



Pupils at Gateway Primary Academy had a virtual chat with author Johnathan Eaves about their plans to help Santa save Christmas

Author Zooms into classrooms

By **Sonja Astbury**
Education Reporter
sonja.astbury@pimedia.co.uk

The fate of Christmas is safe in the imagination of Blackpool's youngsters

Pupils at Gateway Primary Academy have been working with local writer Jonathan Eaves on his story about Silver the Unicorn who helps Santa when he is having a bad day. Because of coronavirus restrictions, the author couldn't visit them personally but zoomed into the classrooms with the help of technology.

He talked through plans to save the day (Christmas) with pupils as they read his book, *The Unicorn Who Saved Christmas*.

It was the daughter of a friend whose

favourite things are Christmas and Unicorns and was illustrated by Masha Rassoshenko. The winning combination has fired the imagination of the primary school youngsters. Jonathan said: "I was very fortunate to be taught to read and write before I even went to school, thanks to my big brother. "It meant I was always reading, devouring one book and moving swiftly onto the next. I believe good literacy is vital, as it is the building block to so many other subjects, and therefore future success."

Blackpool-born Jonathan has made a film explaining to the children about why he

wrote the story and encouraging them to write their own story with his key character.

The winning entry will be illustrated by Massha Rassoshenko

Joseph Walsh, reading coordinator at Gateway Primary Academy said: "We are so grateful to Jonathan for sharing his story and his film with our pupils."

He said pupils were enthused and added: "Reading could not be more valuable in the current climate as it gives us the chance to still embark upon adventures, visit new places and meet new people despite being in lockdown."

2014
year his first book was published

The author

Blackpool-born Jonathan Eaves attended Devonshire Road Primary School and Blackpool Collegiate, where he was taught English Literature by renowned Preston Author Joseph Delaney. Jonathan works as a management development trainer but has always been passionate about writing, both poetry and prose. He is no stranger to the publishing world. His previous book *Rude Awakenings* sold out at local signings. Pupil across the FCAT group are involved in the writing competition

Hi-tech camera help for police officers

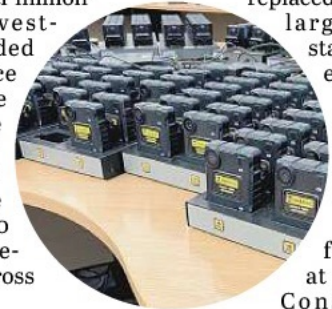
Police officers in Lancashire are getting access to a new fleet of high-tech body cameras.

The multi-million-pound investment, funded by the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, will see more than 2,000 cameras being used across the force.

Body worn video (BWV) technology was first introduced in Lancashire in 2014, with a limited number

of cameras being made available to operational staff.

The latest investment sees these cameras being replaced with a much larger pool of state-of-the-art equipment. Ch Insp Chief Inspector Dave Hannan, who is the lead for Digital Transformation at Lancashire Constabulary, said: "This investment is about giving our officers the best tools we can for the job."



Attempted break-in prompts warning

Residents in Knott End are being warned to make sure their homes are secure after an attempted break-in.

Wyre Police received a report that someone had caused damage to a property trying to gain entry.

PCSO James Monaghan said: "Make sure all windows and doors are locked and keys placed in a safe area. If you have any outbuildings, such as sheds and garages, please also check these and make sure they are secure."

Commissioner backs anti-violence campaign

Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner has once again given his backing to a campaign against domestic violence.

Clive Grunshaw is backing the White Ribbon campaign in the county to end violence against women and girls.

White Ribbon UK was founded in 2005, and is part of a global movement to end male violence against women.

Mr Grunshaw said: "Violence against anyone is unacceptable, but unfortunately statistics show that the ma-

majority of victims of domestic abuse are female suffering at the hands of male abusers.

"This is why this campaign is so important and why, after a year that has forced us all to stay at home more than usual, it is more critical than ever to raise awareness of the issue of

domestic abuse and how to access support.

"I would like to encourage anyone in Lancashire to show their support by wearing a white ribbon and taking the pledge never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women."

THE LOWTHER PAVILION

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

www.lowtherpavilion.co.uk

DON'T JUST DREAM BIG. MAKE IT BIG.

Your new Hong Kong office?

0207 855 7577
sales@jobstoday.co.uk
www.jobstoday.co.uk

No big business started out big. It's all about finding the people you need to take you higher.

Jobs today