

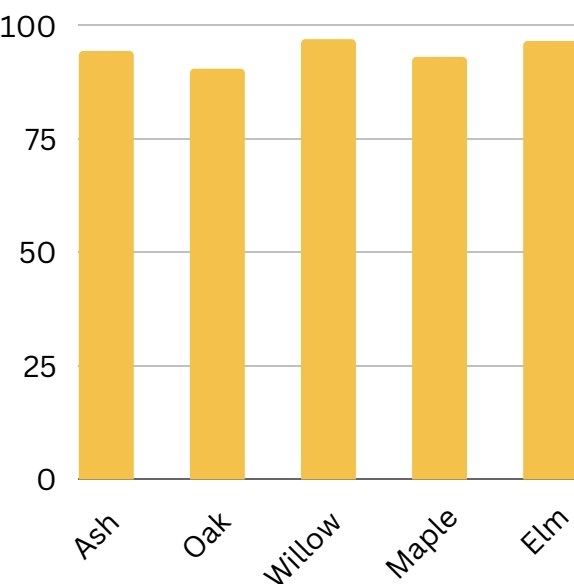
Friday 23rd September 2022



Newsletter



Attendance



Our whole school attendance for week 2 (12th - 16th September) was **94.12%**.

The class with the highest attendance was Willow with **96.8%** closely followed by Elm with **96.4%**.



Highlights

- We have been doing assessments through school all week and we are very proud of how well the children have coped and persevered. These will enable us to track progress through the year.
- All family groups had great fun on Wednesday taking part in activities for National Fitness Day.
- We have started working on our dance for Dance Festival 2022 – there is a wide range of participants, including boys, which is fantastic!

Focus of our School Improvement Plan

The overall aim for school improvement this year is to raise the standard of teaching and learning through school to ensure all pupils make good progress. We will do this through:

- The implementation of a new phonics and spelling programme
- Continuing to build-in strategies that help children manage their own learning and become more resilient learners
- Improve assessment and monitoring in subjects other than English and Maths
- Ensure pupils who are working below age related expectations receive intervention to accelerate their progress
- Ensure able pupils are sufficiently challenged

We are also focusing on STEM subjects which includes: Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and we are looking at ways to teach our pupils about diversity and respecting other cultures.

Intervention Groups

Next week, teachers will be allocating pupils to the first round of intervention groups. Intervention is small group work for short sessions, targeted at filling specific gaps in learning or working on basic skills. If your child is going to be in one of these groups, they will bring home a letter which details the purpose of the group, who will be delivering it and when. They usually run for about 6 weeks. Supporting learning at home will also be beneficial. Please ask your child's class teacher how you can help. Our aspiration is - for all pupils (with the exception of those children with SEND) to achieve age-related expectations as set out by the DFE. Mrs. Oxley will also be starting tutoring groups from next week, initially focused on developing early reading skills with pupils in year 1 and year 2.

Parents' Evening

Please note that this date has now moved to Tuesday 1st November. More details to follow.

Lunches

Please complete the lunch form for ALL pupils in school
<https://forms.office.com/r/exTQMJtNLL>

Film Night – Thursday 13th October 3:30–6:00pm

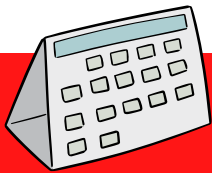


To raise funds for school, we will be hosting a film night for all pupils from pre-school to Year 6. We will be showing a range of different films suitable for the age groups. Pupils will also get a hot dog, drink and snacks. The cost is £7.50 per child, payable on Parent Pay.

We will bring forward the time of the dance festival rehearsal so that those pupils involved can also attend film night.

Year 6 Parents

We have a parents' meeting about the forthcoming Lockerbie residential on Monday 26th September, in school, at 6pm. Please attend if you can. Year 6 pupils may also attend.



Monday 26/9/22 - Lockerbie information meeting for Y6 parents / carers 6pm. Pupils may attend if they wish

Thursday 29/9/22 - Harvest Festival at St Oswald's. Pupils to meet at church at 9am. Families welcome

Saturday 8/10/22 - Open session for prospective families. 10am - 12pm

Wednesday 12/10/22 & Thursday 13/10/22 - Life Education sessions in school for Rec - Y6

Wednesday 12/10/22 - Open session for prospective families. 1:30 - 3pm

Thursday 13/10/22 - Film Night 3:30 - 6pm.

Friday 14/10/22 - Open session for prospective families. 10 - 11:30am

Friday 21/10/22 - School close for half term - 3:30pm

Monday 31/10/22 - School opens for all

Tuesday 1/11/22 - Parents' Evening



Harvest Festival

Thursday 29th September at St. Oswald's Church, 9am.

Pupils should meet at church at 8:50am unless they are booked into Breakfast Club. These pupils will be walked to church by staff from 8:30am.

Parents are welcome to join us for the service. Each class will be doing a presentation on a harvest theme.

After the service, all pupils will walk back to school with staff.

This year, we are asking families to make a donation towards the Blackburn Diocese Harvest Appeal 2022 which is supporting the education of women in Burundi, East Africa. Donations can be made on Parent Pay.

We would also welcome donations of any long-life items or toiletries which we will give to the local women's refuge or food bank. A box will be in the porch next week for the collection of items.



Supporting a good cause

One of our parents, Charlene Whiteside, Mum of Macy in Reception and Hallie in Pre-School, will shortly be running in the London Marathon to raise money for Cancer Research. She has a just giving page – see link below as well as a fabulous raffle with some amazing prizes! If you are able to donate, please support her.

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/charlenes-london-marathon-1>



The below timetable shows which days your child(ren) have PE and/or forest school. On PE days we ask that pupils come in their PE kit, details of which can be found on the uniform page of our website.



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ash	PE		Dance (if applicable)		Forest
Oak				PE	PE
Willow		PE	PE or swimming		
Maple	PE		PE or swimming		
Elm		PE	Forest		



Choir
KS2
Mondays 3:30pm – 4:15pm
Starts Monday 26th September 2022



Please email Mr Wells for choir - m.wells@fleetwoods.lancs.sch.uk

Online safety

Please see the attached safety guide regarding Minecraft.

Open Session – Saturday 8th October

Thank you to the parents that have volunteered their children to come and help by taking part in activities to promote our school. I will contact you separately with arrangements. If your child would like to come along, please let me know – we will need them from 9:45am-12pm.

Also please tell any families you know with children under school age about our open sessions.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT

AGE RATING

7+

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying; it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unnervingly young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play – so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lots of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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