



# SCHOOL NEWS

**Our Motto:**  
Believe & Achieve

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

## Prayer

In their class worship last week, Year 4 shared with us how to use a button to pray. Perhaps you could try it at home too.

### BUTTON PRAYERS

Hold your button in your hand.

Feel the hardness of the button. Think about people who might be finding life hard at the moment. Perhaps they are ill, or worried, or lonely. Ask God to help them to trust in God's love and in his plan for them. Amen

Look at your button and see how many holes it has.

Think of that number of things you would like to say thank you to God for and say Thank you prayers. Amen

Trace your finger around the edge of your button, follow its shape and feel how smooth or rough it is. Think of how Jesus can help in your life so that is happy and smooth. Amen



## ☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Ottoline	
Reception	Reggie	Elijah
Year One	Finley	Charlie
Year Two	Elijah	
Year Three	Jaxon	Sophia
Year Four	Peter	Hugh
Year Five	Zach	
Year Six	Archie	Lucianna

WINNING HOUSE THIS TERM

## YARROW

Please click to find out more about our school

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**"I came to give life—life in all its fullness."**

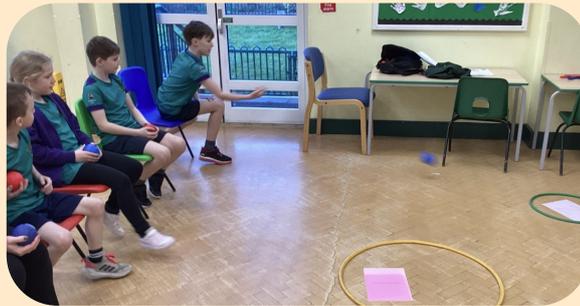
**John 10:10**

## Panathlon

On Wednesday evening, we attended a Panathlon event as part of our cluster sports group involving other local primary schools.

The children took part in Boccia and Kurling games, which were new sporting events for them all. They represented our school excellently and loved trying different tactics in each of the games.

Even Miss Slater and Mrs Rodofile got stuck in! It was lots of fun for all!



## Mini First Aid

On Thursday, Year 1 and Year 5 enjoyed learning First Aid with the help of Andrea, a visitor from 'Mini First Aid'. She taught the children what to do in an emergency situation.

Year 1 learned how to apply a plaster, call an ambulance, say their address and then push someone onto their side if they are not waking up.

Year 5 learned how to do CPR and practised putting each other into the recovery position. Our children have had lots of fun whilst learning vital life skills. Well done everyone!



## Little Explorers

Little Explorers enjoyed a visit to the library on Wednesday. They listened to some stories, made a craft and chose some books to bring back to school to look at during circle time.



## Year 3

Year Three enjoyed creating their Mount Vesuvius artwork this week, inspired by the style of American artist Andy Warhol.



## Reception

This week Reception Class have been busy looking at 2D shapes in Maths. We enjoyed learning all about the features of each shape. We then went on a hunt for shapes that have four sides. We found lots of squares and rectangles on objects in our classroom and in our environment outside. Super shape hunting Reception!



## School Council

Over the past couple of weeks, School Council have been busy planning a Kindness Day in school. They came up with the idea of a Random Acts of Kindness Challenge to be completed in school next week. School Council created their own PowerPoint and led Worship this week to explain this to the whole school. School Council also created their own Kindness Challenge grid for each class.

We can't wait to achieve our class certificates by working together as a team. Well done School Council!



## Year 5

Year 5 have had a great time over the last few weeks creating their Viking longboats.

Here they are finally showing off their final products.



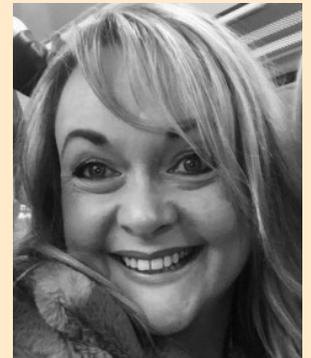
Year 5 also enjoyed taking part in the air drop challenge this week. They were given a budget to create a landing module to help an egg survive a two metre drop by creating as much air resistance as possible. They had a cracking time!



## Mrs Lucinda Campbell-New Foundation Governor

Congratulations to Mrs Lucinda Campbell who has been elected as our new Foundation Governor.

We wish her every success in her new role and we are sure that she will be a great asset to our school family.



## Parking

Please take extra care when parking to drop off/collect your child from school, especially near the Ecclestone Institute.

Pavements are busy with children walking to and from school at these times. Thank you.



## Upcoming Dates

Saturday 7th February	7.30pm	PTA Show
Tuesday 10th February	9.00am	Y2 Class Worship (Please join us)
Wednesday 11th February	9.00-10.30am	Y4 Worship at Church
Friday 13th February	8.45am	Y2 Book Look with Parents
Friday 13th February	3.20-4.30pm	KS1 Valentines Disco
Friday 13th February	4.45-6.00pm	KS2 Valentines Disco

**School Closes for Half Term on Friday 13th February at 3.20pm  
and reopens at 8.45am on Monday 23rd February**

Monday 23rd February	All Week	Pools to Schools
Monday 23rd February	3.20pm	PTFA Meeting (Please join us)
Tuesday 24th February	9.05am	Open the Book
Friday 27th February	8.45am	Y1 Book Look with Parents

## Letters Home

Whole School Parent-School Partnership—Letter

Y5 & Y6 After School HI 5 Netball Club—Letter

## Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtime
Tuesday	Tri Golf	3.20-4.10pm
Tuesday	Choir KS2	3.20-4.15pm
Wednesday	FBA UKS2	Lunchtime
Wednesday	Reading & Craft Club YN & YR	3.20-4.15pm
Thursday	Girls Football	3.20-4.10pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

## World Book Day

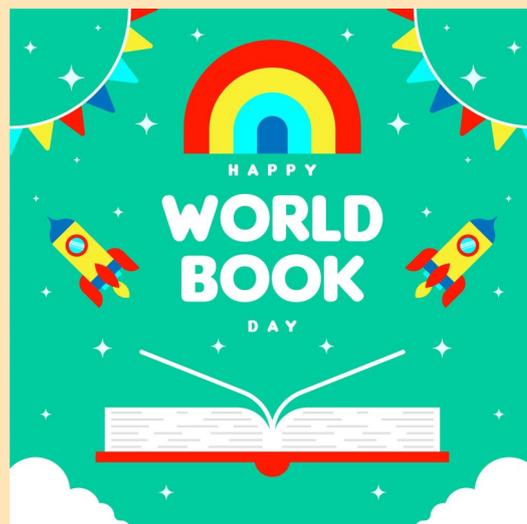
Thursday 5th March 2026

As ever, we would like to mark World Book Day by dressing up but we also know how difficult and / or expensive this can prove to be.

Therefore, we have tried to keep it simple again this year and are asking all the children to come dressed as an **adjective**.

This allows for some children to really let their imaginations run wild but also allows for simpler options such as coming as a colour—red, blue, orange, purple etc. You could also consider being sporty, scary, posh (or are we sounding a bit too much like Spice Girls there?!)

Anyway, the choice is yours and we look forward to seeing what you come up with on Thursday 5th March.



## Valentine's Disco

Don't forget to buy your tickets for next week's Valentine's Disco—if you haven't already done so.

Please also remember that next Friday—13th February—will be a non-uniform day (come dressed ready for the disco!) We would be grateful for donations to Hannah's Garden Appeal in return for wearing own clothes.

In addition, cupcakes will be on sale at lunchtime for a £1.50 donation to the Garden Appeal. Thank you!



## Easter Competition

In keeping with tradition, we will be inviting families to decorate eggs and bring them into school during the last week of term (week beginning 23rd March.)

As 2026 is the National Year of Reading, we would like the eggs to be on a book-related theme eg your favourite book character.

Obviously, this is still a few weeks away but we thought you might appreciate an extra bit of thinking time!



fun activities

# Jellybeans

at  
Eccleston St Mary's Primary School

ALL CHILDREN AGED 0 - 4

songs

Stories

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!

**EVERY THURSDAY  
DURING TERM TIME  
10.00-11.00**

Sessions led by our Nursery and Reception  
teaching staff

£2  
per  
family

Meet and chat  
with other  
parents.

Children must be accompanied by an adult

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

### 1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

### 2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake 'facts'. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

### 3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

### 4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

### 5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

### 6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

### 7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

### 8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

### 9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

### 10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

## Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College