



Christian Value - Our Christian Value this half term is Courage

Dear Parents,

It has been an exciting first week back after half term with some signs of Spring on the way!!! Thank you to the Friends of Cronton for the wonderful pancake flipping afternoon—I know all the children really enjoyed themselves. Thank you also for the world book day costume sale—I know this will be available next week for anyone who wishes to buy a costume for their child and raise funds for school at the same time.

Staffing update.

On the last day of the half term we said good bye to Mrs Felton our office manager after 25 years of dedicated service to our school. We thank Mrs Felton for all that she did for our school and we wish her well in her retirement.

Mrs Rachel Clare will be replacing Mrs Felton as school business manager working on a part time basis. We welcome Mrs Clare to our Cronton family. Mrs Aldridge will continue to work in our office and will be available to support parents with queries and questions.

We have informed our Year 1 parents this week that Mrs Broadley will be returning from MAT leave on Monday 31st March. She will be returning on a part time basis working Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning. Miss Wallis will continue to teach Year 1 on Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. They will have time together each Wednesday to plan and ensure a smooth transition in teaching and learning for the class. We look forward to Mrs Broadley's return and the continued expertise of Miss Wallis in Year 1.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Thomson

Headteacher

Special World Book Day Lunch

On Thursday 6th March we will be having our £1 Special Lunch for World Book Day. The only option for dinner will be:

Main: Grilled Chicken Burger / Vegetarian Burger on a bun, Smiley faces and Beans.

Dessert: Paddington's Sandwich Cake

If your child does not wish to have the above option, a packed lunch will need to be provided.

If you have prebooked your meals in advance, this will need to be rebooked as ParentPay has been updated to reflect the Special Lunch day.

PTFA

Thank you to all the children for taking part in the pancake flipping contest on Thursday afternoon, what a lot of fun we had. Well done to the Yellow team who were the overall winners on the day all receiving a bag of sweets to take home this evening.

The winner of the most flips per year group and the winner of a Chocolate egg were:

Reception: Amelia

Year 1: Rosabella

Year 2: Rosie

Year 3: Noah

Year 4: Sadie, Max

Year 5: Dylan

Year 6: Sienna

We will be collecting all sponsor money over the next few days if this can be handed in to Class /School Office that would be great.

Tuesday 4th March

On Tuesday we will be selling Crepes on the school playground for 50p in celebration of Pancake Day!

Thursday 6th March

Our Next PTFA meeting is taking place at school at 4:30pm. Why not come along and help prepare for the Easter event.

World Book Day

Not long now until World book Day!

On the Day: Thursday 6th March

- Come dressed as your favourite character or
- Come in the colours of the country you are having a story from:

Nursery - Africa

Reception - Tanzania

Year 1 - India

Year 2 - Australia

Year 3 - North America

Year 4 - African Tales

Year 5 - Spain

Year 6 - South America

Llandudno 2025

ParentPay is open for parents to make weekly or monthly instalments for the Y5 Llandudno trip. The total cost is £260 so if you have only paid the deposit that leaves a balance of £220. **Full payment is needed by Friday 14th March 2025.**

Girls Football



It was a good end to the girls football season, staying undefeated in our final round of fixtures, winning 2 with 1 draw. Leading to a 7th place finish in our league.

Well done to all the Year 5 and 6 girls who represented the school this year.

Robinwood 2025

ParentPay is open for parents to make weekly or monthly instalments for our Robinwood trip. The total cost is £425 so if you have only paid the deposit that leaves a balance of £375. **All balances must be paid by Friday 4th April 2025.**

30 Hour Nursery Provision

Parent in receipt of 30 hour Nursery Provision need to reconfirm their eligibility every three months. If your details have not changed you only need to tick a box on your childcare service account to confirm this. If you don't reconfirm you may lose your 30-hour childcare provision.

Lunch Time Leaders

This weeks Lunch-time leaders are:

Reception - Una

Year 1 - Thomas

Year 2 — Hugh

Year 3 - Sia

Year 4 - Phoebe

Year 5 - Ava

Year 6 - Evan

Each of the above children have been chosen by the Mid-day supervisors based on behaviour and manners in the lunch hall and get to be in the front of the dinner queue for next week.

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!

March 2025

- Tuesday 4th - PTFA Crepe Sale Afterschool
- Thursday 6th - World Book Day
- PTFA Meeting @ 4:30pm
- Monday 10th - Book Fair
- Tuesday 11th - Y3 B Tales - Parents welcome @ 2:30pm
- Monday 17th - St Patricks Day (Green Team)
- Friday 21st - Singing Show
- Wednesday 26th - Spring Concert 6pm - 7pm - Choir and Y4 Violins
- Friday 28th - Mothers Day Coffee Morning
- Y4 Trip to Catalyst

April 2025

- Friday 4th - Easter Bonnets
- Friday 4th - **Finish as normal for Half-term**
- Tuesday 22nd - **School opens at normal time**
- Wednesday 23rd - St George's Day
- Y3 Trip to Chester
- Thursday 24th - Rec trip to Norton Priory
- Friday 25th - Café Worship
- Wednesday 30th - Y5 Llandudno Residential

May 2025

- 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 @ 2:30pm.
- Y6 Robinwood Residential.

Could you be eligible for free school meals and extra support in the February and Easter 2025 holidays?

If you receive certain benefits, your child or children may be eligible for free school meals. This provides nutritious lunch options to support your child's learning and well-being, and until Easter 2025, they also entitle you to vouchers worth £15 for each child, each week of the following school holidays: Christmas 2024, February half-term and Easter 2025*.

Who is eligible:

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits:

Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (wages below £616.67 a month)

Income Support

Income-based Jobseekers Allowance

An income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Child Tax Credit with an annual income of £16,190 or less (but not if you are in work and receive Working Tax Credit)

The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

How to apply

Check the list above and if you are eligible, visit the Council's website and use the Parent Portal to apply for free school meals.

[Apply here](#)

Is your child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2?

Children in these years receive 'Universal Free School Meals'. You do not need to apply for this, every child will automatically receive a free school lunch. However if you meet the criteria above for free school meals and apply, your child's school will also receive extra money (known as the Pupil Premium) which can help pay for extra resources and support for pupils.

Extra support

Visit the benefits calculator on the Turn2Us webpage to check your benefit entitlement

Visit the Council's Household Support Fund page to find details of organisations who can help if you are struggling with the cost of food or essentials

Visit the Council's Benefits page to find details of benefits and entitlements you could receive including Council Tax Reduction

*£15 per child per week supermarket vouchers are available to and including Easter 2025 for each child who is in receipt of free school meals.



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	Florence For having an amazing attitude to all areas of school life. Henry For showing great determination in our assessments this week. Nathan For being a positive role model in our school - amazing!
Year 5	Isla B For being a supportive partner and for her amazing handwriting Sammy For always having an excellent learning attitude Rosa For being careful and accurate in her amazing Viking art
Year 4	Gabriella Showing curiosity towards our new WCSR book Anglo Saxon Boy. Eibhleann Improved confidence and participation in class. Adalyn Showing enthusiasm in DT when learning about pizza.
Year 3	Roisin For having a positive attitude in Maths lessons and being a responsive learner. Beau For creating an outstanding acrostic poem about Palm Sunday. Harley For creating a beautiful poem to Mother Nature.
Year 2	Evie-Rose For working hard on her writing and remembering her finger spaces. Isabelle For writing a great independent recount of our trip to Blue Planet Aquarium. Paul For great participation in our discussions and being an active learner.
Year 1	Toby For fantastic subtraction work in maths Emily For writing great sentences about the setting of our class text. Phoebe For being a kind friend and always helping others.
Reception	Ernie For super effort in writing. Ayda For amazing listening and concentration in Worship. Finley For awesome creativity in our outdoor area.

Changes to the Law on School Attendance -

Please read carefully if you are planning to book term time holidays in 2024/25

The Government have introduced new laws regarding attendance from August 19th 2024.

The main changes are:

ALL term time holidays will be unauthorised, including holidays which involve a circumstance such as a wedding abroad, trip to see family etc.

In a 10 school week period, pupils who have more than 10 sessions unauthorised (a session is a morning or afternoon) may be fined, whether the absences are 5 days together or single days taken over a ten week period.

An increase in the amount of the penalty notice (fine) from £60 to £80 (if paid within 21 days) and £120 to £160 (if paid within 28 days) for the first penalty notice issued. This is fine is per parent per child. It is not per day but per period of absence (10 sessions+)

Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within 3 years of the date the first penalty notice, will be £160 to be paid within 28 days. No discount is offered.

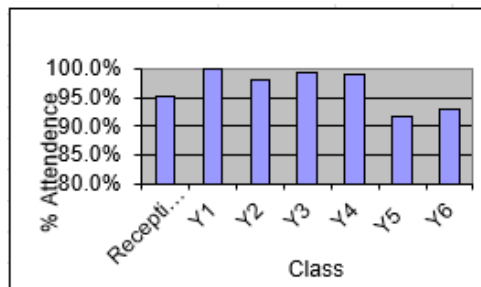
Any further absences will result in prosecution in the Magistrate Court for the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of the first penalty was issued.

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

Attendance and Punctuality

Every week we will publish a chart of individual class attendance. The class with the highest attendance over the half term receives a reward. The winners for week ending 14.02.2025 were: 1st place - Year 1 with **100%**, 2nd place - **Year 3** with **99.2%**, 3rd place - **Year 4** with **99%**.



As you can see from the graph above, the last week of terms school attendance was **96%**.

Please try to ensure your child is in school as much as is possible, unless of course they are ill. A reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school you must ring school (using Option 1) as early as possible on the first morning they are absent, and this must be followed up with an absence form available from our website explaining the absence on their return to school. **Holidays in term time will not be authorised.**

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:

Orange Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Rae, Thomas, CJ

Year 5 - Thomas

Year 6 - Evan

Red Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Alice

Year 2 - Rosie, Max, Thea, Theo

Year 5 - Finlay

Green Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Luca, Emilia, Charlotte

Year 2 - Penelope, Evie

Blue Belt Winners:

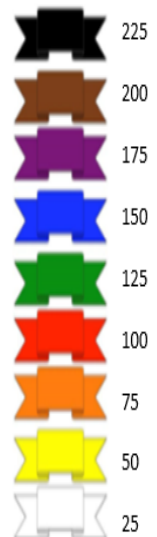
Year 5 - Dylan

Year 6 - Darcey, Henry

Purple Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Freya S, Parker

Year 2 - Jessica, Eliza





JUNIOR BAKE OFF



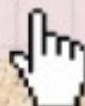
JOIN THE CLASS OF 2025!

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

**... IS LOOKING FOR BRILLIANT BAKERS, AGES
9-15 FOR THE NEXT NEW AND EXCITING
SERIES!**

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 23RD MARCH**

[APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](https://www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk)





The impact of smartphones



There is a growing concern on how excessive use of smartphones can affect our children.

In addition to the effects of seeing inappropriate content online, the risk of cyberbullying and grooming, it is important that we also highlight the effects of smartphone use on our children's mental health.

If your child is using a smartphone then please try to ensure they maintain a healthy screentime limit.

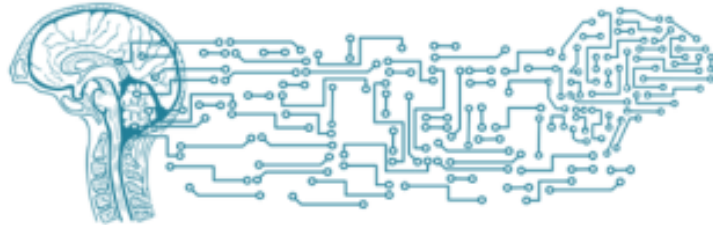
According to King's College London, "two new studies of smartphone habits in teenagers have identified links between problematic smartphone use and depression, anxiety and insomnia." You can read more about these studies here:

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/teens-with-problematic-smartphone-use-are-twice-as-likely-to-have-anxiety-and-many-are-eager-to-cut-down>

Compass have published an article as well on what effects mobile phones have on children here:

<https://www.compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

Artificial Intelligence (AI)



What is AI?

AI is when a computer/machine can learn and perform tasks like a human. Its popularity continues to increase, and examples include:

- **Virtual assistants** like Alexa and Siri.
- **Chatbots** such as ChatGPT and My AI from Snapchat

Potential Risks of AI?

- **Chat apps** - A simple search of "AI Chat" within the App store highlights the number of apps already available and just scrolling through, you can see that they are not suitable for children with many rated as 17+.
- **Image manipulation** – there are AI tools that can be used to digitally remove clothes from photos, which clearly raises serious safeguarding and privacy concerns.
- **Deepfakes** – there are also AI tools that create realistic, fake videos which can be used to spread misinformation or cause harm.

Child Rescue Coalition discuss the dangers in more detail here:

<https://childrescuecoalition.org/educations/the-dark-side-of-ai-risks-to-children/>

How can I protect my child?

As always, to keep your child safe online, it is important to:

- Develop your child's digital literacy by highlighting the risks of AI and showing them how important it is to verify what they see online.
- Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/ broadband.
- Chat to your child regularly and ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

For further information, the NSPCC and Internet Matters provide useful guides on their websites:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2025/artificial-intelligence-safety-tips-for-parents>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/parent-guide-to-artificial-intelligence-ai-tools/>

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TikTok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. Some of the videos may not be appropriate for your child to view and there is also the risk of strangers contacting your child. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security/privacy settings are applied.



Account set up

It is important that when setting up an account, your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored by age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private and we would recommend keeping it as this. This means your child must approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and restricted mode here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/privacy-and-safety-settings-for-users-under-age-18>

Family Pairing

This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode. You can find out more here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>

Inappropriate content, themes and challenges on TikTok

Whilst against TikTok's guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. Some of the songs available to lip sync to may contain inappropriate lyrics or adult themes. We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be dangerous. If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing.

Stranger contact

Talk to your child about who is following them online and ensure that they understand that people may not be who they say they are when online. It is important that children understand not to share personal information.

Refresh your feed

You can refresh your "For You" feed to update the content recommended: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/refresh-your-for-you-feed>

Blocking and Reporting

Ensure your child knows how to use the safety features available to them, including how to report comments, direct messages and another user.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>
- <https://safeguarding.thekeysupport.com/factsheets-and-briefings/child-safety-tiktok-parent-factsheet/>

Talk PANTS with the NSPCC

Talk PANTS was developed to help you have conversations with your child to help them understand that their body belongs to them.

You can find out more here as well as a further link to helpful questions:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

LEGO Arcade

Are you looking for games for your child to play online? LEGO have a selection of fun games including Lego Ninjago and Lego Friends:

<https://kids.lego.com/en-gb/arcade>

Stars Messenger App

The Stars Messenger App is rated as 4+ on the App store. It is a free messaging and video app designed for children to use. Users need their friend's username as well as their unique private Friend Code to add each other. There is also an optional Parent View available for a monthly charge.

South West Grid for Learning provide a full guide to staying safe on this app as well as safety considerations:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/a-guide-to-staying-safe-with-the-stars-messaging-app/>



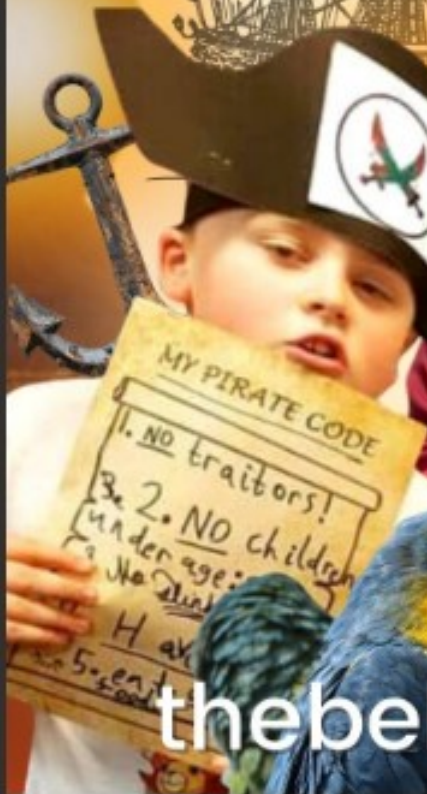
DO YOU KNOW
AN AMAZING YOUNG
PERSON AGED 7-17
YEARS?

Believe Awards

We are on the
look out for
Merseyside's
hidden treasure

for the 2025
Believe Awards.

Nominate an
inspirational
Young Person



thebelieveawards.co.uk

Children and young people can be nominated by anyone.
E.g. Teachers, youth workers, parents, neighbours or by other children.

HIDDEN TREASURES

The Believe Awards are open to nominations of young people aged 7-17 living in Merseyside. Our theme this year, 'Hidden Treasures' will celebrate remarkable young people who have made a difference in their community. Nominees are shortlisted to 10 young winners who will be invited, along with their families, to a spectacular event at the beautiful Titanic Hotel Liverpool on Friday 4th July, for an evening of food, entertainment, recognition and celebration.

All nominations must be received online by 25th May 2025



Diamond Award

Ruby Award



Sapphire Award

Pearl Award



Hidden Gem Award

Emerald Award

Crown Jewel Award

Silver Lining Award

Golden Anchor Award

Treasure Chest Award



**Believe
Awards**



Nominate online:

www.thebelieveawards.co.uk

thebelieveawards@ykids.co.uk ☎ 0151 944 2111



CAMPS 2025 INFORMATION

EASTER CAMPS

WEEK 1: 7th - 11th April (5 day week)

Alderley Edge School for Girls, SK9 7QE

Lancaster University Chaplaincy, LA1 4YW

St Pius X Catholic Prep School, Preston, PR2 8RD

DONT
FORGET TO
BRING YOUR
PACKED
LUNCH!

WEEK 2: 14th - 17th April (4 day week)

AKS Prep School, Lytham, FY8 1DT

The King's School, Chester, CH4 7QL

Eccleston Lane Ends School, Prescot, L34 2QN

FULLY INSURED
HIGHLY TRAINED
DBS CHECKED
PRESENTERS

TAX FREE
CHILDCARE &
CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED!

NEW VENUES THIS EASTER!



8.30am - 5pm each day

Suitable for all primary school children

£180 for 4 days | £225 for 5 days

(This early bird price until 23rd March)

BOOK ONLINE NOW!!

at northengland.madscience.org

Call 01772 628844 Email office@madsciencenw.com

