



Christian Value - Our Christian Value this half term is Courage.

Dear Parents,

This week we have welcomed Mrs Broadley back to school following her maternity leave. Mrs Broadley has returned on a part time basis and will be sharing the teaching duties alongside Miss Wallis in Year 1—we are lucky to have 2 excellent teachers working together.

Well done to all those children in Year 3 and Year 4 who represented the school in the Cathedral Singing performance on Tuesday evening. I understand it was a lovely concert and lots of parents have commented on how much they enjoyed the evening. One parent has written, *"It was so lovely. The children sang beautifully and really enjoyed it."*

Another parent has contacted us this week regarding the concert and the Mother's Day event we recently organised. They have said, *"The extra special things offered to us as parents do not go unnoticed."* We thank you for this positive feedback— it's good to hear!

Finally—I am sure you would all join me in sending our very best wishes to Mr Tunstall who is due to be married tomorrow. We are praying for sunshine for you both. Have a wonderful wedding day Mr & Mrs Tunstall (to be)

Have a great Easter holiday and thank you for your support throughout the Spring Term. I look forward to seeing you all at the usual time on Tuesday 22nd April when school re-opens.

Mrs Thomson

Headteacher

Changes to Snack Policy

As you will know we are moving towards becoming an accredited Healthy School. As part of this the School Council consulted with their classes and staff to discuss our current snack policy. They suggested moving from a four day healthy snack, with one 'treat' day to healthy snacks five days a week. This will be applied as soon as we return from the Easter holiday.

The children suggested a very simple snack list to avoid any confusion. This is:

- Crackers, breadsticks, rice cakes (not chocolate covered)
- Cheese
- Fruit - fresh or dried
- Yoghurt
- Raisins and yoghurt covered raisins.

Please avoid pain au chocolates, chocolate pancakes, cereal bars etc.

Children bringing in snacks that are not from the list will be asked to place them in their trays to take home and offered a swap of fruit.

We thank you for your support.

Easter Bonnet Parade

Well done to the winners of our Easter Bonnets today:

Nursery: Charlotte

Year 2: Penny

Year 5: Cole

Reception: Ernie

Year 3: Harley

Year 6: Henry

Year 1: Thomas

Year 4: Henry

Year 6 Runner Up: Evan

FAIRTRADE

On Friday, during our Mother's Day celebrations, we held our Fairtrade Market. As part of our international learning, the children looked at Fairtrade products and what the importance of getting a fair price for what they produce.

They then created items to sell, looking at prices and cost to create a small profit margin while getting a fair price for the product. The market was a huge success and we made an overall profit of £126 which will go back to the children via the purchase of new resources for them.

Thank you all very much for your support and generosity. We really appreciate all your help.



Book of Knowsley

Since September, the children in year 5 have been working with Heart of Glass to create a book about Knowsley from a child's viewpoint. Last week we took part in the book launch. All the class contributed to the book and put forward lots of ideas and descriptions about Cronton. We had three pupils who took the roles of editors to help the artist complete the book. We also had visits from the artist who created the book. Becky Darlington, who used to be a previous pupil at Cronton CE, and her partner Andy Field put together all the information from around 8 different schools in Knowsley. Today, we had another exciting day with one of our pupils, being interviewed by radio Merseyside about the project. The whole experience has been amazing. If you would like to hear the broadcast it was on The Tony Snell show at 10.20am today Thursday 3rd April.

To find out more information and a chance to download the book please go to <https://www.heartofglass.org.uk/projects-and-events/projects/the-book-of-knowsley>



Y6 Tuition Class

The Y6 afterschool tuition will not take place on the first week we return it will return on

ParentPay

Can all parents check their ParentPay accounts and ensure all payment items are up to date.

Thanks

Y6 Performance

Due to the High School Transition day being on Tuesday 8th July, we have had to move the 2pm Performance to Thursday 10th July at 2pm.

Healthy Schools Swap Station- Parent Letter

Cronton CE are excited to be launching our new healthy schools swap station!

Recently we have made some changes to our school menus to make the meals more nutritious. This is part of a whole school approach to making sure that whilst in school our children are provided with healthy and nutritious foods which helps them with their learning and growth. For those who prefer packed lunches we would also like to support healthy choices. And supports our school's policy/guidance on healthy eating.

The swap station aims to encourage and educate pupils on eating well and trying new foods. A range of healthy snacks will be displayed in the swap station during the lunchtime period. Pupils can choose to swap an item such as crisps or chocolate for a healthier alternative.

The items that the pupils have swapped will be sent back home with them at the end of the day.

The swap station aims to:

- Support healthy habits that last a lifetime
- Reduce amount of high fat, sugar and salt pupils consume across the week. This will improve concentration and energy levels throughout the day.
- Contribute to pupils reaching their 5-a-day of fruit and vegetables.
- Encourage pupils to try new foods- great if your child is a picky eater!

We hope to have our whole school community on board with our swap station as we promote healthy eating habits for all our pupils.

We are aiming to start this on Monday 28th April.



Ninja / Accelerated Readers

Our Ninja Readers have really been doing really well. This scheme is always extremely successful and hopefully we will beat the scores of previous years.

Each time your child reads at home please ensure you sign their book. Once they have read 25 times they will get their first colour 'belt' - White. When they have read another 25 times (and all signed for) they will get their next colour "belt" - Yellow. Each time they read for another 25 times they will achieve their next colour 'Belt', all the way through the colours up to black and then move onto Dans. But please make sure your child's book is signed by an adult or their reading will not count towards their certificate.

Well done to all our Ninja Readers this weeks:

Yellow Belt Winners:

Year 5 - Ellie-Rae, Jude K

Orange Belt Winners:

Year 2—Mateusz

Year 3 - Roisin, Violet

Year 4 - Jack

Red Belt Winners:

Year 2 - Genevieve

Year 5 - Thomas

Green Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Alica

Year 2 - Hugh

Year 2 - Eloise H, Noah

Year 4 - Ellie

Year 5 - Dollie

Blue Belt Winners:

Year 2 - James

Year 3 - Amelia

Year 4 - Eibhleann, Finley

Purple Belt Winners:

Year 2 - Evie

Year 3 - Bella

Year 4 - Sadie

Brown Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Rosabella

Year 3 - Kennedy, Dora

Year 5 - Sammy

Dates for your Diary / Upcoming Events

Please note these are subject to change or may be added to so please check these dates every week!

April 2025

- Tuesday 22nd - **School opens at normal time**
Wednesday 23rd - St George's Day
- Y3 Trip to Chester
- **NO** Y6 Tuition
Thursday 24th - Rec trip to Norton Priory
Friday 25th - Café Worship
- Non - Uniform Day for PTFA Bingo - Fine is Bottles
Wednesday 30th - Y5 Llandudno Residential

May 2025

- Friday 2nd - Non - Uniform Day for PTFA Bingo - Fine is Chocolates/Gift Sets
Monday 5th - Bank Holiday - School Closed
Tuesday 6th - Y3 Swimming Starts (Tuesday - Friday)
Monday 12th - Y6 SATS week
Tuesday 13th - Y3 Swimming Week 2 (Tuesday - Friday)
Friday 16th - Quidditch
Tuesday 20th - School Class Photos
Wednesday 21st - Y2 BTales - Parents welcome @ 2:45pm.
- Y6 Robinwood Residential.
Friday 23rd - **Finish for Half-term @ normal time**

June 2025

- Monday 9th - **School opens at normal time**
Tuesday 10th - Y1 BTales - Parents welcome @ 2:45pm
Wednesday 11th - Y6 leavers service
Tuesday 17th - Sports Day
Wednesday 18th - Reserve Sports Day
Friday 20th - Y4 Trip to Knowsley Safari Park

July 2025

- Tuesday 1st - Big Sing @ Liverpool Cathedral Y2 & Y5
Wednesday 9th - Y6 + Choir Production @ 2pm & 5:30pm
Thursday 10th - Y6 Production @ 2pm
Friday 11th - PTFA Colour Run 3:30pm - 6pm
Friday 18th - BEST Awards
Wednesday 23rd - Leavers Service @ 9:15am



Our Celebration Winners Today -



Well done to all our children who have worked and tried very hard this week.

CLASS	Winners and Reasons
Year 6	Julia Having an exceptional attitude to ALL areas of school life. Phoebe Being 'on it' every day - you are making brilliant progress! Freddie Great work with angles this week and for being such a joy all of the time.
Year 5	Harry For excellent DT work on cams Rosa For excellent Spanish work all term in speaking and writing Nyla For excellent Spanish work all term in speaking and writing
Year 4	The Whole Class - Showing great preparation and cooking skills when making pizzas and being very sensible.
Year 3	Dora For being a wonderful role model in class and being a joy to teach. Eloise H For creating an exceptional return narrative about Jemmy Button. Amelia For exceptional problem-solving skills in Maths when looking at ml and l.
Year 2	Eliza For working hard on her handwriting and presentation and trying her best. Thea For working hard on her handwriting and presentation and trying her best. Ralph For having a consistent great attitude to all his independent work in all lessons!
Year 1	Vincent For being resilient when writing his character report in English. Ayana For always being a kind friend and looking after others. Emilia T For always being ready to learn and having a 'can do' attitude.
Reception	Louie For fantastic independent maths work. Lulu For always listening carefully and trying her best in her learning. Ayda For setting a good example to everyone around her.

Church News

The children had an amazing Experience Easter day on Wednesday, and were joined for some parents for Cafe worship at the end of the day.

There is no service at Cronton this Sunday - we have a TEAM SERVICE at St Lukes at 10:30. Next Sunday 14th April is our joint service at Cronton Methodist Chapel for Palm Sunday. Meet at the Mission at 10:30.

JAM CLUB will meet at Cronton on Good Friday at 10am - all welcome

7th April - 21st April.

FREE JUNIOR SWIMMING

From Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April, swimming across all Volair clubs will be free to children aged under 16 during public swimming times.



Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by a responsible adult on a ratio of no more than 1 adult to 2 children.
Adult swimming £5.80.

Musical Mondays

St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic Academy,

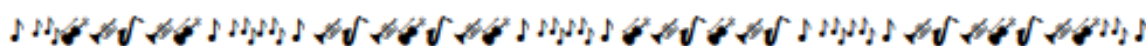
Cumber Lane, Whiston, L35 2XG

Free to attend Instrumental groups with free loan of instrument to take home!

Tutti

For beginners aged 8 and over on any instrument

Mondays 4:00pm – 5:00pm during school term time



Forte

For Orchestral Instruments Grade 1 standard and above

Mondays 5:30pm – 7:00pm during school term time



To register your interest or for more information, please contact Phil Nicholas by email phil.nicholas@knowsley.gov.uk or telephone 07815 722291





Online Safety Newsletter

April 2025

Screentime

Screentime is classed as any time spent in front of a screen, so it includes everything from watching tv to completing homework on a laptop. Whilst there is no recommended screentime (except for under two, which is zero), it is important that we find a balance.

Screentime can obviously be beneficial, both for educational and entertainment purposes, however it is important to be aware of the risks, such as:

- Eye strain.
- Disrupted sleep.
- Less time for other activities and being outdoors.
- Affects our attention span.

Further information

Childnet discuss what is screentime and how much screen time is enough in this useful article:

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/screen-time-boundaries-parents/>



Social Media Concerns

Most social media apps have a minimum age rating of 13+. Whilst there are benefits, this article discusses some of the potential risks of using social media.



Risks of Social Media

- **Inappropriate content** – social media may expose children to content that is not appropriate for their age, including sexually explicit content or content that promotes harmful behaviours such as self-harm.
- **Cyberbullying** – this can take many forms, including sending nasty or hurtful messages, leaving unkind comments, sharing photographs of somebody else without their permission or impersonating somebody with a fake account.
- **Excessive Screentime/Addiction** – too much time online can affect mental health and disrupt sleep patterns.
- **Contact from strangers** – there is a risk of stranger contact, which can lead to an increased risk of grooming.
- **Challenges** - children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse what they see online. Whilst some challenges are fun and provide no risk, there will be challenges online that are risky/dangerous.
- **Sharing too much information** – children may share personal information e.g. their phone number, school name or inappropriate photos of themselves.
- **Algorithms** – algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms to keep us engaged on the platform. This can lead to 'echo chambers' where users are only seeing content that relates to their opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint. It can also lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.

How can I help make it a safer environment?

- Check the age rating of each app and restrict access until they reach that age.
- Set up age-appropriate parental controls, for example set content restrictions and screen time limits.
- Chat to your child about what they are doing online, including who they are following and interacting with online.
- Restrict devices in their bedrooms.
- Show your child how to use any reporting and blocking tools.

Further information

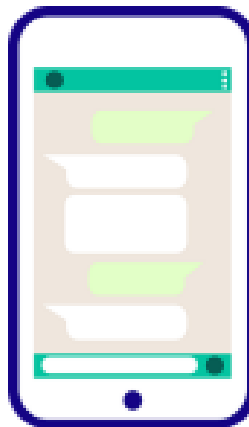
You can find out more from the following:

- <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/social-media-smarts.html>
- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/social-media/#Talkingaboutcyberbullying>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.04.25. 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.

Group Chats

Is your child part of any group chats? This could be on social media, for example on WhatsApp or within games such as Fortnite. If so, it is important that you are aware of the potential risks, which include:



- **Inappropriate content** – there is often a lack of moderation within chat facilities so users could be exposed to content/language that is not suitable for their age.
- **Bullying** – there are many instances where inappropriate/hurtful comments are shared within groups, this could take the form of name calling or body shaming. Bullying can also be in the form of excluding others from the group. These issues often overspill into 'real life'.
- **Strangers** – your child could be added to groups with people they do not know or even with someone that they have previously blocked.
- **Conversations can be shared/screen shot** – make sure your child is aware that anything they share within a group can be shared with others outside the group.
- **Sharing personal information** – remind your child to be aware of the information they share with others including images and location.

How can I help make group chats safer?

- Check the recommended age rating and adhere to them. If we all did this, peer pressure would be reduced.
- Set up age-appropriate parental controls and set screen time limits.
- Show your child how to use any reporting and blocking tools.

What else can I do?

- It is crucial to have regular conversations with your child about the risks outlined above and about what they are doing online.
- Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be perceived by others. Talk about positivity and not saying anything hurtful. Ask them to think about whether they would say what they are messaging, face to face.
- Devices should be used in family rooms so you can monitor what they are doing and who they are interacting with.
- Finally, make sure to model good digital behaviour yourself, as children often learn by observing the adults around them.

Further information

Childnet have created a Group Chat Guide for parents following consultation with the Childnet Youth Advisory Board and Digital Champions: <https://www.childnet.com/resources/cheat-sheet-group-chats/>

Did you know some Emojis have a double meaning?

For those that have watched Adolescence, you will know children and young people may be using emojis to mean something completely different. For example, the kidney bean emoji may be used to identify as an incel. It is important that you are aware of how emojis can be used and keep up to date with the way in which they can be used as their meanings are changeable. You can find out further information here:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/emoji-slang-guide/>

Vodafone: The Rise of the Aggro-rithm

Vodafone released a short video last year, titled 'The Rise of the Aggro-rithm'. It highlights the harmful algorithms targeting young boys. It's certainly worth a watch as well as learning about the terrifying statistics accompanying it:

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/newscentre/press-release/si-aggro-rithms/>

3 things to consider before giving your child a smartphone

Wayne Denner has published a blog discussing the three things that parents wished they had considered before giving their child a phone. You can read the article here:

<https://www.waynedenner.com/3-things-parents-wish-they-had-considered-before-giving-their-teen-a-smartphone/>

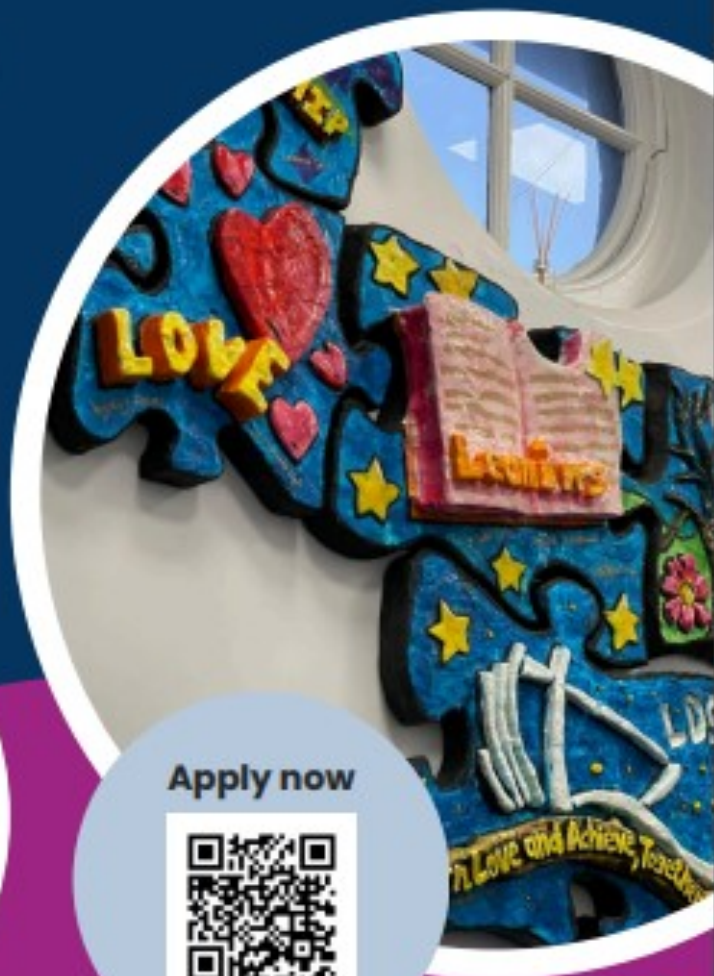
Train to teach

Start your journey as a primary school teacher by training with LDST.



WHAT WE CAN OFFER:

- A one-year programme
- Learning on the job
- Expert mentors
- Research-led training



Apply now



DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE LIFE CHANCES FOR PUPILS?

Join us and train to teach.

For information about the programme and LDST visit:

www.ldst.org.uk

Local teacher training.

Local lives changed.



**Take the first step on
your teaching
journey with LDST.**

**Join our one-year training and give children in your community
the chance to thrive.**

- Make a difference in your community
 - You'll train in a school near you and make an impact where you live.
 - Get hands-on experience in the classroom
 - You'll work as a teaching member of staff in a local school right from the start.
 - Receive high-quality training
 - You'll benefit from Teach First's teacher training - rated outstanding by Ofsted - delivered by local teacher development experts.
 - Access support from experienced teachers
 - You'll shadow other teachers before leading your own lessons with guidance from experienced colleagues.
 - Qualify in one year and start earning
 - You'll graduate with qualified teacher status (QTS) and a postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE).
-