# Newsletter



Friday 13th November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a truly busy and enriching week at St Joseph's, with many opportunities for our children to learn, reflect and live out our mission of serving others.

We began the week with a CAFOD workshop and assembly led by Mrs Fordyce. The children discovered how their fundraising efforts make a difference to the lives of people less fortunate than themselves around the world. They explored the challenges faced by communities in countries such as El Salvador and reflected on how they can help create positive change for others.

As we approached Remembrance Day, we were privileged to welcome Michael Turner from the Royal British Legion. Michael spoke to the children about the significance of the poppy and shared his first-hand experiences of life in Britain during wartime. The children were fascinated to hear about the differences between childhood then and now, and listened thoughtfully as he described the emotions of receiving letters from loved ones serving on the front line.

On Armistice Day, our school community came together to mark this important occasion. The children observed a respectful two-minute silence and watched the live BBC coverage. Our poppy wreath, featuring prayers written by every child, was laid at the Hoghton Cenotaph by Layla and George from Year 6. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this year's Poppy Appeal. Together, we have raised a significant amount for this very worthwhile cause.

Today, we also took the opportunity to thank Mrs Grogan as her term of office as a Foundation Governor comes to an end. Her generosity, kindness and unwavering commitment to our school community have made a lasting impact. Over the years, she has devoted countless hours to observing lessons, serving on interview panels, contributing to governor meetings and supporting the wider life of both the school and parish. While she will be greatly missed, we wish her every happiness as she settles into her new home and enjoys a well-earned retirement with her much-loved grandchildren.

Thank you for your continued support as we love, learn and follow Jesus every step of the way. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes,

Mrs Bridge.
Headteacher

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

# Class St Teresa

It has been another wonderful week in St Teresa Class, filled with exciting learning, creativity and reflection.
Firstly, I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for attending Parents' Evening. It was a pleasure to meet with you, celebrate your child/s achievements and discuss the fantastic progress they are making. Your continued support at home makes a huge difference to your child's learning journey.
This week in RE, the children explored the story of the Annunciation and created beautiful artwork to represent this special event. We reflected on Mary's courage and trust in God's plan and discussed why this story is so important to Christians.
In English, Year 1 have been busy writing postcards to Akeyo from the story Handa's Surprise, using their imagination to describe Handa's adventure and the wonderful African setting. Reception children have been developing their speaking and comprehension skills by answering a range of exciting adventure-themed questions and sharing their ideas with confidence. In Science, we investigated different forces and enjoyed exploring how objects can be squashed, stretched and twisted. The children loved taking part in practical activities and making predictions about what would happen.
Our PE lessons continued with our gymnastics unit, where the children worked hard to develop their balance, coordination and control. They demonstrated increasing confidence when performing a variety of shapes and movements.
As a school, we marked Remembrance Day with a special Prayer and Liturgy alongside Mrs Bridge. The children showed great respect as they reflected on the sacrifices made by others. We also created beautiful poppies which were used to make a class wreath as a symbol of remembrance and gratitude. In Geography, we continued our learning about the Equator. The children explored where the Equator is located on a globe and discovered how countries close to it experience warmer climates throughout the year. They were fascinated to learn about the different animals, habitats and environments found near the Equator. It has been a busy and rewarding week, and I am incredibly proud of how hard all of the children have worked. We look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead! 😊
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

- Please ensure your child's reading book and wallet comes into school everday.
- Please ensure that full PE kit is available in school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

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

## P.E days

Tuesday and Wednesday.



## Homework

Maths- NUMBOTS
Reading- Daily home reading
Year 1 Spelling

## Spellings Test every Friday (Y1 only)

1. dreamed
2. reading
3. bread
4. meant
5. be
6. by

## 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!



**Our week in photos!**

## This week we have learnt the sounds...

YR- j, v, w, x

Y1- ea, ea (dream, bread)

Please help your child to learn these sounds.

## Well done to this weeks certificate winners!

Head Teacher award- Jack B.W
Reading award- Tilly
Witness award- Mia

# Class St John Paul II

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

Happy Friday!

Thank you for another fun-filled week in Class John Paul. We started the week with a special CAFOD assembly from Mrs Fordyce and a workshop linked to the work that CAFOD do around the world. It really helped us to remember that we are so fortunate and we can make a difference to the lives of others through our fundraising.

In MAths this week, Y2 have been finding ten more and ten less than a number, noticing that the ones digit remains the same; y3 have been continuing to consolidate their understanding of 3 digit subtract 3 digit numbers with exchanges. We are getting super-confident with it now.

On Wednesday, our class had a reflective celebration of the world linked to peace and Armistice Day. We enjoyed listening to the talk from the Royal British Legion representative about the significance of the poppy.
Have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Shaw and the Class John Paul II team







**Congratulations!**
Witness Award - Luke
Headteacher Award - Jacob
Reading Award - Ginny

## 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

any
bath
beautiful
because
behind
both
break
busy
child
Christmas

## Year 3 Spellings

heard
heart
height
history
imagine
increase
important
interest
island
knowledge

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."

We have had a very busy start to this new half term. The children have enjoyed beginning the this term's RE Branch - Prophecy and Promise and were particularly excited to learn about David and Goliath. The fact that they had learned about how David was chosen to be king really added context to the story for them. It was very interesting to learn about the life of a shepherd both now and in biblical times and the children could list a number of qualities a good shepherd would have. In Maths we have continued to see the importance of times tables knowledge as we have began our unit of work on division. It is crucial the children constantly revisit these facts at school and at home. Our new English text is Kensuke's Kingdom which some of the children are familiar with. We have kicked off the topic with a heated debate about whether the family should set sail on a journey around the world. The children have been showcasing their wonderful oracy skills. The class anthology of myths is coming together but the competition is still on for a front cover so feel free to get creative at home. This week in addition to the Maths.co.uk task there will also be a Spag.com task.

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 | Year 5 and 6 |
|---|---|
| girls' | community |
| boys' | curiosity |
| babies' | ability |
| parents' | visibility |
| children's | possibility |
| people's | sensitivity |
| women's | activity |

**Certificate winners this week:**

Head Teacher award- Darcy

Reading award- Hektor

Witness award- Reuben

# Clubs, Attendance & Key Reminders

| Attendance | | |
|---|---|---|
| Year Group | Weekly | Year |
| Reception | 96.9% | 97.2% |
| Year One | 100% | 99.5% |
| Year Two | 88.5% | 94.8% |
| Year Three | 97.9% | 99.2% |
| Year Four | 88.8% | 96.4% |
| Year Five | 100% | 98.0% |
| Year Six | 98.8% | 94.5% |
| School Total | 95.4% | 97.0% |



## The Ark

Breakfast Club
7.30am - 8.40am
daily.
Places available on
School Spider.

## After School Activities

- Mondays: Choir (Let's Go Sing!)
  Tuesday: Ella Holt's drama club - book directly with her
- Wednesdays: Multi-sports with Coach Scott.
- Thursday: Jam-Coding with Mr Bamford (book with Jam Coding)



## 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.

If you need to request leave of absence for your child during term time, please complete a Leave of Absence Request Form, available from the school office. Requests are considered by the Headteacher in line with government guidance: leave is only authorised in exceptional circumstances, requests for holidays during term time are unlikely to be approved. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Please remember this is a dog-free site - there have been a few instances recently where we have found dog poo on our paths. We very much appreciate your support with this.

Please remember to label all items of clothing. Thank you.

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

# Dates for your Diary

| Date | Class | Event |
|---|---|---|
| Wednesday 18th November | Reception pupils | Height and weight checks |
| Wednesday 18th November | All pupils | Compass Bloom workshops in school time |
| Thursday 19th November | Y6 | Y6 pupil Health Needs Assessment questionnaire |
| Thursday 19th 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. |
| Thursday 19th November | All pupils | PTFA Friendship Disco<br>6pm to 7.30pm |
| Friday 20th November | Class John Paul | 9am: Stay and Pray |
| Friday 20th November | All | 2.40pm: HAF assembly delivered by Absolute (before Celebration Assembly) |
| Monday 23rd November | Invitation to all parents | Abdul Logde - Family Hub Drop in Session 9-10am<br>No appointment needed. See School Spider message for further details. |
| Friday 27th November | Class Teresa | 9am: Stay and Pray |
| Friday 4th December | All | PTFA Christmas jumper swap - more details to follow<br>Advent Mass at 10.30am at School. All are welcome to attend. |
| Friday 4th December | Class Arrowsmith | 9am: Stay and Pray |
| Monday 7th December | Invitation to all parents | Abdul Logde - Family Hub Drop in Session 9-10am<br>No appointment needed. See School Spider message for further details. |
| Monday 7th December | Choir & Mini Vinnies | Carols at Arrowsmith Care Home 1pm - 2pm |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Monday 7th December | All | 2.30pm: Rocksteady concert - all parents are invited |
| Friday 11th December | All<br><br>Class St Teresa Parents | 2.00-2.30: PTFA Santa dash<br><br>9.10-10.10am: 'StarBooks' Immersive Phonics workshop for Parents and children |
| Tuesday 15th December | All | 1.30pm and 5.00pm: Whole School and Nursery Christmas Nativity Show - All welcome. |
| Thursday 17th December | All | School Christmas lunch |
| Friday 18th December | All | School closes at 1.15pm |
| Monday 4th January 2027 | All | INSET day - school closed to children |
| Tuesday 5th January 2027 | All | Children return to school |

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

# BATTLE OF THE BANDS

## BATTLE OF THE YEAR GROUPS!

**FEATURING**

YEAR 2, YEAR 3, YEAR 4, YEAR 5, YEAR 6

12:20 12 NOVEMBER 2026 - 13:00 20 NOVEMBER 2026

OPEN DAILY FROM 07:00 TO 19:00

- ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE
- PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE
- WINNING GROUP WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PLAYER
- ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR FULL DETAILS AND RULES

# Crafty Christmas Market



## Trinity Gregson Lane MethodistChurch

PR5 0ED

Breakfast

Lunch

## 14th November

10:00am to 2:30pm

FREE ADMISSION

Crafts, Gifts, Cakes & More

Raffle & Tombola

Free Children's Crafts

See Santa and his Elves

# Christmas Tree SWITCH ON AT HOGHTON VILLAGE HALL




## SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2026

LIGHT SWITCH ON AT
**6:00pm**
by the Mayor



**Face Painting**
(at a charge)



**Free**
Colouring Station



**Free**
Children's Goodie Bag



**Visit Santa**



**Live**
Brass Band



**Choir**
Performing




**£1 per strip**
Money goes to the Mayor's charity



**Free**
Tea, Coffee, Mince Pies & Mulled Wine

## CASH ONLY
DONATIONS APPRECIATED




# CHRISTMAS MARKET

4PM - 8PM FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER

**LOADS OF STALLS!**
**RAFFLE * SWEET TREATS * JEWELLERY * DECORATIONS * SANTA'S GROTTO * GIFTS * HOT & COLD FOOD * TOYS & LOTS MORE!**



St Catherine's hospice care

St. Joseph's
Community Halls

# Christmas CRAFT FAIR

Craft stalls - Face painting - Hot chocolate
Sweet treats - Raffle - Tombola

and...

## Santa's Grotto

Saturday 5th December
11am until 3pm

Performance of carols by Brindle Players

All Welcome
Cash only venue

St Joseph's Community Halls,
Private Road, Brindle,
PR5 0DE

Brindle St Joseph's
SCOUT GROUP

# Open Evening



Brindle St Joseph's Scout Group is a happy place to belong, have adventures and learn skills for life

Calling all children aged 4-8: bring your grown-ups to our family open evening to find out more about all the fun you can have in Scouts!



## Event Details

**DATE**
Tuesday 17th November
5:45pm - 6:45pm

**LOCATION**
Brindle St Joseph's Community Hall, Preston
what3words
///shakes.dance.punctuate

**JOIN IN**
Meet our amazing team and enjoy lots of fun activities!

## BOOK YOUR VISIT!

**We can't wait to welcome your family.**

Find us on Facebook

victoria.jefferies@westlancsscouts.org.uk

# ADVENTURE STARTS HERE!

Come and discover what makes Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts such an amazing experience!

Whether you're thinking of joining or already part of our Scout Group, come along to our bring-a-friend open evenings!

All parents, including those of existing members, are required to stay to hear about exciting plans, events and opportunities for the year ahead.

**More friends. More fun. More adventure.**



| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Squirrels | Monday 18th January<br>4-6 year olds<br>17:30 - 18:30 | Beavers | Tuesday 19th January<br>6-8 year olds<br>18:15 - 19:15 |
| Cubs | Wednesday 20th January<br>8-10 ½ year olds<br>18:30 - 19:45 | Scouts | Friday 22nd January<br>10 ½ year - 14 year olds<br>18:45 - 20:45 |



## Can you help us?

Get involved, get inspired!
Even a small amount of time can make a huge difference!

Brindle Community Hall, Water Street, PR6 8NH

For more information, please contact Victoria Jefferies on 07469 686565 or victoria.jefferies@westlancsscouts.org.uk

1st Hoghton Scout Group







# Squirrels Open Evening

Big adventures start small!
Join us at our Open Evening and find out why Squirrels is the perfect place for 4-5 year-olds to have fun, try new things, make friends and grow in confidence.

## THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

6-7pm
1st Hoghton Scout Hut
Blackburn Old Road, PR5 0SJ

## VISIT US

- Fun activities
- Meet our leaders
- Find out more about Scouts and how you can be involved

**BOOK NOW!**

For more information, please contact Victoria Jefferies on 07469 686565 or victoria.jefferies@westlancsscouts.org.uk

# NEU WAY SUPPORT

## Early support for children, young people and families

SPRING NORTH

NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board







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

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

**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?

TRIPLE A All About Autism

key

Carers Link Lancashire

CANW

communicate speech & language services

ldcvs

FACE

# November 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**

| | |
|---|---|
| Introduction to OCD | 2 Nov 10am |
| Raising Self-Esteem | 2 Nov 7pm |
| Supporting Healthy Sleep | 3 Nov 10am |
| Decreasing Depression | 3 Nov 7pm |
| Supporting a Child with ADHD | 9 Nov 10am |
| Understanding Addictive Behaviour | 9 Nov 7pm |
| What is ACT? | 10 Nov 10am |
| Improving Family Communication | 10 Nov 7pm |
| Autism: Improving Communication | 16 Nov 10am |
| Supporting Healthy Screen Use | 16 Nov 7pm |
| Understanding the Teenage Brain | 17 Nov 10am |
| Understanding Anger | 17 Nov 7pm |
| **FREE - Responding to Stress & Anxiety** | 19 Nov 7-8pm |
| Anxiety Explained | 23 Nov 10am |
| Facing Defiance | 23 Nov 7pm |
| Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness | 24 Nov 10am |
| School Anxiety | 24 Nov 7pm |

# Online Safety Newsletter Nov 2026

## Spotify Parental Controls

Spotify is a music streaming service. You must be aged over 13 to access it. If under 18, parent/guardian consent is required. However, under-13s can access Spotify through a **managed account** set up by a parent or legal guardian.

Since July 2026, Spotify has provided parental controls for managed accounts on both free and premium plans. These controls:

turnmessagingoff.
turnexplicitcontentoff.
turnvideosandcanvasoff.
allowyoutoblockspecific artists or tracks.

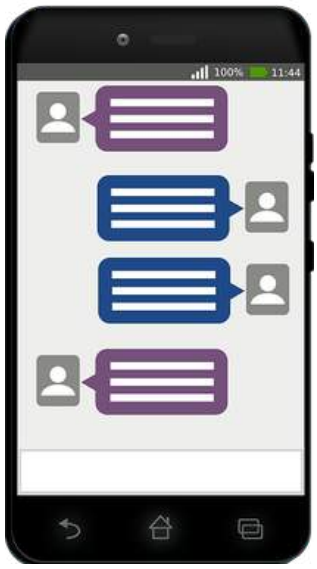
### Further information

Read the news announcement here: https://newsroom.spotify.com/2026-05-13/managed-accounts-free-tier-expansion/

Spotify have produced this Parental Guide to assist you with further information: https://www.spotify.com/us/safetyandprivacy/parental-guide

**Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language?** You can use the translation tool on our web version: https://www.knowsleycclcs.org.uk/november-2026-primary/

## Online Grooming



### What is Online Grooming?

Online Grooming is when an adult builds a relationship online with a child to manipulate, exploit, or abuse them.

### How does Grooming take place?

Groomers often use fake profiles to pretend they are someone they are not, for example they may claim to be younger than they really are or pretend to be a person of influence. They will use flattery and attention to build trust and friendship. They may use online games or social media to initiate contact but then encourage your child to switch to a different app to chat with privately - usually on an app that offers limited or no parental controls and/or encrypts messages.

### What can I do?

- ☐ Use appropriate parental controls.
- ☐ Set privacy settings.
- ☐ Show them how to use any blocking or reporting tools.
- ☐ Chat to your child regularly about what they do online and who they communicate with. Remind them that people online may not always be who they say they are.

### What are the signs that my child is being groomed?

- ☐ Being **secretive** about who they are talking to.
- ☐ They become **withdrawn** from family and friends.
- ☐ Appearing **anxious or upset** after receiving messages.
- ☐ Receiving unexpected **gifts**.

Find out more here: https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/offender-gaining-trust

### What should I do if my child is being groomed?

- ☐ If you think your child is in immediate danger, contact the police.
- ☐ Stay calm and reassure your child that they are not to blame.
- ☐ If you are worried about online abuse or the way somebody has been communicating with your child online, report it to CEOP: (https://www.ceop.police.uk ).

### Further information

- ☐ https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/11_18/lets- talk-about/sexual-abuse/online-grooming/

# COM Networks

COM Networks are online communities where harmful and deeply disturbing behaviour occurs, including child sexual abuse, cybercrime and extremism. These networks operate on mainstream messaging apps, gaming platforms and through social media. **It is important to be aware that such networks exist and understand the risks they can pose to children.** Introductions to COM Networks can begin with harmless conversations on a game or social media platform, but then as trust builds, groups will gradually introduce harmful content, extreme challenges and pressure to prove loyalty. Some groups use threats, humiliation or the threat of exposing private information to control members. Images, messages or personal details may be used to blackmail victims.

## What should I look out for?

- **Increased secrecy**
- **Emotional or behavioural changes**
- **Unfamiliar language:** using new expressions or discussing extreme content, opinions or beliefs.
- **Unexpected gifts**

## Sky News investigation into COM Networks (and links on popular sites such as Roblox and Discord)

You may have seen Sky News' investigation into COM networks. The report highlights findings from a six-month investigation that found self-harm-themed avatars, clothing and related content available on the gaming platform Roblox, including items that could be **accessed by children as young as five years old**. The report can be viewed here, **please be aware that it contains upsetting content**:
https://news.sky.com/video/inside- robloxs-dark-side-sky-news-finds-self-harm-avatars-available-to-young-children-13592551

## How can I protect my child?

- Have regular and open conversations with your child. Ask your child what they do online and who they communicate with.
- Reassure them that they can always ask for help, even if they have shared something personal or broken a family rule.
- It is important to remember that threatening to confiscate their devices may make them less likely to talk to you when something goes wrong.
- Regularly review privacy settings and set up appropriate parental controls on all devices your child is using.
- Ensure your child understands the risks of sharing personal information or intimate images online.

## Further information

- https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/professional-resources/sadistic-online-exploitation/
- https://saferschoolsni.co.uk/understanding- com-networks/

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# WhatsApp Channels and Parental Controls

**Users must be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp.** Children under 13 can access WhatsApp through **a parent-managed account.**

### WhatsApp Channels

WhatsApp Channels are a one-way broadcast tool to send updates to followers. Channels can be found in the Updates tab. From here you can view a whole host of channels, including channels that will **not be age appropriate and may include adult content.** If your child has their own WhatsApp channel, then you need to be aware that they are **public. Anyone can view and follow a channel and anything you share on your channel is public.** We would recommend that parental controls are used to prevent children creating and accessing WhatsApp channels.

### Parent Managed accounts

Parent managed accounts are required for those under 13. These accounts have additional safety restrictions and do not allow access to features such as Channels, Meta AI and location sharing. You also have control over which groups they can join.

### Parental Controls for Teenagers

For users aged 13 to 17, WhatsApp offers parental control settings to limit access to certain features such as Channels.

For more information, visit:
https://www.whatsapp.com/parentalcontrols

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# Rage Bait

Have you heard of this term? Rage bait is when somebody deliberately posts online content to make people feel angry or frustrated to generate views and engagement. Find out more here: https://findmykids.org/blog/en/rage-baiting