



Christian Value - Our Christian Value this half term is Creativity

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the parents who came to our Parent's Evenings this week. I hope you found them helpful and informative.

Last Friday, we held our New Year Service at St Luke's Church with our Reception and Year 5. This was a truly lovely service and it was also great to see the parents join us to share in this very special service, thank you for coming along. Thank you also for all the really positive comments.

The Friends of Cronton did a wonderful job organising our school disco this week. It was a lovely event and gave the children opportunity to "let their hair down" and have a good dance. Thanks you to all the Parent who supported this and well done to all the children. I was delighted with your fabulous dancing and wonderful behaviour. I was a super proud headteacher!!!

Have a lovely half-term.

Mrs Thomson

Headteacher

SEND Parents Consultation Day

Mrs King (SENDCO) will be holding SEND Consultations on Tuesday 25th February and Thursday 27th February between 1:30pm - 5:pm.

Consultation afternoons are for any parent who wishes to discuss their child's special educational needs and or disabilities. If your child does not have SEND but this is something you are concerned about, you are invited to make an appointment.

These appointments can be either face to face or by telephone, whichever is more convenient for you.

Please send an email to the SEND email address cronton.send@ldst.org.uk to arrange an appointment with Mrs King.

Lockdown Practise

As part of our Health and Safety, we will be carrying out a ' Lockdown' practise after the Half term break.

We will be speaking to the children before the practice in an age-appropriate way. This practice is mandatory in line with our Health & Safety Policy.

We are informing parents of our plan in case the children speak to you about it.

FREE Junior Swimming at all Volair clubs this February Half-Term

Thanks to funding from Knowsley Council's Public Health team, junior swimming across Kirkby, Stockbridge Village, Huyton and Halewood Volair clubs will be free to children aged under 16 during public swimming times from Monday, February 17th until Sunday, February 23rd.

Check our opening times and Volair Public Swim Timetables on our website or download our FREE mobile app. Just search 'Volair' on Google or visit the AppStore. Adult swimming costs £5.80 per session. For more information about our half term offer go to our website.

Volair Kirkby's SEN FREE Swim

If your child struggles in group settings, we are limiting the number of participants for the SEN FREE Junior Session @Volair Kirkby to 30 to help create a more relaxed and manageable space for everyone, giving all children access to a fun, safe, and comfortable environment.

- Does your child require one-to-one assistance to move in the water? Parental supervision is required.
- Does your child have any restrictions or limitations in or under the water? Parental supervision is required.
- Does your child require medication during the session? Parental supervision is required.

The SEN FREE Junior Session offer will run on Sunday, February 16th and February 23rd, from 5 pm - 6 pm. Please view our swimming pool admissions policies before visiting.



Church News

This Sunday is CAFE WORSHIP at Cronton starting at 10.30.

Next Sunday is HOLY COMMUNION at Cronton also at 10.30.

The next Cafe Worship in school is the first Friday back....28th February at 2.30pm

Please come and join us.

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.

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

World Book Day Costumes

On Thursday 27th February, PTFA are holding a world book day costume stall. A stall will be set up afterschool and you can come and pay £1 and choose an outfit for World Book Day.

If you have any old costumes you wish to donate, please do so from Monday 24th February.

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.**

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.**

Bluebirds Spring Term 1

Just a few photographs from this half term...



More fun to come in Spring 2!

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!

February 2025

- Monday 24th - **School Open at normal time.**
- Thursday 27th - PTFA Pancake flip out
- PTFA World Book Day Swop Shop @ 3:20pm
- Friday 28th - St Davids Day (Yellow Team)
- Café Worship @ 2:30pm

March 2025

- Tuesday 4th - PTFA Crepe Sale Afterschool
- Thursday 6th - World Book Day
- 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	Oscar Jake Julia	For great independent writing. Lovely use of sentence openers! For fantastic independent writing using lots of Y6 language features. For Amazing creative writing - so detailed. Well done!
Year 5	Phoebe Ethan Isla T	For having an excellent half term -well done For having an excellent learning attitude in all subjects this term For being focused and showing resilience in maths
Year 4	Isaac Finley Lucas Henry	For excellent progress with handwriting and presentation For improved teamwork and being able to compromise For going above and beyond to complete your maths. For beautiful presentation and handwriting
Year 3	Penelope Ruben James	For fantastic ideas and sentences when writing a setting description. For using fantastic vocabulary in his writing. For being a responsive learner and giving 100% effort
Year 2	Whole Class For the most amazing behaviour and interest in learning on the class trip to the Blue Planet Aquarium	
Year 1	Freya Connor Maeve	For great focusing on remembering finger spaces. For writing a great letter in English. For fantastic effort when doubling numbers in maths.
Reception	Laith Charlotte Etienne	For excellent maths work on odd and even numbers. For always being helpful. For amazing creativity!

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.

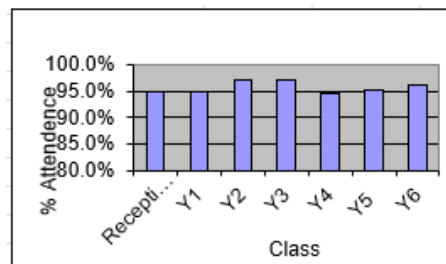
Any further absences will result in prosecution in the Magistrate Court for the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of the first penalty was issued.

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 07.02.2025 were: 1st place - Year 2 + 3 with **97%**, 2nd place - **Year 6** with **96.1%**, 3rd place - **Year 5** with **95.3%**.



As you can see from the graph above, the last week of terms school attendance was **95.3%**.

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:

White Belt Winners:

Year 3 - Darcie

Yellow Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Jamie

Year 4 - Isabelle

Year 5 - Rosa, Nyla

Orange Belt Winners:

Year 4 - Larissa

Year 5 - Aarthanaa, Finley

Year 6 - Frankie

Red Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Alba

Year 2 - Hugh, Milo

Year 3 - Jack C, Penelope, Ethan, Kennedy

Year 4 - Harriett

Green Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Vinnie, Ayana

Year 2 - Brodie H, Elodie

Year 3 - Eloise D, Kennedy

Year 4 - Finley

Year 5 - Dylan

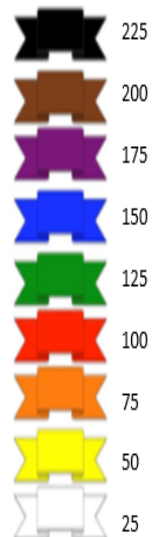
Blue Belt Winners:

Year 1 - Rosabella

Year 2 - Eleanor

Year 3 - Kennedy, Autumn

Year 5 - Jude M





Messaging others

There are many ways in which our children can communicate online, for example via messaging apps, social media apps and online games such as FIFA and Fortnite. We need to understand how and who our children are communicating with to keep them safe online.

Ensure your child knows to talk to a trusted adult should they need to. However, remind them that it is not appropriate to contact teachers online, they should only use official school communication methods.

What are the risks?

- Bullying and inappropriate chat.
- Contact from strangers.
- Sharing personal information including images.
- Sextortion - this is a form of extortion where somebody threatens to share a nude/sexual image of you.

How can I mitigate the risks?

- Ensure your child is accessing age-appropriate apps/games and that appropriate parental controls are set up.
- Chat to your child about the risks so they are aware of what can happen online.
- Depending on the age of your child, it may be more appropriate for devices to be used in family rooms so you can monitor what they are doing.

Further information

- <https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/Concerned-about-your-child/Online-contact-and-staying-safe/>
- <https://www.brightcanary.io/what-to-do-when-your-child-sends-inappropriate-texts/>

Squid Game – rated 15+

Season 2 of Netflix's Squid Game is now available and has been **rated 15** by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). You can find out why Squid Game has been rated 15 by visiting the BBFC: <https://www.bbfc.co.uk/release/squid-game-g29sbgvidglvbipwwc01mzm3ndg>.

Due to its popularity, Squid Game related content can be found on numerous other platforms such as YouTube, TikTok and Roblox, so your child may come across this show without even viewing it on Netflix. Content may range from trailers of the show or content that other people create such as memes and games.

What can I do?

- **Parental Controls** - Set up appropriate parental controls on your broadband, devices and on individual apps to reduce access to content that is not appropriate for their age.
- **Talk** - Chat to your child about age ratings and why this means certain programmes are not suitable for them to watch.
- **Individual Profiles** - Set up child profiles on any streaming services to ensure your child is only viewing content appropriate to them.
- **Reporting** - Make sure your child knows how to report and block on all platforms that they use.
- **Explore** - Watch and explore things online together so you can see what your child is doing and how to support them.

More information:

It is important to talk to your child regularly about what they are watching and ensure that they know they should always tell you or another trusted adult if they do see anything upsetting. You can find out more about the type of inappropriate content your child might come across online here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/inappropriate-content/learn-about-it/>

Should children have mobile phones?

The Children's Society explore this important question in their recent blog titled "Should children have mobile phones?" The article discusses concerns such as excessive screentime being linked with mental health issues as well as the benefits of a child friendly phone rather than a smart phone. You can read the full article here:

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/should-children-have-mobile-phones>

Snapchat

What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. **You must be 13+ to sign up.** Users can send messages (snaps) to others that are only seen for a set time e.g., 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.



Key Concerns

There are potential risks to using Snapchat, including:

- the risk of your child viewing content that is not appropriate for their age.
- location sharing (via Snap Map) (this can be switched off).
- cyberbullying.
- contact from strangers.
- excessive screen time.

Family Centre features

Snapchat's Family Centre is a set of parental controls and includes tools such as allowing you to:

- see who your child is friends with.
- see who your child has sent messages (not the contents of conversations though), photos or videos to in the last week.
- view a list of group members for groups that your child has been active in.
- restrict content to limit access.
- report any accounts that you are concerned about.

You can learn more about Family Centre here:

<https://parents.snapchat.com/parental-controls?lang=en-GB>

Safety tips

Please make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up on Snapchat, including who can see their location and also ensure your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary:

- <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/7012343074580-How-do-I-change-my-privacy-settings-on-Snapchat>

More information

For more detailed advice and information:

- <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/the-risks-snapchat-poses-to-children>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/snapchat/>

Do you need help managing your child's device?

You can use Google Family Link or Apple Family Sharing to help you depending on your child's device.

Google Family Link

This is a free parental control app from Google that lets you:

- View activity reports showing how long they spend on each app.
- Approve or block new app downloads.
- Set screen time limits.
- Find their location.

You will need to download an app and then decide appropriate settings.

<https://families.google/familylink/>

Apple Family Sharing

You can set up Family Sharing in the settings of your device. Family Sharing allows you to:

- Share Apple subscriptions and purchases from the App Store.
- Approve what children purchase/download.
- Limit screen time.
- Share locations and find devices.

<https://www.apple.com/uk/family-sharing/>

Monitoring Apps (paid for)

In addition, there are apps that you can pay for that you may find provides a better solution for you. Whilst we cannot recommend/endorse a specific product, these are some examples that you could review and test using a free trial:

- Norton Family: <https://uk.norton.com/products/norton-family>
- Qustodio: <https://www.qustodio.com/en/>
- Family Time: <https://familytime.io/>



PRESENTS



PURPLE GECKO STUDIO
OPEN DAY &
EASTER MARKETS



PERFORMANCES - WORKSHOPS -
EASTER MARKET STALLS

Sunday 13th April 10-4pm
42-44 Victoria road Widnes



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