



Newsletter Friday 10th May 2024

John 20:17-31. 17

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Dear Parents/Carers and friends,

As we embrace the warmer weather and approach the final stretch of the year, I have some bits and bobs to share with you.

With the encouraging signs of warmer weather, we are excited to take advantage of the sunshine and warmer temperatures by incorporating more out and about activities. Getting the children out provides opportunities to connect with nature, engage in hands on exploration and just feel good about being outside. To ensure your child is equipped for all eventualities please send a waterbottle and a light coat (just incase). Any suncream should be applied at home before school.

Next week is a big one for our Year 6 children as they will be sitting their SAT tests. I want to reassure both children and parents that teachers have been diligently preparing the children for these assessments. While SATs are important, it must be stressed that they are just one measure of a child's progress and achievement. I know Miss Jefferies has been in touch with you about the arrangements for next week. I know everyone will give everything their very best - I can ask for no more.

In worship this week , we have learnt about Ascension Day. This celebrates when Jesus went up to heaven after his death. Our next significant Christian celebration will be Pentecost.

Best wishes

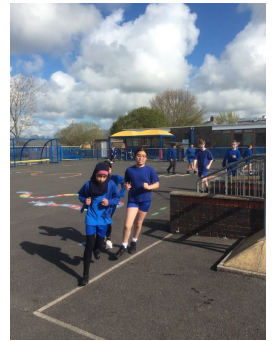
Mrs M M Underwood





GMSJ Run The World

The children loved this event and we managed to raise a Massive total of £1401.01.



We had a very special visit from the Mayor of Pendle last week. Children were delighted to hear about all of the roles and responsibilities that he holds and were lucky enough to see some of his regalia which hold a lot of History.



Year 3 visited Ingleborough Caves this week. We went on a Nature Trail and learned how to identify several species of trees, then we bravely explored the caves and looked at their many wonders.

Dates for your Diary:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Monday 13th May | - Year 6 Sats week |
| Monday 20th May | - Year 6 Robinwood residential |
| Friday 24th May | - School finishes 3.30pm for May Half Term |
| Tuesday 4th June | - School reopens 8.45am |
| w/c Monday 10th June | - Year 1 Phonics screening check |
| Wednesday 12th June | - Welcome evening for new intake 6pm |
| Wednesday 12th June | - Year 5 trip to Gawthorpe |
| Tuesday 18th June | - Year 4 trip to Towneley Park |

Year 6 SAT's

Next week sees the start of Year 6 SAT's. Miss Jefferies has arranged for the children to receive breakfast in school from 8.30am.

We would like to say 'Good Luck' from all the staff, for those sitting the tests.

Census day is Thursday 16th May. Don't forget to pre-order your child's lunches using Parentpay. Please note, the menu shown on Parentpay will be different to the food on offer. If you are wanting Soy & Garlic Chicken with Onion Fried Rice, please select the Sausage Roll, and for those wishing to order Sweet & Sour Vegetables with Steamed Noodles, please select the Mexican Lasagne.

GMSJ Run The World

We would just like to say a huge thank you to all of the children and their friends and families for all the money raised. We raised a massive £1401.01



Year 4 Swimming

Reminder - Year 4 need to bring pyjamas aswell as their swimming kit this Thursday.

Good News Announcements

This weeks Medal Winners are:

- | | | |
|----------|----------|--|
| Brock | - Year 1 | - For fabulous science work |
| Blake | - Year 2 | - For telling the time to 5 minutes |
| Michaela | - Year 4 | - For sensational speech marks |
| Kaiden | - Year 5 | - For excellent english work |
| Daisy | - Year 5 | - For really wonderful reflective RE |
| Iraj | - Year 5 | - For gorgeous geography |
| Leo | - Year 6 | - For brilliant effort and sensational story writing |

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

Our winners w/e 03/05/24
were:

YEAR 5 with 99.4%



Parent Checklist



School Trips. Do you need to pay for your child's school trip? All school trips are live on Parentpay. Please ensure trips are paid on time and forms are completed and returned to school.

School Meals - Please remember to order your meal choices using Parentpay, these can be pre-ordered up to half term.

Is your child wearing the full and correct uniform? (Ties can be purchased via parentpay). Remember to send a suitable coat daily.

Is your **PE kit** in school and fully labelled? Remember Fitness Friday each week - Wear your Trainers.

Absence - Please inform the office of any sickness or absences before 9am and try and arrange appointments out of school hours where necessary.

Head Lice - Remember to check your child's hair regularly. There have been several reports of headlice in school recently.

Free School Meals - Are you eligible for **Free School Meals**? Use this link to check: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=2>

Uniform - You can order school uniform online <https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/greatmarsden> Please ensure that all clothing and belongings have your child's name in.



PANA
ASIAN

Census Day

16/05/24

Soy & Garlic Chicken
Onion Fried Rice

Or

Sweet & sour Vegetables
Steamed Noodles

&

Sweet Chilli Sticky
Greens

Aspens
09 05 00 00 00



SPRING BANK HOLIDAY CAMPS

Skipton

TUESDAY 28TH -
WEDNESDAY
29TH MAY

EARLY DROP AND
LATE PICK UP NOW
AVAILABLE. PLEASE
SEE WEBSITE FOR
MORE INFO

Keighley

THURSDAY 30TH -
FRIDAY 31ST MAY

10AM - 3PM

BOOK ONLINE

WWW.SOCCERHUB.ORG.UK



School Parking

Have you considered:

- Walking or cycling to school instead? This is a great way to contribute to a child's 60 minutes of activity a day and is easy to incorporate into your daily routine. Try it once a week at first and see how easy it can be.
- Parking nearby or getting off the bus two stops earlier and walking the rest of the way. If you live too far away to walk or need your car for your commute to work you can still walk part of the way. Adults in England should aim to take part in at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity each week.
- Car sharing is a great way to reduce congestion and save you pennies. Team up with other parents or carers who live nearby- share the cost and halve the hassle.

If you have a parking concern outside of your school report it to

parking@lancashire.gov.uk

For more information on this leaflet please email the Road Safety Team at roadsafetyschool@lancashire.gov.uk



**Better
Health**
healthier
families

Sign up at
nhs.uk/betterhealth



lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire
County
Council

A Guide to Parking Safely at Our Schools

Inconsiderate and dangerous parking around our schools has become a big problem, putting the safety of children and others at risk. We all want to keep our children safe around schools, so here are some top tips on how you can make a difference.

How can you help?

- ✓ Keep your speed down
- ✓ Turn your engine off - do not idle
- ✓ Leave the middle of the road free, with enough room for other road users to easily pass through
- ✓ Make sure your child leaves and enters your vehicle safely onto the pavement
- ✓ Check for pedestrians and cyclists before opening a car door
- ✓ Leave enough room on pavements for pedestrians, pushchairs & wheelchairs to get past
- ✓ Take care when reversing
- ✓ **DO NOT PARK ON ZIG ZAG LINES**



- Please keep restricted areas clear
- ✓ Zig zags and school entrances
 - ✓ Dropped kerbs
 - ✓ Resident's driveways
 - ✓ Opposite or within 10 metres of a junction- so that children can see cars and cars can see children.

Your questions answered

What would happen if I did park in a restricted area?

If you park in a restricted area you are putting children's lives in danger and for this reason school parking is regularly monitored and enforced. If you park in a restricted area you could receive a £70 fine.

Am I okay to stop on zig zag markings if I am only there a few minutes?

No, under no circumstances should you stop on zig zag markings at any time, these are there to protect school entrances and leave a clear view of the street for pedestrians.

Please park considerately around our schools and keep our children safe!

Don't forget...

Congestion around schools is one of the main reasons given for dangerous parking and there are other ways you could do the school run...



Never park on zig zags or block school entrances

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HELLDIVERS 2



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Within weeks of release, *HELLDIVERS 2* had become one of 2024's biggest gaming success stories. The sequel to a top-down shooter from 2015 has smashed sales expectations, owing to its frantic gameplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. However, the game comes with several risks to younger players, as indicated by its 18+ rating.

PEGI 18 RATING



Due to its intense violence and the presence of in-game purchases, *HELLDIVERS 2* carries a PEGI 18 rating. While players are generally fighting fantastical enemies like giant bugs and robots, their characters can be killed in various gruesome ways, up to and including dismemberment. It's certainly worth considering whether such a game is appropriate for younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In *HELLDIVERS 2*, players can use real money to buy in-game currency, with which they can unlock cosmetics and new weapons. At the time of writing, all the in-game items can be acquired without spending so much as a penny – but excited young players wanting to keep up with their friends may still feel the temptation to purchase new weapons more quickly, rather than laboriously earning the in-game currency through play.

VOICE CHAT AND MESSAGING

HELLDIVERS 2 is always played online with others, who often use voice chat or in-game texts to coordinate, strategise or just joke around. This does mean that children who play without their friends will be put in contact with strangers. Unfortunately, this represents a roll of the dice, as the game can't control how people treat each other online. However, you can easily report other players for abusive behaviour via the game's 'social' tab.

FRUSTRATION TRIGGER

The thrill of barely scraping through a dangerous mission in one piece is integral to *HELLDIVERS 2*'s appeal. To accentuate this feeling of achievement, the game includes some very difficult levels that could prove to be too hard for some players – even those who are legitimately old enough to play. Losing streaks can be incredibly annoying, so repeatedly failing in missions could easily provoke frustration or anger in younger players.

LACK OF ACCESS

The game is available on PC and PS5, but not (as yet) on other consoles. Some people will naturally be disappointed they can't get involved and might look for similar alternatives to play on their own console – alternatives which may contain similar levels of violence and gore but lack the same balanced approach to user misconduct and in-game purchases as *HELLDIVERS 2*.

Advice for Parents & Educators

GIVE IT A GO FIRST



HELLDIVERS 2 is a third-person shooter with intentionally humorous elements, but much of its comedy is rooted in satire which may go over the heads of some players. Consider playing the game first yourself – while shooting bugs and robots feels too unrealistic to be upsetting, seeing your character get torn to pieces may be too much for younger players.

SET EXPECTATIONS



At the time of writing, *HELLDIVERS 2* costs £34.99. It could turn out to be an expensive and wasteful purchase if a player gets irritated and gives up shortly after receiving the game. If a young person tends to become frustrated easily, it's worth considering whether *HELLDIVERS 2* is really the game for them.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES



If playing on Xbox – where *HELLDIVERS 2* isn't available – consider something like *Halo: The Master Chief Collection* as an alternative. One of its game modes – *Firefight* – replicates *HELLDIVERS 2*'s mechanics to some degree. Alternatively, younger players may be better suited to the more light-hearted *Deep Rock Galactic*, which sees them play as fantasy dwarves in space, involving far less gruesome violence.

KEEP AN EYE ON PAYMENTS

Many titles offer in-game purchases, but *HELLDIVERS 2*'s are comparatively cheap. You'll still need to monitor your payment information (or use a prepaid card on the account), in case your child buys the in-game currency in bulk, on the whole, however, the game's selling methods are far less egregious than most similar titles on the market.

MONITOR COMMUNICATION & ADJUST SETTINGS

Thanks to an in-game "Ping" system (allowing players to highlight important details without speaking), communication isn't as integral to *HELLDIVERS 2* as it is in other games. You can turn off the chat options in-game on PC, or on the PS5's own settings, and feel more secure in the knowledge that your child won't be speaking to people they don't know.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of *GORecon*, and has been working in the games media industry for five years. As well as being an avid long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published on sites including *IGN*, *TechRadar* and many more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College