

Newsletter

Inspiring, believing
and achieving in our
loving Christian
community



Date: **Friday 27th March 2026**

Issue: **#25**

“Let your light shine before people so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:v.16)

The Wind in the Willows

Congratulations to our year 3 and 4 children for putting on three fantastic performances of 'The Wind in the Willows' this week! The children performed with incredible confidence and professionalism and made us all proud.

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Chow for recording the performances and to you, our parents/ carers and families, for ensuring your child had the costume requested— they most certainly looked the part!

Thank you also to all our staff who supported the performance both in preparation and during the shows. A special thank you to Mrs Parsons for ensuring the children were well prepared and ready to put on such amazing performances!

You donated £192 for our chosen charity, 'Heartbeat'; year 4 raised a further £370 through their bake sale for Comic Relief.

Thank you for your generosity.

Diary Dates

MONDAY 13TH APRIL

3pm Whole School Worship

8:45am set off: **SWIMMING LESSONS- YEAR 3 (9:15-10am)**

TUESDAY 14TH

3pm Hymn Practice

8:45am **SWIMMING LESSONS- YR 3**

9am Year 4 Bikeability

WEDNESDAY 15TH

3pm Key Stage Worship

8:45am **SWIMMING LESSONS- YR 3**

3:30pm MAD SCIENCE CLUB

THURSDAY 16TH

3pm Key Stage Worship

8:45am: **SWIMMING LESSONS- YR 3**

FRIDAY 17TH

2:45pm Whole School Celebration

Worship

8:45am **SWIMMING LESSONS- YR 3**

PTFA BOOK SALE

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

(Week beginning 16th March 2026)

SCHOOL MINIMUM TARGET: 96.4%

WHOLE SCHOOL: 95.3%

Reception: 97.3%

Year 1: 91.7%

Year 2: 93.5%

Year 3: 98.1%

Year 4: 96.3%

Year 5: 95%

Year 6: 95.2%



Visit Church This Easter!

We warmly encourage all parents and carers to pop into church, to enjoy the wonderful displays created by our pupils. After Easter Day, the entries for the Decorate the Easter Egg Competition will be proudly on show, each one thoughtfully designed to reflect the key events of Holy Week. The children have put great care into their designs, and their creativity truly shines.

You will also find a beautiful selection of school artwork throughout the church, capturing the themes of Lent and Easter through colour, symbolism, and imagination. The displays offer a meaningful way to pause and reflect during this important season.

Everyone is also welcome to gather in church for worship during Holy Week, whether for a moment of quiet reflection or to join the wider church family in prayer.

We hope you will take a few minutes over Easter to enjoy the children's incredible work and share in the hope and joy of this



WORSHIP this week...



This week, our school community gathered for a truly uplifting Easter Worship with Reverend Andy, where the children confidently led us through songs, readings, prayers, and reflections. We opened with the beautiful hymn, "Here I Am to Worship," before Year 3 shared their thoughtful Holy Week artwork.

Year 6 delivered a powerful Bible reading, "A Dreadful Day," helping us reflect on the events of Good Friday, followed by Year 2, who presented their carefully created Easter Crosses. After joining together in singing, "When I Think About the Cross," Year 1 shared signs of new life from their recent RE Spring Walk.

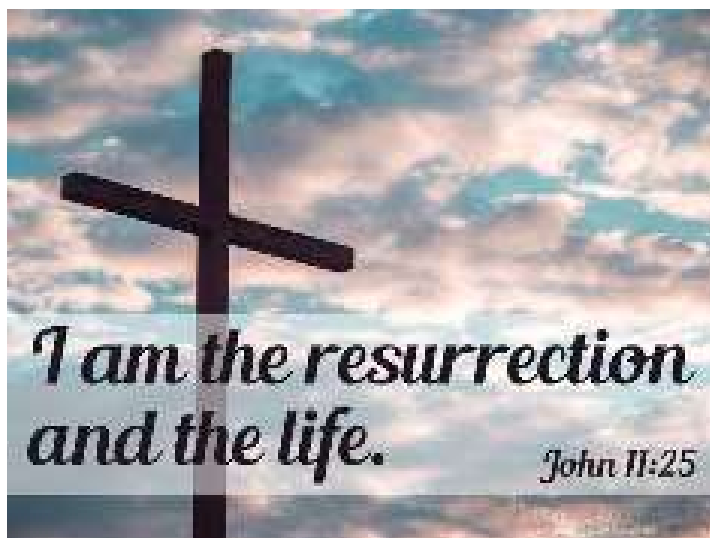
Year 6 returned to read "A Happy Day," capturing the joy and hope of the Resurrection. Reverend Andy then shared a short talk, encouraging everyone to look for signs of hope in their everyday lives during this special season.

Our service continued with a joyful performance from Year 5 and Reception, singing, "Jesus Came Up Out of That Grave." Year 4 rounded off the children's contributions with their expressive Easter poems, before we closed in celebration with the song "Celebrate" and a final blessing.



HAPPY EASTER

We wish you all a very happy and safe Easter. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday April 13th with some warmer and brighter weather for the start of the summer term.



St Michael's Church Grimsargh



- Palm Sunday 29th March 10.00am
Celebration service with palm crosses
- Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7.30pm
Holy Communion with Foot Washing
- Good Friday 3rd April 11.00am
Reflections on the cross



All are welcome to join us

Blackburn Diocese Centenary BIG DAY OUT

Family Fun || Hog Roast || Open Air Worship

Celebrating 100 years of Blackburn Diocese with a party in Blackpool!

Saturday 16 May

All welcome - free of charge

Find out more:





MATHLETICS

SPRING TERM

Children scoring the most 1000+ points

Rec – **Reggie and Ava**

Y1 – **Evelyn, Isabella, Edward, Max, Theo**

Y2 – **Joshua, Thomas, Neve, Harry, Jack, Tom**

Y3 – **Elissa, Charlotte, Xander, Daniel, Oliver**

Y4 – **Brooklyn and Aiden**

Y5 – **Oliver, Jack, Seth, Samuel, Will, Brook**

Y6 – **Savannah, Thomas, Mia-Rose, Adam**

Each of our winners will receive a chocolate egg!



Sarah Hall's

COLOURING COMPETITION



WINNERS

Reception (Mrs Aspinall): **Umayma M**

Year 1 (Miss Threlfall): **Arthur B**

Year 2 (Mrs Coupe): **Phoebe H**

Year 3 (Miss Reeve): **Eliza G**

Year 4 (Mrs Parsons): **Hugo H**

Year 5 (Mrs Todd): **Elise T**

Year 6 (Mrs Knight): **Evie G-P**

Sarah has bought an Easter Egg for each of our winners. These were

The Great Preston Fairtrade Egg Hunt Is Back!



Back for a third year.

Come and join our great Fairtrade Egg hunt and win some Fairtrade chocolate.

- There are 12 knitted eggs located at different businesses in the city centre – all businesses that support Fairtrade. A knitted egg will be on display at each of these – either visible from outside in the window or inside in the counter area. Each egg will display a letter.
- Print off the map/entry form or collect one from the Harris Library or from one of the following: Lush, Holland & Barrett, Body Shop, Central Methodists, Oxfam, Waterstones.
- Write the letter found at each location on your entry form.
- When you have found all the letters, use them to find the hidden phrase.
- Finally leave your completed form at the Harris Library or in Central Methodists letter box and wait to hear if you have won some tasty Fairtrade chocolate.

You can do this any time between Saturday 28th March and Saturday 11th April. Have a Happy Fairtrade Easter!

Fairtrade is about better prices, working conditions and fair terms of trade for the people who grow the products we love (coffee, tea, cocoa, bananas). It also ensures high environmental standards – all guaranteed by the Fairtrade Mark. Fairtrade products exploit neither the environment nor the people who produce them and buying them has a direct impact on the lives and well being of producers and their communities. www.fairtrade.org.uk

Fairtrade Preston, fairpreston@gmail.com,

07813 870641



PTFA- EASTER BINGO

We raised an amazing £707.81 at last night's Easter Bingo!

Thank you to our wonderful PTFA for not only running the evening but for the work and preparation done behind the scenes to put events like this on.

Thank you also to the school staff who were able to support this event.

Thank you to all our families who were able to attend the evening last night.

And, a special thank you, to our now seasoned Bingo Caller, Mr Galbraith!

SAFEGUARDING

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YouTube

This online safety guide focuses on YouTube. It highlights a number of risks such as connecting with strangers, inappropriate content and high visibility.

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in.

As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities. In our guide, you'll find tips on avoiding potential risks such as connecting with strangers, inappropriate content and high visibility.

In Association with Vault Preston PARISH COUNCIL INVITE YOU

GAMES NIGHT
8-14 years old

COME OUT AND PLAY THE GAMES YOU KNOW AND LOVE!
LEARN NEW GAMES!
BRING YOUR FRIENDS!
MEET NEW PEOPLE!
GAMES PROVIDED!

VILLAGE HALL
FROM 5:00- 8:00 PM
MARCH 27

At The National College, our WakeUp/Wednesday 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. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted', leaving the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18. But children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.
- CONNECT WITH STRANGERS**
YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'autoplay' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.
- RADICALISATION**
YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be true for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally find their way onto the platform. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.
- CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS**
YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.
- TRENDS AND CHALLENGES**
YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm. One of the most popular is the 'ice bucket challenge', where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – in just one of many examples.
- SNEAKY SCAMMERS**
The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have someone who's trying to scam, attempting to lure users into clicking on the links and profiles. Scammers impersonate YouTube users by adopting the names and profile images of often other cash givers or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- APPLY RESTRICTED MODE**
For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from recommending, uploading and sharing content that is deemed to be harmful or inappropriate. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.
- TRY GOOGLE FAMILY**
Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, channels, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.
- MONITOR ENGAGEMENT**
YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of whom are children. Children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!
- CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS**
It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content with the Google Kids app. YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by 'preschool' (4 and under), 'younger' (ages 5 to 9) and 'older' (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for parental supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.
- CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS**
YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'listed' – as they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example, comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.
- LIMIT SPENDING**
Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases for things like premium and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consenting a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert
Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

WakeUp Wednesday
The National College

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2024/25 Diary dates– Summer Term

APRIL

- Mon 13th: School OPEN
- Tues 14th: Year 4 Bikeability
- Thurs 23rd: St George's Day: Non-uniform (wear a red/white item)
- Mon 27th: Extra-curricular clubs start

MAY

- Mon 4th: BANK HOLIDAY
- Mon 11th – Thurs 14th: Year 6 SATs week
- Thurs 14th: Life Education
- Fri 15th: Life Education
- Tues 19th: Pentecost (Sun 24th May) 9:30am School Pentecost Service at St Michael's Church– families welcome
- Tues 19th: School Closes– 3:25pm**

JUNE

- Mon 1st: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)– 2– week window starts/ Year 6: Bikeability
- Tues 2nd: Class photos/ Year 6 Bikeability
- Weds 3rd: Year 6 Bikeability
- Thurs 4th: Year 6 Bikeability
- Mon 8th: Phonics screening check week
- Tues 9th: 6pm Reception 2026/27 New Starter Evening
- Friday 26th: Sports Day races– whole school

JULY

- Weds 1st: Year 5/6 Inter-school athletics competition: 1–4pm
- Fri 3rd: Clubs finish
- Tues 7th: Year 5/6 dress rehearsal 2pm
- Weds 8th: Year 5/6 pm performance 2pm
- Thurs 9th: Year 5/6 evening performance 6pm
- Mon 13th: Reception & KS1 end of year worship 9:30am
- Tues 14th: KS2 end of year worship 9:30am
- Thurs 16th: Year 6 leavers' assembly– 2pm/ Year 6 Franco's Restaurant– 5:30pm