



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

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all our parents who came along to our Reception Welcome Service that was held last Sunday. It was a lovely service where our Year 5 Gardeners introduced their Reception Seedlings to our church family. I was very proud of both classes. Thank you to Claire Liptrott who led the service. Just a reminder that Claire leads Café Worship on the last Friday of each month in school from 2:30pm. This is a chance for you to meet with other families and children in school to worship together. Please come along and join in the fun with your child.

Please find information at the end of the Newsletter regarding collecting items/shoeboxes for children in Ukraine. Mr Tunstall has a partnership with a school in Chernihiv, Northern Ukraine, and his Dad will be taking over any items collected in November.

On Thursday it was "World Mental Health Awareness Day." During worship, we talked about ways to keep our minds healthy and the children took part in activities in class. This is an important part of our Personal development curriculum.

Have a good weekend,

Mrs Thomson

Headteacher

Parents Evening

Parents evening will take place on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd October from 3:30pm with the last appointment being at 6:20pm.

We ask where possible parents attend these meetings **without your child**.

Due to issues with the app, Mrs Aldridge will be booking in the appointments manually. Please contact the office to make your appointment.

Individual Photographs

Our school photographer will be in school on Monday 4th November for individual and family photographs.

If you have younger or older children not in our school but would like them to be included in a family photo we have arranged for the photographer to start early, so parents can come into school from 8:15am.

If you have more than one child and they all attend our school or nursery, the photographer will take a family photo as well as individual photos for parents / carers to choose from but this will be done during the school day - **there is no need to arrive early for this.**

If you do not wish your child to have a photo taken please notify your child's class teacher beforehand.

Building Work WC 21st October

We will be having some building work taking place week commencing 21st October at the front of school so there will be a few changes for this week regarding afterschool pick up.

To drop off / pick up at Nursery in the morning and afterschool, please walk around the school and enter through the back as the shutters will be down for the week.

Nursery lunch time pick up and drop off, this will be at the School Office for the week.

Year 1 pick up will be from the Cloakroom door opposite the Nursery Door.

Year 2 pick up will be from the back door of school (where the children enter in the morning).

All other classes will remain as they are.

Multi - Skills

Multi-Skills will return on Wednesday 16th October.

Reception and Secondary School Admissions

September 2025

The application period for 2025 entry to Reception Class in Primary Schools and Year 7 of Secondary Schools is now open.

To apply for a place for your child, Parents / Carers must complete the application form from the council in which the child lives regardless of which school they wish to apply to.

All applications are now made on-line.

For Knowsley residents at www.knowsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions

For Halton residents at www.halton.gov.uk/schooladmissions

· **Knowsley Residents** - If you live in the borough of Knowsley you must only complete a Knowsley application form. You must apply online at www.knowsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Parents need to list the schools they wish to be considered for in order of preference.

· **Halton & other Borough Residents** - If you live in Halton or any other Borough you must apply online to your home Borough Council website. For Halton residents this is www.halton.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Parents need to list the schools they wish to be considered for in order of preference. If you wish to apply for your child to be considered for a place in our school please name our school in your list of preferences.

Secondary Admission - The closing date for applications is **Thursday 31st October 2024**.

Reception Admission - The closing date for applications is **Wednesday 15th January 2025**

National Child Measurement Programme

The information below explains what happens on the day Knowsley come and do the Child Measurement and why they do it and what the results mean.

The direct link to the video is https://youtu.be/CY_FxtJsZrA?si=r8P6ZCIqUErrEHZg but it also accessible via this Knowsley News article National Child Measurement Programme - your questions answered - <https://www.knowsleynews.co.uk/national-child-measurement-programme-your-questions-answered/>

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!

October

- Tuesday 15th - Y5 Swimming Begins (Tuesday - Friday)
- Monday 21st - Parents Evening 3:30 - 6:30pm
- Tuesday 22nd - Y6 B Tales
- Parents Evening 3:45 - 6:30pm
- Y5 2nd week of Swimming (Tuesday - Friday)
- Wednesday 23rd - Y3 trip to Tatton Park
- Friday 25th - Y6 Trip to Imperial War Museum
- CAFE Worship @ 2:30pm
- **Finish for Half-term at normal time.**

November

- Monday 4th - Back to school
- Individual School Photo day
- Flu Vaccinations
- Wednesday 6th - Year 6 SATS meeting @ 5pm
- Sunday 10th - Remembrance Sunday
- Monday 11th - Anti-bullying week
- Tuesday 12th - Odd Sock Day
- Wednesday 13th - Open Evening 5 - 7pm
- Y1 Trip to Liverpool Museum
- Tuesday 26th - Y4 B Tales
- Friday 29th - St Andrews Day (Blue Team)

December

- Sunday 8th - KS1 Nativity (Y1 + Y2)
- Wednesday 11th - EYFS Christmas Production
- Thursday 12th - Christingle (Reception + Y5)
- Monday 16th - Nursery Christmas Party (PM)
- Tuesday 17th - Rec + KS1 Christmas Party (PM)
- Wednesday 18th - KS2 Christmas Party (PM)
- Thursday 19th - Talent Show
- School Disco (PM) More details to follow.
- Friday 20th - Breakfast with Santa
- **Finish for Christmas @ 2pm**

Church News

Sunday is a service of Morning prayer at Cronton starting at 10.30.

All welcome.

Lunch Time Leaders

This weeks Lunch-time leaders are:

Reception - Ayda

Year 1 - Freya

Year 2 - Arthur

Year 3 - Violet

Year 4 - Harriett

Year 5 - Ellie-Rae

Year 6 - Sienna

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.

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:

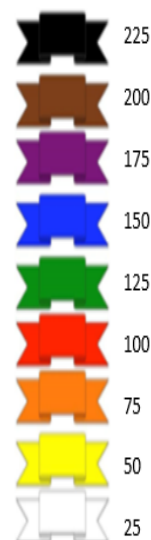
Year 1 - Alice, Vincent, Emilia, Charlotte, Ayana

Year 2 - James, Lowenna, Hugh, Jessica, Brodie H, Evie, Felix, Genevieve, Paul

Year 3 - Eloise D, Sia, Amelia, Isabella-Rose, Penelope

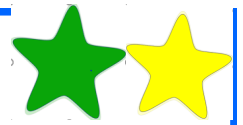
Year 4 - Phoebe, Violet

Year 6 - Madison





Our Celebration Winners Today -

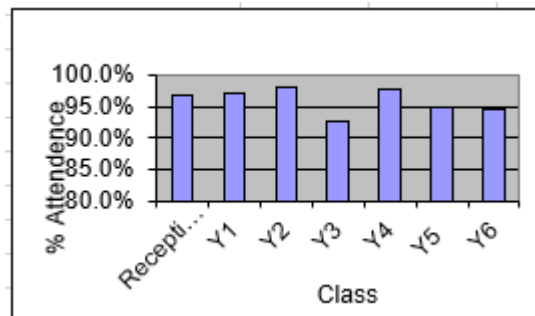


Well done to all our children who have worked and tried very hard this week.

CLASS	Winners and Reasons
Year 6	
Year 5	
Year 4	Harry For improved focus and having a fantastic attitude to learning. Isaac Showing enthusiasm when planning to write a newspaper report on a rare sea creature. Luca Always being respectful and kind towards others.
Year 3	Autumn For being a responsive learner and trying extra hard this week! Jack C For outstanding Maths work when crossing over the 10 and 100. Sia For using creative vocabulary and ideas in your 'threat' narrative.
Year 2	Eleanor For writing a great circular story about a voyage down a river. Genevieve For always giving her best in every lesson, every day and being a great role model. Ralph For working really hard in every lesson all week.
Year 1	Connor For writing sentences containing the conjunction 'and' 'independently.' Luca For always having a 'can do' attitude and putting 100% effort into all of his work. Arabella For being resilient in maths and being a superstar with part-whole models.
Reception	Madison For being really thoughtful during our class discussion about World Mental Health Day. Ernie For putting lots of thought and effort into your learning. Lulu For some fantastic learning about pattern in Maths.

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 04/10/2024 were: 1st place - **Year 2** with **98%**, 2nd place - **Year 4** with **97.9%**, 3rd place - **Year 1** with **97.2%**.



As you can see from the graph above, last weeks school attendance (excluding Nursery) 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.

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>

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
2025 - 2026

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Open: Tuesday 2nd September 2025 at 8:50am
Close: Friday 24th October 2025 at 3:15/20pm/30pm 39 Days

HALF TERM

Open: Monday 3rd November 2025 at 8:50am
Close: Friday 19th December 2025 at 2:00pm 35 Days

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

SPRING TERM 2026

Open: Monday 5th January 2026 at 8:50am
Close: Friday 13th February 2026 at 3:15/20pm/30pm 30 Days

HALF TERM

Open: Monday 23rd February 2026 at 8:50am
Close: Friday 27th March 2026 at 3:15/20pm/30pm 25 days

SPRING HOLIDAY

SUMMER TERM 2026

Open: Monday 13th April 2026 at 8:50am
Close: Friday 22nd May 2026 at 3:15/20pm/30pm 29 Days

(May Bank Holiday Monday 4th May 2026)

WHIT HOLIDAY

Open: Monday 8th June 2026 at 8:50am
Close: Tuesday 21st July 2026 at 2:00pm 32 Days

Total: 190 Days

Cronton CofE - Ukraine Appeal – Shoeboxes

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a school seeking to make a difference to our global community, we have chosen to support children in Ukraine this Christmas. We have been paired up with a school in Chernihiv, in Northern Ukraine and will be sending collected items over to the children there. The school is called Chernihiv Collegium No. 11. Mr Tunstall's Dad, Eddie, will be driving over on November 14th. Eddie regularly delivers aid to Ukraine and has been doing so since the conflict broke out. This will be his ninth trip over.

As we have done in the past, we are aiming to fill shoeboxes with items that can provide some hope to children in an ever-toughening situation.

There are two ways that you can support our appeal:

1. Fill a shoebox

You could fill a shoebox as a family. If possible, the shoebox should be wrapped (lid and box separate) and closed with a rubber band. Please then label it to show who the contents are for (e.g. Girl 5-8 years).

If you are struggling to find a shoebox IKEA are selling them for 50p each on their website. Search: **VATTENTRÅG**

2. Donate items to be sorted in school

Items can also be donated separately. Children will be sorting any donated items into boxes in school.

Items that you could fill a shoebox with or donate:

gloves	sensory items	flannels
scarfs	wind-up torch	art supplies
hats	wrapped chocolate	stationery
socks	packeted sweets	small games
small toys	soaps	skipping rope
teddles	toilettries	colouring pads
playing cards	toothbrush/toothpaste	tape measure

Other items that are in need:

nappies
baby formula
baby food
young children's clothing/coats

When should we bring in donations?

We will be collecting shoeboxes and other items after half term and sorting them in school. They will be being picked up on Monday 11th November before being taken to Ukraine on the 14th. Therefore, we would ask that all donations and shoeboxes be **in school during the first week back after the half term break: Monday 4th November to Friday 8th November** at the very latest.

If you feel able, we would love to partner with you in this and be hope givers in those places that need it most.

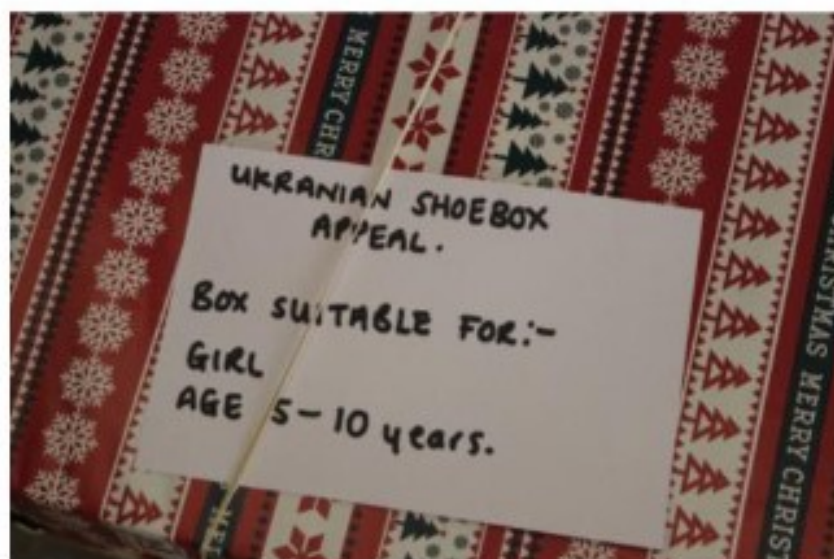
Thank you for your support and if you do have any questions, please feel free to speak to us.

Many thanks.

Mr Tunstall

John 13:34-35

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."





Parents of year 6 Children
**It's time to apply for a secondary school place (year 7)
September 2024 Intake**

Knowsley residents – Apply online by visiting www.knowsley.gov.uk

CLOSING DATE 31ST OCTOBER 2023

- If your child is currently in year 6 of primary school or their date of birth falls on or between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013, now is the time to apply for a year 7 secondary school place for September 2024.
- There is no automatic transfer – everyone must apply between 12 September 2023 and 31 October 2023 by completing the application form of the Local Authority in which you live.
- Knowsley residents should apply by accessing the online application portal via the Knowsley website www.knowsley.gov.uk.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure they have read the admission policy of each school they are considering applying for and provided all the information required to support their application – this may include completing a supplementary information form with some individual schools where requested.
- For full information about the application and allocation process and admission policies for individual schools, visit the school admission pages at www.knowsley.gov.uk and access the 'Knowsley, Secondary Admission Composite Prospectus'.

For further advice, contact Knowsley School Admissions Team

Email: schooladmissions@knowsley.gov.uk

Tel: (0151) 443 5142 / 5143 / 3372



Parents of pre school children
**It's time to apply for a school reception class place
September 2024 Intake**

Knowsley residents - Apply online by visiting www.knowsley.gov.uk

CLOSING DATE 15TH JANUARY 2024

- If your child's date of birth falls on or between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, now is the time to apply for a reception class place in school for September 2024.
- There is no automatic transfer from nursery – everyone must apply between 12 September 2023 and 15 January 2024 by completing the application form of the Local Authority in which you live.
- Knowsley residents should apply by accessing the online application portal via the Knowsley website www.knowsley.gov.uk .
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure they have read the admission policy of each school they are considering applying for and provided all the information required to support their application – this may include completing a supplementary information form with some individual schools where requested.
- For full information about the application and allocation process and admission policies for individual schools, visit the school admission pages at www.knowsley.gov.uk and access the 'Knowsley Primary Admission Composite Prospectus'.

For further advice, contact Knowsley School Admissions Team

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Knowsley Council



iOS 18 Launch

Apple have recently released their latest operating system, iOS 18. iOS 18 offers lots of new features (some are restricted to newer phones) but one feature that you should be aware of is the ability to now lock and hide apps.

When an app is locked, Face ID, Touch ID or your passcode will be required to open it. This also means that notifications will no longer be shown for that app. Additionally, apps can now be hidden so they can only be accessed through a hidden apps folder that is also locked. This new feature illustrates the need to have regular chats with your child about what they are using their phone for.

Vault (secret) Apps

Have you heard of Vault Apps? They are basically secret apps that are concealed by looking like a normal, less conspicuous app. For example, one of these apps looks and works like a working calculator when opened, but when a passcode is entered, it reveals photographs, videos, documents and contacts. One way to prevent your child from using these apps is to ensure parental controls are set up so you can review all app purchases. You can find out more here:

- <https://www.bark.us/blog/find-hidden-apps/>
- <https://www.safes.so/blogs/vault-apps/>

Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams



What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have:

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

EE launches Age Guidance

EE has launched age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children's digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up.

You can read the full guidance here:

<https://newsroom.ee.co.uk/ee-launches-age-guidance-for-smartphone-usage-in-drive-to-improve-childrens-digital-wellbeing/>

Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then Which? provide an overview of some options available:

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

Instagram: new Teen account features

You must be over 13 years of age to set up an account.

Instagram is used to post photos and videos as well as send direct messages, make voice/video calls and send disappearing messages. Users can also upload to 'Stories' (which disappear after 24 hours), broadcast live and upload reels (short videos).



Teen accounts – NEW feature

Instagram have introduced Teen Accounts to try and create a safer experience for them. With a Teen Account, who they can contact is limited and the content they access will be set to the most restrictive setting to reduce exposure to sensitive content. If a teen would like to override any of these settings, then they will need their parent's permission by setting up parental supervision. These changes will be in place for all new users straightaway so any users that sign up that are under 16 will automatically be given a Teen Account. Existing users will be moved over to Teen Accounts over the next couple of months (in the UK).

Supervision settings – new features

Instagram already offers a supervision facility, but they have added to the features to include:

- The ability to see who your child has messaged in the past week (you will not be able to see the contents of these messages)
- The option to block your child from accessing Instagram at certain times e.g. during school or at night.
- The ability to see what topics your child has chosen to see.

Read the press release from Instagram, which outlines all the upcoming changes: <https://about.fb.com/news/2024/09/instagram-teen-accounts/>

You may not be seeing everything!

Did you know that you can hide your stories and live videos from specific people so your child could be uploading content but restricting your account from viewing it?

Safety Features

Ensure your child knows how to report posts and people, how to unfollow and block people, delete and turn off comments. View here: <https://help.instagram.com/269765046710559>

Make sure your child understands that there is a risk that content they upload can be shared with others without their permission as other users can screenshot it.

More information

- Visit the family centre to learn more about the features available: <https://familycenter.meta.com/uk/>

Learn Through Play with Sesame Street

The Sesame Street website has a whole host of resources, activities, and games from supporting with learning ABCs to discussing tough topics such as grief.

<https://sesameworkshop.org/>

Expert Approved Apps for Learning at Home

On the Google Play Store, you can find a list of expert approved Apps for learning at home suitable for children up to the age of 12.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/category/FAMILY>

Be aware of what you share

Get Safe Online have produced a set of tips to help you avoid oversharing and outlines what the consequences might be if you do:

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/whatdoyoushare/>

Staying safe online with Google Families

Google have a one stop resource to help you and your family stay safe online. It includes how to set up parental controls and important steps on how to keep your children safe online. You can find out more here:

<https://families.google/>