Bridge. Thank you.

Let's Go Sing: On Tuesday, the Class Acutis and Class Kolbe joined in a joyful 'Let's Go Sing' assembly filled with fabulous singing and lively actions. Everyone had great fun! Our choir rehearsals are sounding fantastic, and we're grateful to Mrs Lawman and Mrs Edgerley for giving the children this wonderful opportunity to shine through music.

Our school fish have arrived: We're thrilled to welcome our new school fish, now swimming happily in a tank by the main entrance. Children can enjoy peaceful moments watching them and will help care for them as part of their learning about stewardship and our shared responsibility to protect God's creation.

An artist in residence: We're excited to soon be unveiling vibrant new artwork in our main corridor, thanks to Phil, our artist in residence. Children have loved watching him paint the Catholic Social Teaching animals, now a permanent reminder to live out our mission each day with faith, kindness, and purpose. Our Year 6 children are also creating beautiful Stations of the Cross artwork for display in our main hall. Watch this space!

Boiler Replacement: We are still waiting to hear when work install new, energy-saving boilers will start. We will notify you on School Spider before the contractors commence work on site and the footpath through Forest School is closed.

Vision testing for Reception: Don't forget, the opthamologist will be in school next Friday (October 17th) to carry out vision screening. Unless you have returned the "opt out" form, your child will have their vision screened.

Attendance		
Year Group	Weekly	Year
Reception	94.5%	94.5%
Year One	100%	96.3%
Year Two	95%	98.4%
Year Three	99.1%	97.4%
Year Four	100%	96.3%
Year Five	94.5%	95.6%
Year Six	98.2%	95.3%
School Total	97.3%	96.2%

School Meal Changes: To celebrate Black History Day on **Thursday**, we will be having a special themed lunch. The choices will be:

Chicken curry with jollof rice
Mac N Cheese.

Dessert will be either pineapple upside down cake or a tropical jelly cup

Pupils will be able to make their choices on the day.

Thursday's advertised menu will now be served on

Tuesday:

Beef burger
Pasta in tomato sauce

Please note, jacket potatoes and sandwiches will be available as usual on both days



Parish News: Children's Liturgy Team

Sunday is 28th Sunday of the year. In the gospel we hear that Jesus gave the amazing gift of good health to ten men who all had an illness called leprosy. But what happened afterwards? While all ten men were happy to receive the gift, only one of them gave thanks to Jesus and praised God.

This illness can be very painful. People with leprosy couldn't get too close to others for fear of making them sick too. They couldn't even hug their families or friends anymore. They had to live separately to everyone else. Imagine if you weren't able to hug or be near the people you love. How would you feel? How do you think the men felt when they realised that they were well again? What do you think the nine men who didn't return to Jesus did instead?

Perhaps they ran home to their families and friends? After all, they'd been living away from them for ages. Can you imagine how excited they were and how happy their families must have been to see them again?

Though the nine other men were really happy to be healed, they didn't return to Jesus to give thanks for what he had done. Only one man went back to show how grateful he was for the gift of health and a new life with his family.

What has God given to you? Like the man who returned to Jesus, we should praise and thank God for all the amazing things that we have been given. When we see all that we have as a gift from God, it is easier to share what we have. What gifts will you thank God for this week?

We would love to see you on Sunday at 9:30am Mass - Children's Liturgy Room

Upcoming Events

Our open day for prospective parents - Wednesday 22nd October at 9.30am-11am; 1.30pm-3pm & 4-5pm

50th Anniversary Mass - Thursday 23rd October 2025 at 10.30am in school. Please note that due to limited space, this is a ticketed event. If you would like to come along, please contact the school office.

Individual photograph day: Tuesday, 21st October

Class Kolbe: Crucial Crew trip is on Tuesday 14th October. Please complete the consent on School Spider.

Celebration Assembly - every week at 2:50pm. All are welcome to attend.

Parent's Evening: Monday, 10th November - details to follow on School Spider

Class Kolbe's Celebration of the Word: Friday 7th November, 9am. All invited to participate.

Class Acutis' Celebration of the Word: Friday 14th November, 9am. All invited to participate.

Class Romero's Celebration of the Word: Friday 21st November, 9am. All invited to participate.

*St Joseph, most loving and watchful father.
Pray for Us...*

This Week in Pictures



St Joseph, most loving and watchful father.
Pray for Us...

Join us for our

50th Birthday Party



Let's celebrate 50 years of St Joseph's
with one enormous party!

Photograph Albums & Archives

Time Capsule

Afternoon Tea

Live music



Meet Stafford & New



Plant our Jubilee Rose



THURSDAY, 23RD OCTOBER 2025
AT 3PM-5PM
IN THE SCHOOL HALL



Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us how we can live happier lives by giving God what is due to him. But what is due to God in our own lives? Surely our thankfulness would be a good answer to this question.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about the Samaritan who thanked Jesus. For us too, there are many blessings in life for which we can be thankful and it's always worth giving thanks to God.

Wednesday 8th October 2025

Being thankful to God puts us in the right frame of mind. It is good for our well-being and helps us to be happy in life.

Enjoy a special *Family Time* together, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **THANKFULNESS**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"In all things recognise the care and wisdom of God, and give God thanks."

St Teresa of Avila

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 12 October 2025



On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, "Jesus! Master!

Take pity on us." When he saw them he said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." Now, as they were going away, they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, "Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner." And he said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

Adapted from Luke 17:11-19

The 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

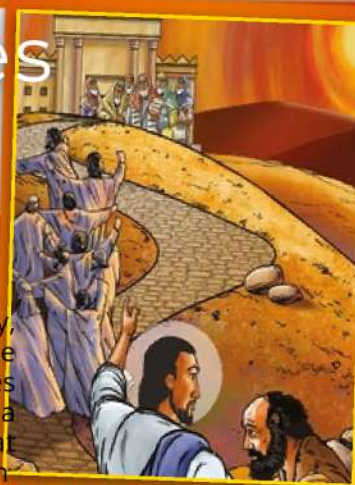
Having Hope
in our Families

Thankfulness strengthens our relationship with God and with each other. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that making the right response to God's kindness, with praise and thankfulness, brings great joy into our lives.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



1

READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

On his way to Jerusalem, Jesus went into a village. Ten men with leprosy, a terrible skin disease, stood a long way off. They shouted, "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us." Jesus said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests as the Law teaches us." As they went on their way they were all healed. But only one of the ten, a Samaritan, turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

How many lepers returned to say thank you?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

2

SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love : This Wednesday's Word...

"Be thankful for the smallest blessings, and you will deserve to receive greater blessings." *Thomas à Kempis*

THANKFULNESS



Ask your child what the word 'thankfulness' means to them. You may want to help your child understand what the word 'thankfulness' means to you. Can your child remember a time when they felt really thankful to someone? How did they show their thanks to that person? Each of you name one or two things that (as well as your family) you are most thankful to God for.

Remembering to say 'thank you' to God regularly throughout the day helps love to grow in our hearts. Who else will you remember to thank this week? Perhaps a parent or carer, a family member, a teacher or a friend. How will you do this—perhaps with a hug, kind words, a thank-you note, a prayer, a gift, or by offering them your help? Even a small act of kindness can mean a lot.

3

* Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for blessing us in so many ways. Help us to be always thankful to you and to show our thankfulness by loving those around us. Amen. *

FINDING THREE

S T E R O E J E S U S
A T D E N R U T E R H
L H B O E K N R E E U
O A E S N J D P S T O
K N C H O E E D J U D
I K A O T L E P E R S
N E T U D L K T R N P
T D O T A H E A L E D
L H L E N D T E N D T
S U H D S U S E J H N
T D E K N A H T L D E

WEDNESDAY
WORD SEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN



TEN
LEPERS

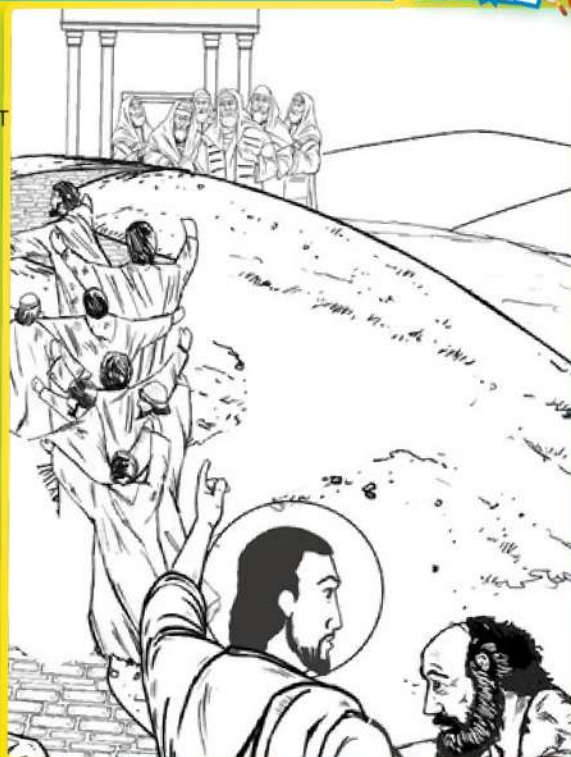
SHOUTED
HEALED

ONE
RETURNED

THANKED

JESUS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



Find the differences, then colour the picture

Find the differences

Cross out the letters **u b m** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

bamtu tuhrebmw thumankbed febemtu

"The Samaritan _____ himself _____ the _____ of Jesus and _____ him."



It is always good for us to be thankful to God for the blessings of his love, for our lives, our talents, our families, our school and for the love of those around us.



This week I will try my best to ...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley

**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.

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.



CLOSING DATE
15 January 2026

lancashire.gov.uk



**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
SECONDARY**

APPLY NOW!
at lancashire.gov.uk/schools

School and Academy places September 2026

You must apply if your child is in their last year of primary school (year 6) from September 2025.

You must apply even if an older brother or sister is already at the school.

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
31 October 2025

School transport



If travel costs is an important factor in your school preference, search 'school transport' at lancashire.gov.uk or scan the QR code.



lancashire.gov.uk



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

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 ARE THE RISKS?

AN ANNUAL SCHEDULE

As was the case with EA Sports FC games before it, the franchise with updated squads make it expensive when so many dedicated fans have their hands on the

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be a platform, meaning anyone they play with switched off, some speak to their friends means they may be older than them, with inappropriate language

IN-GAME P

Ultimate Team is the Sports FC, letting players spend money on packs to build a squad of the They're not always improved versions added as limited-time could feel pressure experience fear of

PREPARE F

The annual-release can be a great way children are applying particularly well be

LIMIT SPEN

If you're worried about Ultimate Team, where don't link a payment mountain to climb, animations means also worth adding choices with their b

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like "It's not that bad" or "You're okay" may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



@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: 08.10.2025

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/ea-sports-fc-26>

@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: 01.10.2025

October Half Term Intensive Swimming Lessons

£33.25 for 5x30 Minute Lessons

Leyland LeisureCentre
01772 625554

Monday 27th – Friday 31st

08.30am • Stage 1

09.00am • Stage 2

09.30am • Stage 3

10.00am • Stage 4

10.30am • Stage 5

Bamber Bridge LeisureCentre
01772 625249

Monday 27th – Friday 31st

08.30am • Stage 1

09.00am • Stage 2

09.30am • Stage 3

10.00am • Stage 4

10.30am • Stage 5



Our Intensive Swimming Lessons are designed to increase confidence and improve ability. By swimming everyday, it will help retain the information to achieve a faster progress. Our qualified and experienced teachers will guide your child through the expected standards of the stage through interactive techniques and skills.

