

Newsletter

Inspiring, believing
and achieving in our
loving Christian
community



Date: **Friday 6th March 2026**

Issue: **#22**

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

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the children who have been chosen to receive our Christian Value award this week.

Reception (Mrs Aspinall) – **Kyra L**

Year 1 (Miss Threlfall) – **Ben R**

Year 2 (Mrs Coupe)– **Livie S**

Year 3 (Mr Johns)– **Esther H**

Year 4 (Mrs Parsons)– **Hugo H**

Year 5 (Mrs Todd)– **Elise T**

Year 6 (Mrs Knight)– **Harvey G**

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

(Week beginning 23rd February 2026)

SCHOOL MINIMUM TARGET: 96.4%

WHOLE SCHOOL: 97.8%

Reception: 97.7%

Year 1: 96%

Year 2: 97.6%

Year 3: 99.7%

Year 4: 95.6%

Year 5: 98.7%

Year 6: 99.4%

This Sunday

JIGSAW CLUB
For the children of St Michael's, Grimsargh.

	When?	
2 nd and 4 th Sunday of each month!		
What?	Children aged 3-11	Who?
Fun games, music and activities.		
St Michael's Church and then the Jigsaw Club hut!		
Where?		
Everyone Welcome!	Optional speaking in Church!	A great way to make new friends!

Jesus Is Great Special And Wonderful

Diary Dates

SCIENCE WEEK

MONDAY 9TH MARCH

3pm Whole School Worship

TUESDAY 10TH

3pm Hymn Practice

9:30am Gymnastics competition-
year 3&4

10am NATIONAL SCIENCE QUIZ- Miss
Reeve to lead our team

1pm Courageous Advocacy-
reception & year 5 pupils

WEDNESDAY 11TH

3pm Key Stage Worship

Educational Visit- year 1@ Brockhole
and Beatrix Potter museum

THURSDAY 12TH

3pm Key Stage Worship

3:30pm Tag Rugby fixtures (4pm/
4:20pm/ 4:40pm)

FRIDAY 13TH




2:45pm Celebration Assembly




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WORSHIP this week...




GOD IS FAITHFUL

Week 2 Lent 2026
Acts- Sharing the Good News of Jesus

Do you know what happened after Jesus ascended into heaven?

<https://www.bible.com/verses/13/Acts/2/28-31>



Bishop Philip explained

https://www.bible.com/verses/13/Acts/2/28-31

Talk about a time you've shared good news with others. After Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples got busy sharing the good news about Jesus at every opportunity. They were sent into the world to share the good news of Jesus, through the **Holy Spirit**. Philip was so excited to share the good news that he chased down a chariot!

Why does Jesus do this?

Bishop Philip explained that the good news Philip shares is explained in the passage from the Bible that he reads to the Ethiopian about a lamb dying for the people from the book of Isaiah.

Because Jesus died on our behalf and rose again, Christians believe that they are free, free from sin, free from death, free to be the people God wants us to be, free to use our gifts to make this world a better place, free to love and to be loved and free forever.

What does this mean for Christians?


We can share this news through the lives we live, share our faith and use our God given talents so that everyone can learn the good news of Jesus.

Dear God

Thank you for all the times we have good news to share.

Today as we remember Philip, please give us the same excitement. May we always be ready to share the stories of Jesus and tell people how much you love them.

Amen



Easter Egg Design Competition

Get Creative!

Prizes for everyone that enters and a main prize for winner of each year group!



Let your light shine and celebrate the joy of Easter

Your design should represent the true meaning of Easter, use pens, crayons, paint or collage. Entries will be displayed in St Michael's church for friends and family to see over Easter.

Hand your design into school by the **27th of March** (Last day of term) please include your name and year group on the back of your entry.

Message from our friends at St Michael's Church, Grimsargh




We're excited to launch the Easter Design Competition, inviting all pupils to create artwork that reflects the true meaning of Easter.

Entries will be displayed in St Michael's Church for families to enjoy over the Easter break.

Please see the attached documents for full details, including the design proforma and submission information.

Vast Love

Who has been on an aeroplane?
Who has seen the clouds from above?
How would you describe them?



When David writes about God's love in the psalms he says it reaches to the skies.


HAVE A CHAT WITH THE PERSON NEXT TO YOU ABOUT SOME GOOD WAYS TO DESCRIBE GOD'S LOVE.



How does this compare with your favourite food, game or place?


God's love goes on forever. Psalm 136:1
Jesus tells us to remain in his love. John 15:9
David tries to explain how big God's love is. Psalm 108:4

Listen to this song and join in: God's love is big
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/zs-aCwMAMc>



Let's Pray

Thank you, God, that your love is so big it reaches to the skies.
Thank you that nothing can stop you from loving me.
Your love goes on and on and on.
Amen.



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TAG RUGBY

Last Thursday, we took a team of eleven year 6 children to represent our school in three tag rugby matches.

These are league matches and this season we are in Division 3.

We played our first game against St. Teresa's and were convincing winners with the final score 6-2. Next, we played against St.

Augustine's and another strong performance saw us win, 5-2. Our final game was against Deepdale Primary. They started the better side and were ahead 3-0 at the break. We had a better second half and put some scores on the board but were unable to turn the game and lost 6-3.

An excellent start to our campaign full of energy, endeavour and a great team spirit.

Well done to: Evie G-P, Olivia H, Lily H, Tilly M, Savannah A-R, Rory B, Thomas G, Zak J, Miles C, Ben W, Harry E

British Science Week

9-13th March 2026

We will be celebrating British Science week in school next week with a range of exciting activities throughout the week, including a real focus on women in science.

Monday – Horrible Science BBC live lesson and Science ambassador assembly

Tuesday – Science championships

Wednesday – Class visits from people working in fields of Science

Thursday – A visit from Oakhill veterinary clinic

Friday – Science activities in class

We are looking forward to an exciting week of all things Science!

PTEA

Non-Uniform Day – 20th March

On Friday 20th March, the children are invited to come to school in their own clothes in exchange for the donation of an Easter Egg for Easter Bingo.

(Excluding jewellery, high heels, football boots with studs and nail polish!)



SWIMMING GALA

On Wednesday, our swimming team competed in the annual Preston Schools' Swimming Gala, held at West View Leisure Centre. Our team competed in Division 1, the top division, against Broughton, St Andrew's, Our Lady and St Edward's, Barton St Lawrence and St Peter's.

The competition includes individual heat races, with the top 3 swimmers, competing in a final, and two relay races – front crawl relay and a medley relay.

Some of our individual swimmers made it through to the finals, with some excellent individual performances, particularly in the boy's front crawl and backstroke, resulting in 2 gold medals for Rory B: in the girl's front crawl, resulting in a gold medal for Savannah A-R: and in the boy's backstroke, resulting in a bronze medal for George H.

We finished in 2nd place in our first season in Division 1 – a fantastic achievement. Our swimmers were a credit to our school, performing with competitiveness but also great sportsmanship. Thank you to our parents for transporting our team and for their support during the gala.

Well done to: Rory B, Sam H, Elijah H, Henry B, Savannah A-R, Mia-Rose P and Matilda B.



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Holi 2026 Date: March 4,
The Festival of Colors



MATHLETICS

Scores for: 23.2.26—1.3.26

Children scoring 1000+ points:

1 st place: year 5	14 children
2 nd place: year 3	11 children
3 rd place: year 2	8 children
3 rd place: year 6	8 children
4 th place: reception	7 children
5 th place: year 4	6 children
6 th place: year 1	5 children

BOOK FAIR

18th, 19th, 20th March after school



WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day was a fantastic celebration in our school this year, marked by our very own Book Café, which each class visited throughout the day. Children enjoyed cosy reading sessions, engaging book-themed activities, biscuits and plenty of opportunities to share stories with friends.

We were delighted to welcome parents and grandparents into the café—thank you so much for joining us and making the day even more special. A big thank-you also goes to our amazing 'Secret Readers', whose surprise stories added excitement and wonder to the event. It was a joyful day full of imagination, creativity, and a shared love of books!

Thank you to Mrs Knight and all the staff that made this possible— it was lovely to hear the buzz amongst the children throughout the day.



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MAD SCIENCE

We were joined by Crazy Claire for a Mad Science Assembly on Wednesday morning.

We took part in lots of crazy experiments including a magic egg trick using heat and air pressure, testing if liquids are an acid or alkaline using red cabbage, plasma balls and we even got to see what happens when we use super absorbent polymer gels and fire! 🧪🔥

What a brilliant way to get us ready for Science week starting next week!



PARENT/ CARER EVENINGS

It was lovely to see and be able to chat with so many of you this week, during our parent and carer meetings. There was a lovely atmosphere in the hall and lots of positivity being shared by class teachers. Thank you to our Pupil Leadership Team (Rory B, Charlotte B, Shaan S, Elijah H and Mia-Rose P) for signing you all in.

PARENT GUIDES

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 cover wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](#).

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

- 1 VALUE ALL READING**
When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Not down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.
- 2 WIDEN THE SELECTION**
Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.
- 3 GIFT A BOOK**
One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting books that have value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.
- 4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS**
Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as [Authorly](#) and [Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live](#).
- 5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE**
Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.
- 6 TALK BOOKS**
There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.
- 7 RECOMMENDATIONS**
As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.
- 8 GO DIGITAL**
With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like [Polyana](#) and apps like [Bookreads](#) for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.
- 9 RECONNECT**
There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go all in' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.
- 10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Show why you enjoy it. It is to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained. When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert
Carl Pattison is a literacy adviser and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, the also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.03.2025

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators: Creative Ways to Encourage Reading

With reading for pleasure in decline, this practical guide offers ten thoughtful ways to reignite children's enthusiasm for books. From valuing all forms of reading to broadening access to diverse materials, it explores how adults can nurture positive reading habits both at home and in school. Digital tools, audiobooks and augmented reality are also considered as engaging ways to support today's readers.

It also highlights the power of social connection – recommending books, reading together and meeting authors – alongside the importance of modelling reading ourselves. With expert insight from literacy specialist Carl Pattison, this edition provides supportive, achievable ideas to help young people reconnect with reading and see it as a meaningful part of everyday life.