


# Euxton Primrose Hill

# WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

8th October 2025



[www.primrosehillschool.org.uk](http://www.primrosehillschool.org.uk)

X - @EuxtonPH

*"Together We Will Make A Difference."*

## HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

It has felt very Autumnal in school with Year 3 leading the Harvest Assembly last week and all the leaves and acorns on the ground. We are looking forward to welcoming you into school on Monday to meet your child's class teacher. Please make sure you have booked with the correct class, when booking and that you only book one appointment per child.

We will also have our book fair open that evening – this will be based in the corridor outside the lower hall. For every book purchased a certain amount of money comes to school, meaning we can order more books for our pupils.

We really do hope you can support us with this – thank you.

**Mrs Claire Jones**  
**Headteacher**

## PARENTS EVENING



Parent's evening this term will be held on **Monday 13th October from 3:30-8.00pm**. A link has been sent out on ParentMail. To book an appointment please click on the link for your child's class, select the 13th October on the calendar and choose an appointment time. Please only book one appointment time per child.

The booking system will close on **Friday 10th October**.

## STAFF WELFARE TEAM VACANCY

A vacancy has arisen on the staff welfare team for 7.5 hours a week. We are looking for somebody who wishes to make pupils' lunchtime experience as positive as possible and is available to work for one and a half hours daily. The position will be paid at £12.60 per hour. All successful candidates will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check.

Should you be interested in this position, please contact the school office, [bursar@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk) for an application form.

## Attendance & Absence

We strongly encourage good attendance to support your child's learning and progress.

♦ If your child is unwell, please contact the school office by 9:00am on each day of absence.

☎ 01257 276688

✉ [office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk)

♦ Be specific:

It's important to give a clear reason – for example:

✓ "Tonsillitis" or "Sickness and temperature"

✗ Not just "unwell" or "poorly".

This helps us meet safeguarding and health requirements

## Communicating with Us

If you need to get in touch, please email the school office in the first instance:

✉ [office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk)

Your message will be passed on to the relevant member of staff.

We aim to respond as soon as we can, but please allow up to 48 hours for a reply during term time.

For urgent matters during the school day, please phone the school office directly on: 01257 276688

## If You're Concerned About Something...

We want to work in partnership with you.

If you're ever worried or unhappy about a situation, please follow this order of contact, via the school office:

- **Class Teacher** – your first point of contact
- **Phase Leader** – if further support is needed:  
EYFS – Mr Danny Tooby  
KS1 – Miss Claire Chamberlain  
Years 3/4 – Mr Lloyd Davies  
Years 5/6 – Miss Molly Burns
- **Assistant Headteacher** – Miss Amie Dobbs
- **Deputy Headteacher** – Mrs Emma Swinburn
- **Headteacher** – Mrs Claire Jones

We're here to help and will always do our best to resolve any concerns quickly and fairly.

## Jewellery & Appearance

To keep everyone safe and focused on learning:

- ♦ **No jewellery** – including earrings (studs/spacers), rings, bracelets, necklaces, loom bands, or wristbands
- ♦ **No earrings or spacers** – these are a safety risk, especially during play and PE
- ♦ **No nail varnish or make-up** – children should come to school with natural nails and faces

Thank you for your support!

Tel: 01257 276688 (8:15am-3:45pm)

Email: [office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk)

Out of school Club, please contact Sarah Collison 07548 944202 or [s.collison@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.collison@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk)



## PRE-LOVED DRESSING UP CLOTHES DONATION



We are looking to expand our collection of dressing up clothes and would greatly appreciate any pre-loved dressing up outfits you might be able to donate.

If you have any outgrown or unused costumes at home that you'd be happy to part with, please send them in with your child or drop them off at the school office.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Friday 10th October is World Mental Health Day. Pupils can support this day by wearing something YELLOW to school. Pupils still need to attend school in their uniform but could wear, for example, yellow socks or a yellow headband.

## SCHOOL LIBRARY



At Primrose, we love reading – and we're so lucky to have our wonderful library! To help everyone make the most of this brilliant space, we will be opening the library after school on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3.20pm to 3.50pm.

Children, parents and carers are warmly invited to come along to:

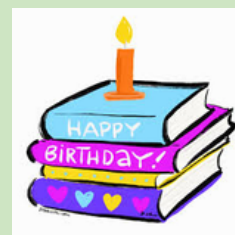
- Share a story together
- Enjoy some quiet reading time
- Borrow books to take home

Each month, we'll be shining a spotlight on books around a special theme. This October, we're kicking things off with our Spooky Season Reads – perfect for Autumn chills and Halloween thrills!



We'd love to see you there and look forward to sharing stories with you!

## BIRTHDAY BOOKS



To celebrate each child's birthday in a meaningful way, instead of bringing sweets, we invite them to bring a book donation into school to mark their special day. This book will be celebrated during our end of week assembly and shared with the school community across EYFS, Key Stage 1, and Key Stage 2. This is a brilliant way to promote whole school reading and a chance for your child to share their favourite stories.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our Year 5 pupils had a great time making their own juggling balls this week! The activity was simple yet engaging, using just balloons, rice, and funnels. Whilst some children had a go at juggling, others simply enjoyed squishing their creations—like homemade fidget toys! It was a fun, hands-on experience that everyone enjoyed.



Tel: 01257 276688 (8:15am-3:45pm)

Email: [office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk)

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## PTA UPDATE

We've had a busy few weeks working as a PTA with lots of new ideas and new faces! You can find regular updates and reminders by searching for "Euxton Primrose Hill PTA" on Facebook.

Our first Parent Social was a success - it was so nice to see such enthusiasm and engagement from parents across the school. Our next social will be held on 6th November, 7.30pm at Charnock Farm - pop us a message through Facebook to let us know if you can make it. It's really important to the PTA that parents and carers know they have a part to play, no matter how big or small. If you're interested in being involved, but don't want to fully commit, that's fine - just come along, meet other parents, and share your ideas.

We're fast approaching the Halloween Discos (tickets available on ParentPay) and preparations are well underway! We hope the children will join us for an evening of fun!

Attached to the Wednesday weekly is a Primrose Pumpkin Patch design sheet, entry is £1 (payable on ParentPay) and each year group will have a winner chosen by Mrs Jones! We've kindly had prizes donated by our local Spar at Euxton. We can't wait to see what the children come up with! If you do not have a printer at home, copies of the design sheet will be available from the school office. **Deadline for entries is the 16th October 2025.**



Thank you for your ongoing support of the PTA, we've got some really exciting things coming up and hope to see some of you joining us at our next social!

## ST MICHAEL'S CE HIGH SCHOOL OPEN MORNING

We would like to remind you that the final Open Morning for families to come and look around the school, is on Thursday 9th October 9.30am-12noon. There is no need to book and there are no restrictions in terms of numbers – just arrive on the morning and all are very welcome. If you are applying for a secondary school place to commence in September 2026, you will need to complete the Local Authority secondary school application form, as well as their Supplementary Information Form. The deadline for both forms is Friday 31st October 2025.

[St Michael's CE High School Supplementary Information Form](#)  
[Lancashire County Council Secondary School Application Form](#)



## IMPETIGO

### Impetigo

Impetigo is a common and highly contagious skin infection that mainly affects young children. It usually appears as red sores or blisters that can burst and form a golden crust. It is generally mild and clears up with treatment, but good hygiene is important to stop it spreading.

### Symptoms:

- Red sores or blisters, often around the nose, mouth, hands, or on exposed areas of skin
- Sores that burst and form a yellow-brown (honey-coloured) crust
- Itchy or sometimes sore patches of skin
- In some cases, swollen glands nearby

### What to do:

- Keep your child at home and away from school or nursery until at least 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment or until sores have dried and healed if untreated.
- See your GP or pharmacist for advice – antibiotic cream or medicine is usually needed.
- Gently wash affected areas with warm water and soap, and use separate towels and flannels to prevent spread.
- Trim fingernails short and discourage scratching.

### Prevention:

- Wash hands regularly and encourage good hygiene.
- Do not share towels, clothing, or bedding with others.
- Keep cuts, scrapes, or insect bites clean and covered to reduce the risk of infection.

Tel: 01257 276688 (8:15am-3:45pm)

Email: [office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk)

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# Pupil Achievements and Celebrations

## Super Pupils

### YEAR 6

Everest - Jack M  
K2 - Reuben G

### EYFS

Beech - Lily W  
Oak - Ethan C

### YEAR 5

Mont Blanc - Savannah M  
Olympus - Georgia C

### YEAR 1

Ash - Mollie P  
Cedar - Sam G

### YEAR 4

Ben Nevis - Faye J  
Snowdon-Scarlett-May O

### YEAR 2

Maple - Matilda TW  
Elm - Ayda M

### YEAR 3

Pendle - Noah L  
Rivington - Beau C

## House Point Winners

KS1  
Red

KS2  
Red

## Birthday Books

Thank you to the following pupils for donating their favourite books to celebrate their birthdays this term:

Aadhya S in Rivington-'Mog on Fox Night'  
Scarlett C in Snowdon-'The World Made a Rainbow'  
Seb M in Everest-'Diary of a Wimpy Kid, The Third Wheel'

## Reminders And To Do



We are a nut free school. Please do not bring any snacks into school which contain nuts, including Nutella products.

OVERDUE

Boreatton Park - 2nd payment overdue

PAYMENT DUE

Bonfire Night Special Lunch - payment due Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025

OVERDUE

Year 6 Leyland Trucks - payment due 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025

OVERDUE

Year 6 Liverpool World Museum - payment due 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025

PAYMENT DUE

EYFS, Y1 & Y2 - Sleeping Beauty - payment due 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

PAYMENT DUE

Y3, Y4 & Y5 - A Christmas Carol - payment due 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

PAYMENT DUE

Year 6 The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe - payment due 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025



£1 in a box is now live on Parent Pay. Cut off is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

## 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.



# Dates for the Diary 2025-2026



## October 2025

8-14th Annual Book Fair  
 10th World Mental Health Day - Wear Something Yellow (school uniform)  
 13th Parent Consultation Evening  
 14th Open Day @ 9.15am - EYFS 2026  
 14th 12pm Chorley Inspire Y5  
 21st PTA Discos 5.30pm KS1/6.45pm KS2  
 21st Flu Immunisations  
 23rd European Day of Languages  
 24th INSET DAY  
 27-31st AUTUMN HALF TERM HOLIDAY

## November 2025

3rd Return to School for Autumn Term 2  
 5th Bonfire Night Special Lunch \*  
 4th PTA Meeting @ 5.30pm  
 14th Y6 Everest Leyland Trucks  
 19th Open Day @ 1.45pm - EYFS 2026  
 19th Y6 Liverpool Museum Trip  
 21st Y6 K2 Leyland Trucks

## December 2025

5th PTA Event - Santa Dash!  
 8th Y2 Christmas performance - 2pm performance for parents  
 9th EYFS Nativity 10am  
 9th Y3 & Y4 Christmas Performance 2pm - performance for parents \*  
 10th EYFS/KS1 Panto in Lower Hall (am)  
 11th Y3 & Y4 Christmas Performance 9.30am - performance for parents \*  
 11th PTA Christmas Fair  
 12th ROCK KIDS!  
 15th Y1 Christmas performance - 2pm -performance for parents  
 15th Y3/Y4/Y5 10.15am Panto Trip - Oh Yes It Is! - A Christmas Carol  
 16th COMMUNITY EVENT - Y2 Grandparents' Christmas Afternoon  
 18th Y6 Panto Trip @ 2pm Performance - The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe  
 19th Final day of Autumn Term - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Secondary School Open Days	
St Michael's High	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 5:30pm – 8pm
Southlands	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 4pm-7pm
Wellfield Academy	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 4:30pm-7:30pm
Leyland St Mary's	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm – 8pm
Albany Academy	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm
Worden Academy	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 4pm-7pm
Balshaw's High	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 5.30pm – 8.30pm
Parklands	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 5pm – 7pm
Holy Cross	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 4:30pm – 7pm

## January 2026

5th Spring Term Begins  
 8th Open Day @ 9.15am - EYFS 2026

## February 2026

10th Safer Internet Day  
 12th PTA Love Bug Ball 5.30pm KS1/6.45pm KS2  
 13th Final day of Spring Term 1  
 16-20th SPRING HALF TERM HOLIDAY

## March 2026

16th Parent Consultation Evening  
 17th Choir Performance at Blackburn Cathedral 'Let's Go Sing' - Evening Performance \*  
 26th PTA Bunnies Bingo!  
 26th Y3 Deva Roman Museum Trip  
 27th Final day of Spring Term - HAPPY EASTER!

## April 2026

13th Summer Term Begins  
 16th Y4 Ben Nevis Cuerden Valley Trip  
 17th Y4 Snowdon Cuerden Valley Trip

## May 2026

3rd May Bank Holiday  
 21st PTA May Fair  
 22nd Final day of Summer Term  
 25-29th SUMMER HALF TERM HOLIDAY

## June 2026

1st INSET DAY  
 2nd INSET DAY  
 15-17th Y5 Hothersall Lodge Residential  
 23rd Y1 Bring Yer Wellies  
 24th Y1 Bring Yer Wellies  
 26-29th Y6 Boreatton Park Residential

## July 2026

9th Y2 Bees Visit in school  
 17th Final day of Summer Term - HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

\*New date added

\*\*Information or date amended

# Dates for the Diary 2025-2026



## Primrose Hill Clubs 2025 – 2026

Autumn  
Spring  
Summer

w/c 29th Sept 2025 - w/c 10th Nov 2025  
w/c 26th Jan 2026 - w/c 9th March 2026  
w/c 5th May 2026 - w/c 22nd June 2026

Name of Club	Run by	Day	Finish	Collect From
Yoga Y1	Miss Blackwell	Tuesday	3:45pm	Ash
Crafty Club Y1&2	Mrs Hacking / Mrs Jotejko	Tuesday	4pm	Office
Story Art Y2&3	Mrs Kanski	Tuesday	4pm	Pendle
Board Games Club Y5&6	Mrs Chapman	Tuesday	4pm	Snowdon
Art Club Y4,5,6	Mrs Bullock	Tuesday	4pm	Snowdon
Singing & Signing Y1&2	Miss Pearson	Tuesday	3:45pm	Elm
Book Club Y6	Mrs Brockie	Tuesday	4pm	Everest
Games Club Y3&4	Miss Dobbs	Wednesday	4pm	Pendle
STEM Club Y3&4	Mrs Cunningham	Wednesday	4pm	Office
Choir Y5&6	Mrs Swinburn / Miss Burns	Every Wednesday	4pm	K2
Eco club (Y2-Y6)	Miss McKinley / Mrs Rigby	Thursday	4:30pm	Office
Newspaper club (Y6)	Miss Chamberlain	Friday	(4.30pm first 3 week's then 4pm after)	Office

## Sports Clubs Autumn Term 1

Name of Club	Run by	Day	Finish	Dates
Sports Hall Athletics	Mrs Clements / Miss Dickinson	Monday	4:15pm	w/c 15/09/25 – w/c 03/11/25
Multi Skills KS1	CSSP	Wednesday	4:15pm	w/c 10/09/25 – w/c 22/10/25
Girls Football Tournament	TBC	Wednesday	4:30pm	w/c 15/09/25 – w/c 20/10/25
Boys Football Tournament	TBC	Thursday	4:30pm	w/c 15/09/25 – w/c 20/10/25
Dodgeball Y5&6	Mr Davies	Thursday	4:10pm	w/c 29th Sept 2025 - w/c 10th Nov 2025
Dance	Mrs Walsh	Thursday	TBC	w/c 9th Oct 2025 - TBC
Sports Council	TBC	Friday	4:30pm	w/c 08/09/25 – w/c 20/10/25



**EUXTON  
PRIMROSE HILL**  
Primary School  
*"Together we will make a difference."*

## OPEN DAYS

**Monday 22nd September 2025**

Morning - 9:15am - 10:15am



**Tuesday 14th October 2025**

Morning - 9:15am - 10:15am



**Wednesday 19th November 2025**

Afternoon - 1:45pm - 2:45pm



**Thursday 8th January 2026**

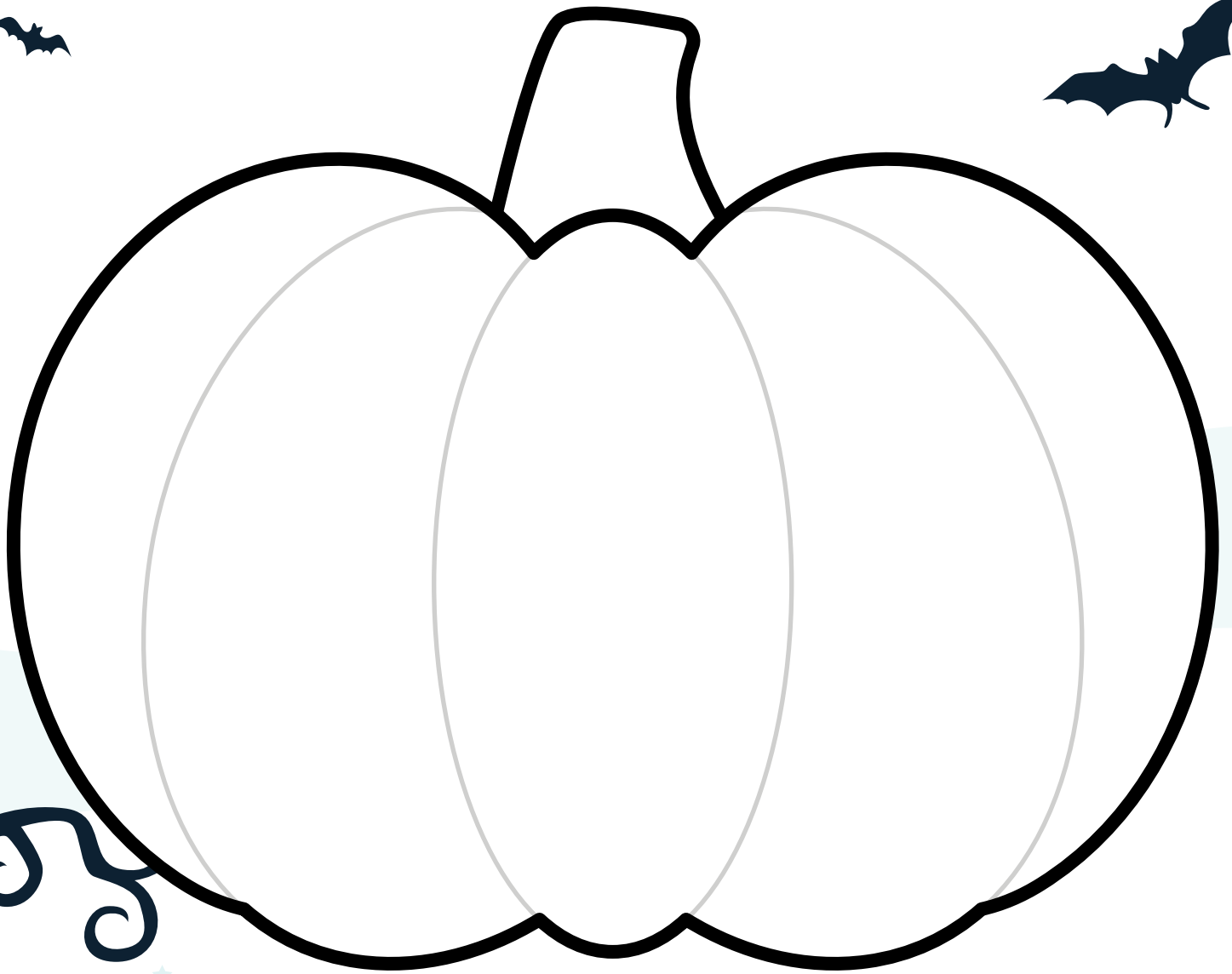
Morning - 9:15am - 10:15am

**To book a place please call: 01257 276688  
or scan the QR code**



**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

"Pupils flourish at this warm and welcoming school."  
"Pupils' behaviour across the school is exemplary. Pupils are polite, caring and thoughtful."  
"The school is highly ambitious for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)."  
Ofsted - July 2024



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

# PRIMROSE PUMPKIN PATCH



**Euxton Primrose Hill**  
Parent Teacher Association

**£1 PER ENTRY**  
(PAYABLE VIA PARENT PAY)

**1 PRIZE PER YEAR**  
(DONATED BY SPAR AT EUXTON)

# BONFIRE NIGHT

5th November

**Fawkes  
Fire Cracking Hot  
Dog**

**&**

**Tomato Ketchup**

*or*

**Catherine Wheel  
Pizza**

*served with*

**Smokey Ridge Fries**

**Sweetcorn**

*or*

**Baked Beans**

**~**

**Sparkler Cupcake**







**EUXTON  
PRIMROSE HILL**  
Primary School  
*"Together we will make a difference."*

# Primrose Buds

Free play and stay sessions for children aged 4 and under

**Friday 19th September 2025**



**Friday 10th October 2025**

Bring your wellies and waterproofs as we head out to our Forest School for this session

**Friday 14th November 2025**

**Friday 5th December 2025**

Join us for our whole school Santa Dash

**9am - 10.15am in the upper hall**

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

**To book please call: 01257 276688  
or scan the QR code**



**The One Stop Shop is a drop in where families can access support from different services under one roof.**

**We offer a warm welcome, refreshments, and an opportunity to get help with:**

Housing

Finance

Accessing food banks

Mental health support

Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Relationship's

Targeted Youth Support

Sexual Health

Substance / alcohol

... & more



**Drop-in  
2nd Thursday of  
every month  
9am till 12noon**

**@**

**Inspire Youth Zone  
Chapel St  
Chorley  
PR7 1BS**

**Children and Family  
Wellbeing Service**

**Tel: 01257 516 316**

**Email:**

**[Chorleyfamilyhub@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Chorleyfamilyhub@lancashire.gov.uk)**



**FAMILY  
HUB  
CHORLEY**

**2nd Thursday of  
every month!**



[lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk)



**Lancashire**  
County  
Council



# SERVICES HERE TO HELP

2nd Thursday, Monthly

Get help with referrals for further support, and access to a range of community agencies, as well as information on lots of free groups (including parenting, domestic abuse, relationship communication, speech & language, and pre-school play sessions).

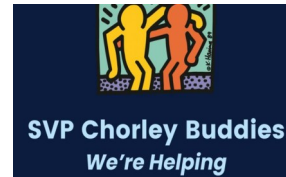
Inspire  
Youth Zone



Unify  
Credit Union



Chorley  
Buddies



Places For  
People



Social  
Prescribing



citizens  
advice

Lancashire  
West

Home-Start  
Central  
Lancashire



Lancashire Talking  
Therapies Talking Therapies



Jigsaw  
Homes



Christians Against  
Poverty



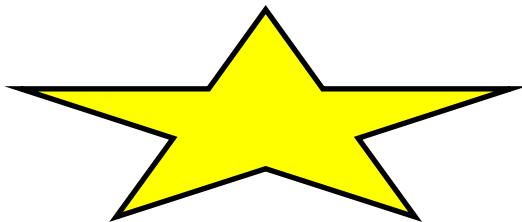
NEST  
Lancashire



Children &  
Family Wellbeing  
Service



... & more!





# SOUTHLANDS

COMMUNITY SPORTS

DODGEBALL

FOOTBALL

ROUNDERS

NETBALL

PICKEBALL

AND MORE.

## WHERE EVERYONE CAN PLAY

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025



**Ages**

8-14

**Place**

Southlands High  
School, Clover Road  
PR7 2NJ

**SIGN UP**



Instagram  
[@southlandssports](https://www.instagram.com/southlandssports)



Southlands  
Community  
Sports

**Contact:**

[Southlandscommunitysports@gmail.com](mailto:Southlandscommunitysports@gmail.com)





# **SOUTHLANDS**

COMMUNITY SPORTS

 Ages  
**8-14**

 Place  
Southlands High  
School, Clover  
Road PR7 2NJ

## **SPORTS CAMP & CHEER CAMP**

### **SIGN UP**



**£85 for the full week**

**includes snack and drink each day**

**SOUTHLANDS**  
COMMUNITY SPORTS



Instagram: [@southlandssports](https://www.instagram.com/southlandssports)



Southlands Community  
Sports

Contact: [Southlandscommunitysports@gmail.com](mailto:Southlandscommunitysports@gmail.com)



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26



Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfil long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

### VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

### SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

### POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

### LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

### MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

### BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College

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