

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Friday 17th January 2025

KEY DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

JANUARY

Mon 20th Year 5 Swimming

Mon 20th EYFS Dinosaur Workshop



Big Garden Birdwatch

24-26 January 2025

Would you like to be a Scientist and be a part of a real data survey?

Why not take part in the RSPB Garden Birdwatch?

It's easy! Simply choose an hour between 24-26 January 2025 and count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony, or in your local park. then visit www.rspb.org.uk to upload your sightings.

This helps scientists to understand patterns in bird populations. Mrs Allen



WEEKLY UPDATE

Another week has flown by and lovely things have been happening at Eccleston Primary School. Year 4 went on a fantastic trip to the Sikh Temple and were able to enjoy a range of experiences. There has been an alien invasion in Year 5 and they made such a mess! All of our children have worked hard this week and the classrooms are always such a positive place to be.

Thank you for your ongoing support with everything we do at school. If there is ever anything that you would like to share or discuss, please come in and do so, or join the next Parent Forum. Together, we can continue to ensure that your children have the best experience possible throughout their time at school.

We are closing in on finalising the new Learning Lodge. FEPS are going to organise a get together where a team of willing parents will help knock down the old one, so please get involved when this happens. A huge thank you to everyone who has donated to the events that have been put on across the year, your contributions have made this possible. The children will absolutely love it!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Todd

Star of the Week

Beechbuds – Tobias H

Reception – James G

Year 1 – Francesca WT

Year 2 – Isabelle R

Year 3 – April T

Year 4 – Annabelle H

Year 5 – Lola C

Year 6 – Harry R

Staff – Mrs Edwards



7 February 2025



Eccleston Primary School, Doctor's Lane, Eccleston, Chorley PR7 5RA

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HOUSES POINTS



THUNBERG

1st



RASHFORD

4th



STOREY

3rd



PEAKE

2nd

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The National average for attendance is 96%

Our school attendance target is for 97%.

whole school 97.84%

Class	This week
Reception	99.6%
Year 1	97.5%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	96.55%
Year 4	97.58%
Year 5	95.42%
Year 6	100%

Well done **Year 6** for great attendance this week! Chip is looking forward to accompanying you in class next week.

READERS OF THE WEEK



Well done to all the children that won Reader of the Week today! Please can we remind everyone to take great care of their home reading books so they remain in good condition. Please return your reading bag with reading pal and book by next Thursday. Thank you.




Please don't forget to send your pictures and comments to wearereaders@eccleston.lancs.sch.uk







NEXT WEEKS SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

WEEK 1	 MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Italian Pizza, served with potato wedges	Pork Sausage & Mash Potato with Gravy	Chicken Tikka Masala, served with Rice & Naan Bread	Roast Turkey, served with Roasties & Yorkshire Pudding	Fish Fingers
MAIN DISH 2	Tomato Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread	Vegetable & Chicken Pie	Cheese & Onion Pasty	Cheese & Ham Puff Pastry Swirls	Jumbo Sausage Chicken Burger
ACCOMPANIMENTS 	Sweetcorn & Beans Salad bar	Cauliflower & Carrots and Swede Salad bar	Green Beans & Sweetcorn Salad bar	Cauliflower, Broccoli & Carrots Salad bar	Potato Wedges, Peas & Beans Salad bar
DESSERTS	Chocolate Mousse	Jelly	Shortbread Fingers	Arctic Roll	Fresh Fruit Friday
FRESH FRUIT OR YOGHURT	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
JACKET POTATO AND SANDWICH SELECTION	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	



Fuel your afternoon with a healthy school lunch from Mellors

KEY  - 1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY  - MEAT-FREE MONDAY  - CHEF'S CHOICE  - PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)

Allergens and intolerances All of our food is lovingly hand crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergens/ your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO PENALTY NOTICE CHARGES

The DfE have recently announced national charges to penalty notices issues for unauthorised absences in term time, these came into effect on the 19th August 2024.

- Penalty notices issued for the offence after the 19th of August 2024 will be charged at the new rate of £160.00 however if paid in 21-days this reduces to £80.00.
- Any second penalty notice to the same parent for the same child in a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160.00 to be paid within 28-days with no option for a discount.
- Penalty notice threshold is 10-sessions equivalent to 5-days of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10-school week period.
- Maximum of 2-penalty notices may be issued for the same child within a rolling 3-years period, so at the 3rd or subsequent offence another course of action will need to be considered such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions.
- If the unauthorised absences are 15 days/30 sessions or more, this may be deemed as excessive leave, and the Local Authority may prosecute instead of offering the parents the chance to discharge their liability by paying a penalty notice.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TIKTOK



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's Following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99, while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app; that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

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 and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2025>



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