

DUKE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

28TH MARCH 2025

HEADLINES



READING PERCENTAGES

ACORN: 100%	↔
ROSE: 40%	↓
TULIP: 58%	↓
ACER: 56%	↑
SPRUCE: 76%	↑
REDWOOD: 62%	↓
MAPLE: 76%	↑
BEECH: 96%	↑
ROWAN: 65%	↓
POPLAR: 79%	↔
SYCAMORE: 67%	↑
CHESTNUT: 71%	↓

Has your class percentage higher or lower from than

Excitement is in the air as we head into the final week of the term with Duke Street's Got Talent – The final, taking place after school on Thursday. A full dress rehearsal will be taking place on Wednesday during the school day. All finalists need to come with any props or costumes they will be wearing. Tickets for the final are still available from Mrs Nicholls in the office for this very popular school event.

Thank you to all the families who took part in the family calculation challenge activity we have been running this week. Class raffles have taken place today and the lucky winners will be coming home with an Easter egg.

It has been lovely to see so many parents attending the reception class assembly, the UKS2 reading café and parent consultations this week. Working in partnership really helps us all get the best from your children. Your attendance at these events is very much appreciated.

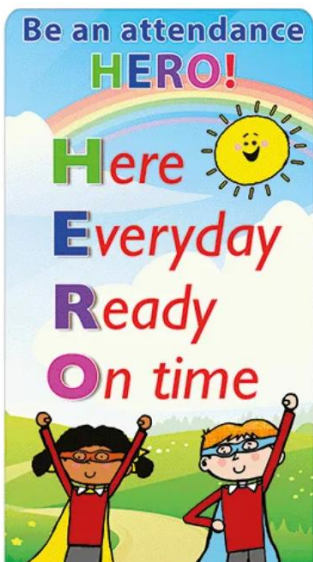
We will be finishing an hour early next Friday. Reception will finish at 2:05pm and the rest of the school at 2:15pm.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

ACORN: 98.5%	↑
ROSE: 97.0%	↑
TULIP: 94.7%	↑
ACER: 96.8%	↓
REDWOOD: 92.8%	↓
SPRUCE: 97.2%	↑
MAPLE: 95.9%	↓
BEECH: 97.0%	↓
ROWAN: 96.9%	↑
POPLAR: 97.3%	↑
SYCAMORE: 93.2%	↓
CHESTNUT: 95.7%	↓
<u>OVERALL: 95.9%</u>	↑

School Target: 96%

Has your class attendance higher or lower than last week??



Wishing a Happy Eid to all our families celebrating this weekend.

We would love to see every class rolling the Classopoly dice next week!

Class Attendance

96%+ =



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) information

For parents/carers of children with SEND or concerned regarding a possible need you can access all relevant information on the following link on our school website;

You can also contact the school office if you wish to make contact with Mr Reay (SENDCo) and an appointment can be made at a convenient time. Additionally the Local Authority have lots of useful information on the following links;

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/>

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/getting-help/send-newsletter/>

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/things-to-do/break-time/>

Absence Reporting

To report your child's absence please ring school (239950) and select Option 1 to leave a message, clearly stating your child's name, class and reason for absence. Do not select Option 1 to speak to the Office staff as the mornings are very busy. The absence needs to be done on every morning of the absence unless it is a contagious condition, such as Chicken Pox when we are aware the child needs to be off for a certain period of time. A reminder that if children have Sickness and/or Diarrhoea, they must stay off school for 48 hours from the LAST symptom.

Dogs in School

Dogs including puppies either on a lead or being carried are not allowed on the school premises including the playground and inside the fencing.

Machine of Dreams Winner for 60 Reads

KS1

Bobby (Rose)
Yousra (Rose)
Anya (Acer)
Wren (Acer)
Cleo (Acer)
Archie (Spruce)

KS2

Sara (Maple)
Dominic (Rowan)
Toby (Rowan)
Jordan (Beech)
Lydia (Beech)
Harry (Beech)
Kaleb (Chestnut)
Louis (Chestnut)

Award Winners

CLASS	MATHS	ENGLISH	ICARE
Acorn	Finley	Indie	Olivia
Rose	Mason	Elijah	Owen
Tulip	Selbi	Grayson	Oliver
Acer	Hunter	Royal	Elizabeth
Spruce	Mia	Callum	Charlie
Redwood	Mia & Charles	Theo W	C.J.
Maple	Sara	Angel	Olivia
Beech	Zac	Kelechi	Tiarna
Rowan	Delta-Rae	Emily	Ava
Poplar	Thomas	Annabelle	Jessica
Sycamore	Ryan	Grace M	Emeli
Chestnut	David	Sofiya	Noah

KS1 Numbots Highest Coin Earners



1st: Theo B from Spruce

2nd: Callum from Spruce

3rd: Husna from Spruce

KS2 T.T.R.S. Highest Coin Earners



1st: Yasin from Chestnut

2nd: Zeynep from Rowan

3rd: Ali from Chestnut

CLASS	OVERALL ACTIVE MINUTES
Spruce	515
Acer	369
Redwood	417
Maple	264
Beech	259
Rowan	307
Poplar	250
Sycamore	261
Chestnut	189

Photo Gallery (see X for more pictures)



**Planting
Tomato seeds
in Science Club**



**A lovely Reading Café
session with UKS2**



**Reading Eggs
Winner from KS1.
Well done Oscar!**

**Reading Eggs
Winner from KS2.
Well done Kaleb!**



On Line Safety

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.



LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.



ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.



KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much, it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>

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Safeguarding/Outreach

If you wish to speak to a member of the safeguarding team, Emma, Rachel or Natalie, please ring:

01257 239950 and select Option 3.



SUPPORTED BY



Sweet Chilli Parenting WORKSHOP IN CHORLEY

Is your child experiencing emotional, behavioural, or mental health challenges, and you are not too sure how to help?

Do you want to learn how to support your child to be resilient, and to deal with the challenges they may face?

Home Start Central Lancashire are leading providers in therapeutic parenting training, which allows parents to gain a better understanding of the emotional and physical impact of trauma.



The course is delivered over 3 **workshops** that will take place at Home-Start Central Lancashire office, Chorley

Monday 28th April 2025

09:30-14:30

Monday 12th May 2025

09:30-14:30

Monday 19th May 2025

09:30-14:30

To book a place please call on 01257 241636



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 1st April, 9.10 am: Maple Class Assembly

Thursday 3rd April: D.S.G.T. The Final.

Wednesday, 30th April, 9.10 am: Rowan Class Assembly

Wednesday, 7th May, 9.10 am: Beech Class Assembly

Tuesday, 20th May, 9.10 am: Year 5 Assembly

Reading Café Dates

Please bring your child to their class in the usual way then make your way to the hall

Thursday, **3rd April:** Redwood (Changed from 6th March)

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2025

Term ends Fri 4th April 2025 (**school closes 1 hour earlier**)

Summer Term 2025

Term starts Tue 22nd April 2025

Bank holiday Mon 5th May 2025

Half-term Mon 26th May to Wed 4th June 2025 (inclusive)

Return after half-term break Thursday 5th June 2025

Term ends Fri 18th July 2025

