



Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 9th October 2026

This week, our Monday Celebration of the Word focused on Jesus' Parable of the Wicked Tenants. Together, we reflected on how God continually reaches out to us in love and how Jesus is always waiting to be invited into our hearts and lives. We considered how we can respond to His call through our words, actions and relationships with others, ensuring that Christ remains at the centre of all that we do.

On Tuesday, our Year 5 pupils successfully completed their Wellbeing Champion Training with Compass Bloom. We are incredibly proud of the children for embracing this opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills needed to support positive wellbeing across our school community. We look forward to seeing them put their training into practice over the coming months.

This week, Mrs Bridge met with Fr Mark to discuss an exciting opportunity for our older pupils next half term. We are delighted to be planning a special Mass in Arrowsmith House for children in Years 4, 5 and 6. Further details can be found in the diary dates, and we look forward to sharing this special occasion together.

On Friday morning, Class Teresa led a beautiful Celebration of the Word for parents. The children reflected prayerfully on Psalm 139, thinking about God's loving presence in our lives and the gift of guardian angels who guide, protect and watch over us each day. Thank you to all the parents who joined us and to the children for leading such a thoughtful and reverent celebration.

We were also delighted this afternoon to receive several new items for our school chapel, kindly sourced from St Paschal Baylon in Liverpool. These additions will further enhance our sacred prayer space and support our pupils in their faith journey. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr Collier for generously volunteering his van and collecting the items on behalf of the school. As always, please keep a close eye on the diary dates overleaf. Additional events and opportunities are added regularly, and we would not want you to miss any important dates.

And finally, thank you for all you do to support our school community as we love, learn and follow Jesus every step of the way. Wishing you all a peaceful and restful weekend.

Mrs Bridge
Headteacher

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



Class St Teresa

We have had a wonderful week filled with love, happiness and joy. It was the perfect way to end our week by welcoming our parents and carers to join us for our Prayer and Liturgy. Together, we reflected on our Guardian Angels and the comforting reminder that we are never alone. It was a special opportunity to think about all the people who care for us, guide us, and show us love each and every day.

In English, Year 1 have completed their independent writing all about Mary Seacole. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about this significant and inspiring woman and were proud to showcase all of the facts they have learned. In Reception, the children have been busy creating their own superheroes and writing sounds and words to accompany their fantastic creations. We have loved seeing their creativity and imagination shine through. In RE, we have been learning about Laudato Si' and discussing how we can care for God's world and protect our common home. To put our learning into action, we went outside to help tidy our school grounds and local environment. In History, we explored the area around Gregson Lane using Google Maps, identifying the different types of houses we could see. The children were excited to spot familiar landmarks, and some were even lucky enough to find their own homes! In DT, we designed our own fruit kebabs, carefully choosing which fruits we would like to include. We are looking forward to making them next week and tasting our delicious creations.

What a fantastic week of learning, reflection, and discovery. Please continue to read regularly at home and use the provided flashcards to help consolidate their sounds. I am looking forward to another wonderful week of learning, growing, and walking alongside Jesus.

- Miss McEvoy and the St Teresa Class team!

Reminders

- Full Forest School kit is to be worn on Thursdays.
- Please ensure your child's reading book and wallet comes into school everyday.



'Love is Patient and Kind' - 1 Corinthians 13:4

P.E days

Tuesday
and
Wednesday



Forest school

Thursday



Homework

Maths- NUMBOTS
Reading- Daily
home reading
Year 1 Spelling



Spellings Test every Friday (Y1 only)

1. complete
2. drive
3. those
4. home
5. this
6. that



Other

If there are any resources you require to support your child at home, please let me know and I will be more than happy to help!



This week we have learnt the sounds...

YR- e u r

Y1- e-e, i-e, o-e

Please help your
child to learn
these sounds.



Our week in photos!

Well done to this weeks certificate winners!

Head Teacher award- Noah. R
Reading award- Luca
Witness award- Noah. T



Class St John Paul II

'Be determined and confident! Do not be afraid.' Joshua 1:9

What another successful week in Class John Paul II! The children have worked on our value of empathy and looking out for each other. In RE, the children have explored the Catholic Social Teaching of Stewardship and how we can care for God's Creation. They all created fantastic posters linking this to the story of Noah. In History we explored Edith Cavell, a nurse who was from a different time period to Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We have all moved on to Addition and Subtraction in Maths, recalling our number bonds to support our learning. The children loved trying watery porridge as our hook into our new English book, 'The Prince, The Cook and The Cunning King' by Terry Deary. They also explored the characters, Ellie and the Chef through hot seating. In PE, we continue to develop our gymnastic skills through the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Shaw and the Class John Paul II team



Congratulations!

Witness Award - Oscar
Headteacher Award - Miller
Reading Award - Arla



Homework

Each week the children will need to:

- Read daily
- Go on TTRS/ Numbots
- Practice their spellings for their spelling test on Friday

Year 2 Spellings

floor
door
poor
gnat
gnaw
gnome
gnash
sign
design
designer

Year 3 Spellings

WEEK 5

Words with Long OO

continue	chew
statue	bruise
gloom	group
tooth	through
flute	fruit

PE days are
Wednesday and
Friday

Class St Edmund Arrowsmith

1 Corinthians 16:13

"Be on your guard: stand firm in the faith: be courageous: be strong."

Yesterday, we took a moment as a class to reflect on the progress we had made over the last weeks. As I pointed out some of my highlights to the children they began to realise how hard they have been working to create a supporting learning environment for each other.

The smiles were plentiful! In RE the children really enjoyed Bible Journaling on a version from Matthew's gospel. It was interesting to share their different interpretations. They also made links between this piece of scripture and life of St Therese of Lisieux. They were eager to highlight the words humble and resilience making references back to Mrs Bridge's Celebration of the Word at the start of the week. In English we have been working on the skill of inference to develop knowledge of the characters in Greek myths and have ended the week using ambitious vocabulary to describe a setting. In Maths Year 4 have been developing fluency in multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 while Years 5 and 6 have spent time embedding prior knowledge of written methods for multiplication. The homework task will build on these skills.

Thank you, as always, for all your continued support.
Mrs Lawman and the Arrowsmith Class Team



PE: **Wednesday** and
Friday

Swimming: **Tuesday for Y4**

Homework

Each week the children are expected to:

- Read daily
- Practise weekly spellings (Test on Friday) and multiplication facts.
- Complete task set on Spag.com and Maths.co.uk



This Weeks' Spellings

Year 4

actually

address

business

different

grammar

accident

occasion

Year 5 and 6

accomodate

accompany

aggressive

apparent

attached

community

communicate

Certificate winners this week:

Head Teacher award- William

Reading award- Lily

Witness award- Olivia, Bobby

Clubs, Attendance & Key Reminders

After School Activities

- Mondays: Choir (Let's Go Sing!)
- Tuesday: Multisports with Coach Scott
- Wednesdays: Multisports with Coach Scott.
- Thursday: Jam-Coding with Mr Bamford

The Nest

The After School wraparound service at Brindle Gregson Lane runs until 6pm daily. Places can be booked by contacting office@bgl.org.uk



Polite Reminders

Please remember to let the school office know of any pupil absences as soon as possible. If we do not hear from you, we will phone to chase up the reason. This is part of our safeguarding procedures. Thank you.

Please continue to use School Spider for all bookings (The Ark before school, toast, lunches, trips, activities and after-school clubs). Please feel free to contact us if you need any help with this.

Please try and plan dentist appointments for times either outside the school day or at the end of the school day so that minimal learning time is lost.

Remember to label all items of clothing. Thank you.

Water bottles brought into school should only contain water please, and not juice.

Attendance

Year Group	Weekly	Year
Reception	95.8%	97.1%
Year One	100%	99.8%
Year Two	91.3%	96.1%
Year Three	100%	99.4%
Year Four	95.0%	98.7%
Year Five	93.8%	98.8%
Year Six	95.0%	94.4%
School Total	95.7%	97.6%

The Ark

Breakfast Club
7.30am - 8.40am
daily.

Places available on
School Spider.



Dates for your Diary

Date	Class	Event
Wednesday 14 th October	All	Handball Festival- PE kits needed in school for all children.
Wednesday 14 th October	All	Disconnect to Reconnect Day! No devices used all day in our learning. Let's get outdoors! #LiveSimplyAward Pupils to come in PE kit but also bring layers to wear over the top as we plan to get outside as much as possible during the day
Friday 16 th October	Y5 and Y6	BACK ON: Crucial Crew event at Chorley. Children will leave school at 12.15pm and return to school for the normal end of the school day.
Monday 19 th October	Invitation to all parents	Abdul Logde - Family Hub Drop in Session 9-10am No appointment needed. See School Spider message for further details.
Tuesday 20 th October	All pupils	Individual and sibling school photographs
Wednesday 21 st October	New Parents for September 2027	Open day 1: 9.30am-11am; 1.30pm-3pm & 4pm-5pm
Wednesday 21 st October	Reception only	NHS Eye sight screening check (see School Spider for details)
Thursday 22 nd October	Reception & Year 1 parents	Phonics workshop with Miss McEvoy, 3.30 to 4.00pm
Friday 23 rd October	All	Non-uniform in exchange for a long-life item donation to the Living Waters Food Bank and/or a small monetary contribution to CAFOD. 9am - Mini Vinnie-led assembly. Everyone is welcome to attend.
Friday 23 rd October	All	Break up at the normal time for the half term break
Tuesday 3 rd November	All	School re-opens for all pupils

Friday 6 th November	Y6 parents	Parental briefing about SATs and the residential trip 3.30–4.30
Monday 9 th November	All	CAFOD assembly and workshops in school
Monday 9 th November	Invitation to all parents	Abdul Logde – Family Hub Drop in Session 9–10am No appointment needed. See School Spider message for further details.
Tuesday 10 th November	All pupils	The Poppy and Remembrance day assembly
Wednesday 18 th November	Reception pupils	Height and weight checks
Thursday 19 th November	All pupils	PTFA Friendship Disco 6pm to 7.30pm
Thursday 19 th November	Class Arrowsmith	Mass at Arrowsmith House with Fr Mark Beattie. The children are walking there and back. Please ensure they have a suitable coat to wear.
Monday 23 rd November	Invitation to all parents	Abdul Logde – Family Hub Drop in Session 9–10am No appointment needed. See School Spider message for further details.
Friday 4 th December	All	PTFA Christmas jumper swap – more details to follow Advent Mass at 10.30am at School. All are welcome to attend.
Monday 7 th December	Invitation to all parents	Abdul Logde – Family Hub Drop in Session 9–10am No appointment needed. See School Spider message for further details.
Monday 7 th December	All	Rocksteady concert – all parents are invited
Friday 11 th December	All	PTFA Santa dash – 2pm to 3.20pm
Tuesday 15 th December	All	Whole School and Nursery Christmas Nativity Show 2pm and 5pm – All welcome.
Friday 18 th December	All	School closes at 1.15pm

Parishes of St Bede,
Clayton Green and Hoghton,
and St Chad, South Hill



Parish News

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4th October 2026



October – Month of the Holy Rosary.

The Rosary will be prayed in both churches before the weekday Masses during the month of October, starting at around 9am.

There are leaflets at the back of church with the prayers of the Rosary for people to take if they wish or to use during our times of prayer in church.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal.

The retiring collections after Masses this weekend, 3rd – 4th October, are being taken at a time of growing uncertainty for many of the poorest people in the world. CAFOD stands alongside communities facing the toughest conditions. Together, we put our faith into action, inspired by the love of the Lord and seek to build a better world. CAFOD would be deeply grateful for your support this Harvest time. One of the many projects CAFOD currently supports is in Zimbabwe. Hunger and thirst are stopping children from learning. Your support this Fast Day will help children stay in school by providing the food and safe water they need. Thank you.

You can also donate or set up a regular donation to CAFOD on their website. Go to www.cafod.org.uk and follow the link to “donate”.

Tea and coffee will be served in St. Bede’s Parish Hall after the 11am Mass on Sunday 4th October. Everyone is warmly invited to come along. If we get a few more volunteers, we could have refreshments after Mass on Sunday more often. Please let us know if you could help. Volunteers are needed to set up the table and chairs and put them away and to prepare and serve the tea and coffee. Thank you.

St Bede’s Prayer Group will meet on Monday 5th October in St. Bede’s Presbytery at 1pm – 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along.

St Chad’s Reading Group will meet on Monday 5th October, 1pm to 3pm in St. Chad’s Parish Centre. Books are provided from the County Library service and are available to borrow at each meeting. New members are very welcome.

The St. Chad's Social Group will meet on Monday 5th October in St. Chad's Parish Centre, starting at 6.45pm. Please come along and volunteer if you can. New volunteers for looking after our parish hall and organizing parish events are always very welcome.

St Chad's Craft Group. The craft group will meet on Tuesday 6th October from 1.30pm to 3.30pm in St. Chad's Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome, no skills or previous experience required.

Tea and coffee will be served in St. Chad's Parish Centre after the 9.15am Mass on Sunday 18th October. Everyone is warmly invited to come along.

The soup and sandwich lunch that should have taken place on Tuesday 20th October in St Chad's Parish Centre has been postponed due to work being carried out in the large room. We will let you know the rescheduled date when we know it. Thank you.

SVP Chorley Buddies hold their monthly social on Wednesday 14th October at St. Chad's Parish Centre from 12 until 2pm. A hot lunch & an activity or entertainment are provided. Transport is available. The social is free but we accept donations towards the cost of lunch. Call 01257 542367 to book.

At the back of St Bede's church there are small brown envelopes for people who wish their donation to go St Joseph's church in Brindle supporting the Ampleforth Trust to maintain the buildings and meet ongoing costs. If you Gift Aid your donation, please write your parish Gift Aid number on the envelope.

Liverpool Archdiocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2027: Applications are now open for young people in Year 10 and up to the age of 22 to travel to Lourdes to work with our assisted pilgrims. Coach 5 takes young people from the Lancashire areas of Orrell, Chorley, Leyland and Penwortham. There is a £50 reduction for anyone applying before 18th October. There is a further £100 reduction for any young person who achieved the Gold level of the Faith in Action Award at the end of the last school year. Apply at www.liverpoolLOURDESyouth.co.uk . For more information, please email Ben McMullen, Coach Leader at coach5@rcao.org.uk

If you, or someone you know, needs food support, the Christian Community Larder offers practical help and a warm welcome for local families.

Opening times: Monday and Friday, 9.30am to 11.30am. Telephone: 07762 905978. Email: christiancommunitylarder@gmail.com

The Community Larder opened in July 2022 behind St Aidan's Church, supported by Five Churches Together and South Ribble Council. Please visit or share these details with anyone who may need support. Clothing and food donations left at the back of St Bede's church support our local food bank and the Metanoia Project supporting homeless people in Preston. Similar donations at St Chad's support Chorley Help the Homeless.

We are looking for a new Foundation Governor for St Bede's Primary School. We need someone with a professional background in finance who is a regular Mass attender. If you think you would be able to help, please talk to Fr Mark who will be able to tell you what is involved in this important voluntary role.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered or came along to the comedy evening on Friday and made the event such a great success. Our fundraising activities are increasingly important in trying to meet the costs of running our parishes as everything gets a bit more expensive especially our heating costs through the winter months. Thank you to everyone who is able to support the ministry of our Church through their prayers, their service and their donations.

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Beattie Tel. 01257 460154

Deacon: Rev Simon Gilbertson

St Bede's Church. 598, Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods. PR6 7EB
01772 335209

St Chad's Church. 237, Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods. PR6 8AJ.

St Chad's Parish Hall 07719718523

St Bede's Parish Hall 01257 271818

Parish Websites www.stbedesclaytongreen.co.uk and
www.stchads-southhill.org www.brindlestjosephs.org.uk

Facebook page Look for "Parishes of St Chad and St Bede"

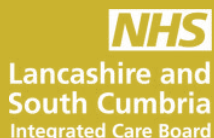
E-mail our parish office: stbedesclaytongreen@rcaol.org.uk
or stchad.chorley@rcaol.org.uk

or to Fr Mark privately m.beattie@rcaol.org.uk

The parish office is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday this coming week. 01772 335209

NEU WAY SUPPORT

Early support for children,
young people and families



As a parent or carer, you know your child better than anyone. If you've noticed changes in how they communicate, learn, interact or experience the world, it's natural to have questions. You may be wondering what those differences mean, where to seek advice or how to find the right support.

Neu Way Support is a service that recognises that every family's journey is unique. For many, the path to understanding their child's needs can feel overwhelming, with long waiting times, a lot of information to navigate and uncertainty about what to do next.

You don't need a diagnosis to access the service. Whether you're at the beginning of your journey, awaiting an assessment, have recently received a diagnosis, or simply need someone to talk things through with, we're here to help.

Our aim is to ensure every family can access trusted advice, practical support and local connections at the earliest opportunity, helping you feel informed, supported and confident about the next steps

You can access Neu Way Support whether you're:

- Just starting to have questions?
- Waiting for an assessment?
- Recently received a diagnosis?
- Looking for practical advice?



Every family's journey is different, but you don't have to navigate it alone. Scan the QR code to find out more





SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SECONDARY EAST

**Do you have a child starting
secondary school in September 2027
and living in Lancashire?**

Closing date: 31 October 2026

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 01254 220747.

**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 



Access School Health in a drop in session
Support for children, young people, parents and carers

HEALTH & WELLBEING SUPPORT

- ✓ Emotional health and wellbeing
- ✓ Healthy lifestyles
- ✓ Sleep concerns/ Toileting issues
- ✓ Behaviour support
- ✓ Growth and development
- ✓ School-related health concerns
- ✓ General health and wellbeing questions

DROP-IN SESSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

📍 **1 October 2026** | 9:30am-12:00pm
The Zone (next to Skelmersdale Library), WN8 6PZ

📍 **15 October 2026** 09:00-12:00
Coppull Library PR7 5BZ

📍 **08 October 2026** 2:00-4:00pm
Preston West Family Hub, PR2 1TU

📍 **21 October 2026** | 9:30am-11:30am
West Paddock, PR25 1HR

📍 **27 October 2026** | 2:00pm-4:00pm
Ribbleton Family Hub, PR2 6EE

ACCESS TO WIDER SUPPORT

Delivered as part of the One Stop Shop in partnership with the Early Help Partnership, helping families access advice, guidance and local services.

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED
Simply come along to a session that suits you.

★ **MORE LOCATIONS • MORE DATES • BETTER ACCESS TO SUPPORT** ★

October Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Raising Self-Esteem	5 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	5 Oct 7pm
Decreasing Depression	6 Oct 10am
Introduction to OCD	6 Oct 7pm
Improving Family Communication	12 Oct 10am
What is ACT?	12 Oct 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	13 Oct 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	13 Oct 7pm
Understanding Anger	19 Oct 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 Oct 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	20 Oct 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	20 Oct 7pm
FREE - ADHD and Homework	22 Oct 7-8pm
Facing Defiance	26 Oct 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	26 Oct 7pm
School Anxiety	27 Oct 10am
Anxiety Explained	27 Oct 7pm

Orchestral

Saturday 17th October 2026

All Hallows Catholic High
School, Preston, Lancashire,
PR1 0LN

[Find out more](#)



Calling 8-14 year old
musicians from
Lancashire!

Do you play an orchestral
instrument at Grade 2-5 level?

Join NCO for a day of free
orchestral music making.





Winter Warmer Event

Help us keep little ones warm this winter!

We are collecting clean, good condition children's items for 0-5 years.

A safe warm bed, warm clothes and cosy essentials can make a huge difference to a child's health, wellbeing and future.



Children's coats
♥ (0-5yrs) ♥



Hats, scarves
& gloves ♥



♥ Wellies ♥



Pyjamas
& cosy socks ♥



♥ Blankets
& sleepbags ♥



♥ Puddle suits ♥



♥ Pram cosy toes ♥



Drop off points

≡ Last day: Friday 23rd October ≡



3 Eagleton Way
PR1 9SL



294 Tag lane
PR2 3UY



3 Hillpark avenue
PR5 0AS



Message us here or text us on

07852304225

♥ if you can help ♥

Thank you for your kindness and support! ♥



There's life in your unwanted
furniture and electricals



FREE & FAST COLLECTION

You may not want your old sofa, TV or fridge,
but we do. We'll collect them from your home
and find them a new life. The funds raised will
help save countless lives too.

**FIGHT
FOR EVERY
HEARTBEAT**
bhf.org.uk

BOOK A FREE & FAST COLLECTION:
CALL YOUR BLACKBURN STORE
01254 867 670
bhf.org.uk/collection

Active Camps

Venues:

Cuerden Church Primary School, PR5 6ED
Monday 26th to Thursday 29th October

Kingsfold Primary School, PR1 9HJ
Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th October

Halloween Parties, Scooting, Archery, UV
Sports, Dodgeball, and so so much more....

Cost per day: £14.00

Cost per block: £52.00

For booking Visit:

southribble.gov.uk/activecamps

Drop off 8.30am - 9am

Pick up 4.30pm - 5pm

**Council Funded Places available for
children in receipt of Free School Meals**



Dodgeball,
dance, scooting,
cycling, glow sport,
soft axe throwing,
archery and much
more!

All staff
enhanced DBS
cleared, also
safeguarding
and first aid
trained



With highly
qualified sports
coaches and
teachers



All children
provided with a
healthy lunch



Click here to
find out more

Online Safety Newsletter

October 2026

CapCut

CapCut is a video editing app. Their services are intended for those over the age of 13 (those under the age of 18 must have consent from their parent/legal guardian). It is rated as 13+ on the App store.

What can I do on CapCut?

CapCut is used as a video and image editing tool allowing users to edit their videos/ images as well as add music, sound effects, text and stickers.

What should I be aware of?

- The templates are user generated, therefore they may not always be appropriate for your child to view, for example may contain adult themes.
- CapCut includes access to a library of music that may include explicit lyrics.
- Premium content – CapCut does include in-app purchases/monthly subscriptions to allow users access to premium content.

Further information

Wayne Denner provides further information about the social side of CapCut including a comments section: <https://www.waynedenner.com/capcut-parents-guide/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You

can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitycs.org.uk/october-2026/>

AI companions

What are AI companions?

AI companions are artificial intelligence services designed to interact with users to simulate friendship or romantic relationships. There are many different AI companions available, accessible via apps or websites. **Many of these apps are intended for adults and have an age rating of 18+.**



Why are children using AI companions?

There are many reasons a child might want to use an AI companion, including:

- ☐ To ask advice and questions that they may be embarrassed to ask another person. It may be easier to talk to an AI companion, so it is imperative children understand the difference between AI and real people.
- ☐ They feel lonely and are looking for friendship.
- ☐ Children may just be curious and want to try new technology.

What should I be aware of?

Age restrictions: it is important to check the age rating to see if it is appropriate for your child.

Inappropriate content: there is often a lack of moderation so users could be exposed to content/language that is not suitable for their age.

Emotional dependence: AI companions are designed to act as a friend, encouraging an emotional dependence. This may lead to your child becoming over reliant on the service. A chatbot should never replace a parent, a medical professional or other trusted adult.

Relationships: repeated use of AI may influence a child's understanding of relationships and consent in real life.

Privacy and personal information: children should not share personal or confidential information with AI companions.

What can I do?

- ☐ Check the age rating and any privacy settings.
- ☐ Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/ broadband.
- ☐ It is crucial to have regular conversations with your child about the risks outlined above and about what they are doing online. Ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/ai-chatbots-and-virtual-friends-how-parents-can-keep-children-safe/>

Discord

Discord is a social networking app originally designed for gamers, but is now used by lots of different people to **chat to each other online**. The minimum age to access Discord is 13. **The App store rates it as 17+.**

Discord is made up of servers, which are spaces for groups to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server, and it can be set as either public or private. Users can video call and send direct messages to other individuals or groups. Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat whilst playing the game (**rather than using the game's own chat facility**). In-app purchases are available through Discord's subscription service called Nitro.



How can I make it safer?

Discord have created a Family Centre, which provides further information about what Discord is, as well as information about different safety settings available:

<https://discord.com/safety-family-center>

As always, we would encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use Discord and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It is important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered. **Discord is used by an array of users and therefore adult content can be found on Discord, as well as inappropriate language.** Discord have produced this article, which answers frequent questions:

<https://discord.com/safety-library>

5 fun online activities

Whilst we must be aware of the negative aspects of the internet, it's also important to remember that it can also be a great place to have fun or learn something new as a family. Why not try the following?



1. Playagametogether.
2. Takeafamilyquiz—itcouldbearoundthetopicofonlinesafety(e.g. from Childnet) or you could use Kahoot to create your own.
3. Learnsomethingnew—exploreBBCBitesize,NationalGeographic Kids or Khan Academy.
4. Createsomething—makeadigitaldrawingorvideo.
5. ReadanAudiobook.

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.10.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.

Doki Doki Literature Club

Doki Doki Literature Club is a game that, due to its cartoon anime appearance may appear to be a game suitable for all. However, as the game progresses, it contains much darker and potentially distressing themes. The game includes references to suicide, self-harm and death.

The App store rates it as 18+ as it has cartoon or fantasy violence and horror/fear themes as well as infrequent profanity and crude humour. The game is described as psychological horror. You should also be aware that the app also includes in app purchases.

The game's own website also states that it "is not suitable for children or those who are easily disturbed."

Please ensure you have set up appropriate parental controls on any devices and platforms that your child uses to ensure they can't access games that are not suitable for their age.

Happy Tree Friends

Happy Tree Friends is another animated series that might look harmless because of its cartoon graphics, but the programme contains violence, death and blood. Clips of Happy Tree Friends are also circulating on social media platforms.

As above, we would recommend that you have set up appropriate parental controls to limit exposure to content like this. Also, chat to your child about what they are watching online and ensure they know that if they do see something online that upsets them, then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information:

<https://www.common sense media.org/website-reviews/happy-tree-friends>

Masses and Services this week

Saturday 3rd October 6pm St. Bede's Donor's intention

Sunday 4th October Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (PW3)

9.15am St. Chad's Bernard Kiley (RIP)

11am St. Bede's Parishioners

Monday 5th October 9.15am St. Chad's Alice & Harry Prescott

Tuesday 6th October 9.15am St. Bede's Fr. Lawrence Mayne (RIP)

Wednesday 7th October No Mass

Thursday 8th October 9.15am St. Chad's Liz Fogarty

Friday 9th October 9.30am St. Bede's Parishioners

Thanksgiving for the harvest with the children of St Bede's School

Please sit towards the back of the church. Thank you.

Saturday 10th October 6pm St. Bede's

Frances Syon &

Ann Widdecombe

Sunday 11th October Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time (PW4)

9.15am St. Chad's Parishioners

11am St. Bede's Donor's intention

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners:

Jim Holmes, Paola De Sanctis, Eileen Ainscough, Agnes Moss, Agnes Martland, Ann Marie Green and the residents of Arrowsmith Lodge, Highcliffe, Greenways, Brookside, Willow Bank, Meadow Bank Nursing Homes and Brookhaven.

Confessions are heard in the confessional at St Bede's each Saturday at 5.30pm-5.50pm or at any time on request. You can call Fr Mark to arrange a convenient time if you would like to make your confession.



Altar Servers. New altar servers are always welcome. Children in Year 4 or older are very welcome to learn how to serve at Mass. It's a great way to learn more about the Mass and help us to pray together. Please let Fr Mark know if you would like to join our team.

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