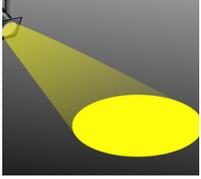




# BALSHAW LANE NEWSLETTER



Spotlight this week on **Keeping Safe Online.**

**Reception:** We read a story about using voice assistance technology and understanding what is real and not real.

**Year 1:** We focussed on how we can use Voice Assistants and how we use them for positive purposes.

**Year 2:** We thought about how using voice assistants could make us feel, eg, playing our favourite song or playing a story that we may find scary.

**Year 3:** We looked at how to tell if information is fake or not and what to do if they are unsure.

**Year 4:** We looked at how AI can be useful and how sometimes it can be used negatively. The children had some good discussions and shared their ideas well.

**Year 5:** We explored the pros and cons for using AI and when this is acceptable and unacceptable. We turned this information into a poster.

**Year 6:** We enjoyed learning about AI and what the positives and negatives are about using it are. We made a leaflet explaining why AI isn't always safe to use.

## Assembly this week...

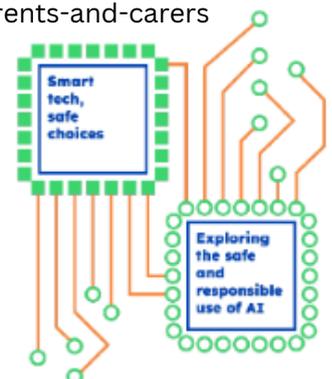


In our assembly on Monday Mr Browne and Miss Baxendale launched our **Children's Mental Health Day**. The theme this year is "This is My Place." During the day the children took part in a number of activities - working in their team groups to explore what our school means to them, they designed a school jumper to express this thought further and everyone took part in a Mental Health dash around school. Many thanks to our wellbeing team for organising the activities for the children.

Tuesday's assembly focused on **Internet Safety Day**. The theme was: Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI. In class the children completed a workshop considering aspects of the theme, year 1 and 2 explored about using voice assistants; year 3 and 4 considered the question okay or not and year 5 and 6 explored the misuses of AI and AI chatbots.

Support for Parents:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

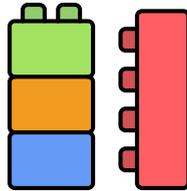


## Messages

Thank you to two of our extremely kind mums who made each child a Worry Worm to take home this week as part of Children's Mental Health week. This was so kind of you both and the children absolutely loved them.

Thank  
you!

Thank you also for the kind donation of two boxes of lego which were donated to school. We are not sure who the generous person is but we really appreciate the donation. Our nurture group and Wrap Around Care are going to benefit so much. Thank you.



## Well-being Week

This week we have focused on:

### Mental Health Awareness Day

#### Connect: One Kind Compliment

**Think:** Can you think of a kind compliment that you can give to someone in our class?

**Do:** When your teacher tells you to, can you say the compliment to someone in the classroom (try and choose someone that you don't typically play with!)



## National Year of Reading

Thank you to the Surprised Readers that have been into school so far. The children have loved it.

A big thank you to Mrs McDonough for organising the book swap which again the children have loved.

## Team Points

This week our team point winners were:  
WIZARDS



## Music appreciation in assembly

Our musical artist for this week was Destiny's Child. We enjoyed listening to "So Good."

destiny's child  
Say My Name



## Wraparound Care

We are excited to start our new Wrap Around Care when we return after half term holidays. All forms should now have been sent into the office. Please note children can not attend unless we have received their paperwork.

#### Staffing:

Wrap Around Care Manager: Mrs Marsden  
WAC Morning Assistant: Mrs Fowler and Mrs Fisher  
WAC Afternoon Assistant: Mr Ripley

All information is now on our website should you require a booking form and information pack.

## Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the all the children who received a Headteacher Award in assembly.

RA Casey  
 RH Archie  
 1A Katie  
 1T Jenson  
 2HP Rae  
 2M Patrick  
 3J Niamh  
 3B Belle-Sofia  
 4W Freddie  
 4G Emilia  
 5B Lily  
 5H Mason  
 6C Aaryan  
 6S Harry



## Attendance and Punctuality

Whole School Attendance for this academic year is: 95.4%. The figures below are for this week.

Well done to RA, RH, 1T, 2HP, 4G and 6C for all being on time this week. THIS IS AMAZNG!

Please ensure all children are in school on time so that valuable learning time has not been lost. We will be sending reminders to children's parents / carers who are repeatedly late.

	<b>R A</b>	<b>R H</b>	<b>1T</b>	<b>1A</b>	<b>2 H P</b>	<b>2 M</b>	<b>3 B</b>	<b>3J</b>	<b>4 G</b>	<b>4 W</b>	<b>5 B</b>	<b>5 H</b>	<b>6 C</b>	<b>6 S</b>
Attendance for last week	98 %	89 %	93 %	94 %	99 %	96 %	94 %	100 %	96 %	98 %	97 %	96 %	93 %	97 %
Punctuality - how many lates?	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	2	0	1	4	2	0	4

### New Gate System

Over the half term break we are having a new security gate system installed. It is designed to keep our children safe.

Visitors will need to buzz into the office and wait to be let into the school grounds; there will be a high placed push button to leave. This will make our school grounds even more secure. Please bear with the office staff whilst we get used to the new system.

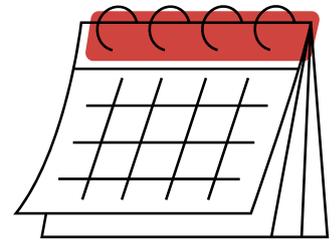
The school gates will be opened as normal on pick up and drop off.

In order to allow parents in for drop off and collection for our Wrap Around care the buzzer system will be in place from 8:30am until 3:15pm.

### New Governors

We are delighted to welcome Mr Warburton onto our Governing Board as our newly elected Parent Governor. We also welcome Mr Platt who is a new coopted governor. We are looking forward to working with both of you and thank you for volunteering your time to help and support us in leading our wonderful school.

## Dates for this term



### FEBRUARY

**TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup>**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>

### MARCH

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>

Week beg 9<sup>th</sup>

Friday 13<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>

Children return to school

Playgroup for children and families 0-4 years old 9:30:10:30am

Y2 trip to Martin Mere

World Book Day - option to wear pjs or World Book Day costume  
Reading Buddies

Biggest Ever Girls Football Event

Y6 visit Parklands to watch a dance show

Science week

Reception stay and play

Opportunity for parents to view children's work 8:40-9:00am

Opportunity for parents to view children's work 8:40-9:00am

Parents' Afternoon/Evening

Y4 assembly 9:15am

PTFA bingo

Parents of children who are attending our Breakfast Club will be able to come into school between 7:30 and 8:15am to view your child's books. We will ask you next half term to let Mrs Marsden know which morning suits you best so that we can ensure the books are ready for you. The books will be on show in the hall.

## PTFA News

Cut-off date for our world book day event (in school hours) : Midnight on Monday 2nd March.

Order for both events here:

<https://balshawlaneptfa.sumupstore.com/products>

Thank you to all that helped run the Silent Disco for our children this week. They had a great time. £1700 was raised which is brilliant!



# Community News

**BEST START IN LIFE**

**LANCASHIRE FAMILY HUBS NETWORK**

## COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

**SPECIAL VISIT WITH THE BREAK TIME SERVICE**

A SPACE FOR CHILDREN WITH SEND TO DEVELOP SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS ALONG WITH BUILDING THEIR CONFIDENCE AND RESILIENCE

JOIN US TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM THE BREAK TIME SERVICE

**DUKE STREET FAMILY HUB**  
DUKE STREET  
CHORLEY  
PR7 3DU

3:30 TO 4:45PM

**25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CHORLEYFAMILYZONE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CHORLEYFAMILYZONE)

Lancashire County Council

**MASSIVE 20FT MINECRAFT INFLATABLE!** **[JAM] CODING**

## FREE HALF TERM COMPUTING HOLIDAY CLUB

Running From 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Each Day!

Join our Half Term Holiday Club for two jam-packed days of awesome activities, the perfect way to make your child's half term break unforgettable while teaching them valuable digital life skills!

From Minecraft coding to multi-sports, this club has something for every child.

**Optional activities include:**

- Dive into **Minecraft & coding** masterclasses
- Get creative with **arts & crafts**
- Bring your ideas to life in **animation creation**
- Burn off energy with **football, dodgeball & multi-sports sessions**
- Move and groove in our **dance sessions**

**VENUE**  
St Gregory's Primary School, Eaves Green Rd, Chorley, PR7 3QG

**DATES**  
**THIS HALF TERM:**  
Running on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026

\*The club is FREE for Pupil Premium families, young carers and children who would benefit from social inclusion during the holidays. Turn the page to book your free place.

## A Fresh Start Revitalise Your Health

Join us for a **gentle** introduction to healthier living, designed to help you feel **supported, confident** and ready to begin your journey to a healthier, happier you. Over 2 mornings at our partner Primary Schools. Inc;

- Breakfast meet-and-greet with the coaches.
- 1 to 1 supportive health assessment.
- Beginner-friendly, tailored physical activity.
- Simple, healthy cooking session.

**FREE**

**St Peters Primary**  
10am Mon. 16<sup>th</sup> & Tue 17<sup>th</sup> February

**Lancaster Lane Primary**  
10am Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> & Thu 19<sup>th</sup> February

Contact us [www.chorleyssp.co.uk](http://www.chorleyssp.co.uk)  
01257 824798

Making it happen in Chorley

## Choose fun at funfest

16th-20th February 2026

7:30am-6:00pm

A menu of 50+ activities

Ofsted Registered

February Half Term 3-12 years

**ST LEONARD'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Walton-le-Dale, Preston, PR5 4JL

**EUXTON PRIMROSE HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Euxton, Chorley, PR7 6BA

Book online at [www.fun-fest.co.uk](http://www.fun-fest.co.uk)

Enquiries to 07392 790727  
waltonledale@funfestholidayclub.co.uk  
chorleyoffice@funfestholidayclub.co.uk

**FREE holiday clubs over February half term for families eligible for HAF.**

**You can find out what's on and how to book here [Holiday Activity and Food \(HAF\) Clubs / Chorley](#)**

**Families will not receive a new code for this week, they can use a previous HAF code they have received. Families need to book directly with providers.**

**CHORLEY FC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SOCCER CAMP**

£21.50 per day  
5 day discount available

**FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2026**

- ✓ 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- ✓ 09:30 - 16:30 Monday - Friday
- ✓ Qualified & DBS checked Coaches
- ✓ All skill levels welcome
- ✓ Boys and Girls aged 5-12 years

- CERTIFICATES AND TROPHIES
- 1 BALL PER CHILD
- GUARANTEED FUN
- MEET AND BE COACHED BY CFC FIRST TEAM PLAYERS AND MANAGER

For more info call 07523 952149



# CHORLEY FLOWER SHOW

## Design a garden for Chorley Flower Show 2026

*Imagine your garden design brought to life this summer at the Chorley Flower Show. Suitable for entrants between 5 and 11 years old, the winner's design will be transformed by our team of expert garden designers into a show garden. The winner and their family will receive four complimentary weekend wristbands for the show and, as an added bonus, the winner's school will also get £100 of gardening vouchers!*

Deadline for entries is Friday 24 April 2026 at midnight.

### To Enter

*Design a 6m x 6m Show Garden to appear at the Chorley Flower Show.*

*As well as the garden design, please also:*

- Describe your garden
- Tell us what the garden is used for
- Label the main plants and features



*We welcome creative entries, and you can choose your own brief.*

*Designs should be on a maximum of A4 size paper. You can use the template on the back to plan your design. Our panel of experts will judge the garden designs and consider how realistic the garden is to recreate.*



*Entries can be submitted to [competitions@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:competitions@chorley.gov.uk) or by posting to:  
Children's Design a Garden Competition, Chorley Flower Show,  
Chorley Town Hall, Market Street, Chorley, PR7 1DP*

*When entering, please include your name, your design, your brief,  
contact details and the school you attend. Good luck!*





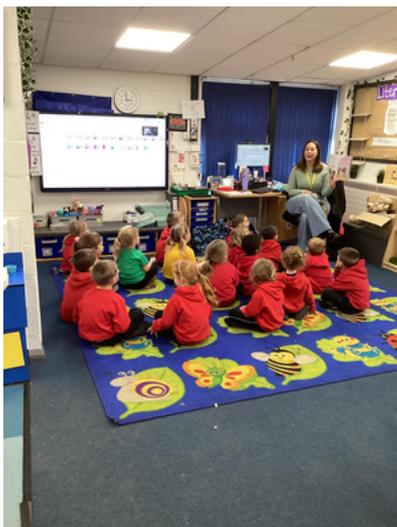


## Selection of photos from this week



Follow us on Facebook.

Please follow the school page as well as the PTFA page.



We hope the children have enjoyed the special activities the staff have planned for Children's Mental Health Day and Safer Internet Day. Thank you for all your support this half term. Have a lovely half term break and we will see all our children return on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Hodgson