



Newsletter Friday 15th March 2024

Proverbs 22:6 - Train a child how to live the right way.
Then even when he is old, he will still live that way



Dear Parents/carers and friends,

The focus of our worship this week has been 'Education'. We began with a quote from Proverbs 16:16 - **Wisdom and understanding is worth more than gold or silver.**

This sparked a lot of conversation, with children demonstrating some amazingly mature responses to this. I presented it as a balance with a pile of gold and silver coins on one side and books, a computer and tablet on the other. Here are some of the children's responses:

Knowledge and understanding is more important than silver and gold because money can be used up but wisdom is forever.

Knowledge is better because if you have that you can get a good job and earn money anyway.

Wisdom is better because you can learn things that make you happy - money doesn't make happiness.

Knowledge can not be stolen or taken from you.

We also had alternative thinkers, which are always welcome, who felt that if you had enough silver and gold that being smart was not important because you could buy whatever service you needed.

We then talked about how education isn't just about learning things like English, Maths and Science but that every friendship, incident, conversation and experience can also add to our knowledge, understanding and wisdom. Each one of these becomes like a piece of a jigsaw puzzle, making us the person we are.

There was a lot to think about, but our children showed what deep thinkers they are. Very impressive.

Mrs M M Underwood



The week in pictures



In Year 2 the children have enjoyed watching 8 chicks emerge from eggs and holding them when they were big enough.



Our Year 4 class are enjoying their weekly outing to Pendle Wavelengths.

Year 3 Escaped



We had a very special visitor in Year 3 who created an Ancient Egyptian themed escape room for us. We had to solve riddles and find the correct codes through looking for clues before the time ran out. We worked as a team and we escaped!



The Viking Man



On Friday 1st March, Year 4 were lucky enough to have a Viking experience day. Viking Hrothgar set up a traditional Viking camp in our school hall and told us all about the weapons, Gods, leisure activities and settlements of Vikings. We looked at shields, axes and swords and even a fire pit that would have been used to cook their food. There was also a session which involved dressing up to act out some traditional Viking stories. We learnt lots of facts to consolidate and extend our knowledge of Vikings, following on from our research in History lessons. It was a fantastic day and the children engaged really well and participated with super enthusiasm. Well done Year 4!



Dates for your Diary:

- Monday 18th March - School Choir visit to King George's Hall
- Tuesday 19th March - Reception trip to The Little Lancashire Village
- Tuesday 19th March - Meeting of friends 3.40pm
- Wednesday 20th March - Year 6 Robinwood Parents Meeting 5.30pm
- Thursday 28th March - School finishes at 2pm - Easter Holidays
- Monday 15th April - School starts 9am
- Friday 26th April - Friends Sponsored Run
- Monday 20th May - Year 6 Robinwood residential

School Meals

Unfortunately, due to an increase in catering costs, the prices for school meals will be increased from £2.41 to **£2.50**, starting from the **15th April 2024**, the first day after the Easter holidays.

We are trying to keep the costs as low as possible for parents, as we know that an increase in prices can be a burden on people's finances. The increase will not affect those children on Free School Meals.

Don't forget to pre-order your child's lunches using parentpay.

Meeting of Friends

Our next meeting of Friends will be held on Tuesday 19th March at 3.40pm. Please come along and join us if you can.

Good News Announcements



Congratulations to Jasmine in Year 5, who last week was given a Young Citizens Award from the High Sheriff at Preston Headquarters for all her charity efforts.

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

Our winners w/e 08/03/2024 were:
Year 2 with an impressive **99.2% attendance!**



This weeks Medal Winners are:

- Romie-beau - Year 2 - For outstanding maths
- Simon - Year 2 - For sensational subtraction
- Edward - Year 3 - For much improved handwriting
- Michaela - Year 4 - For amazing art

Also, these Year 3 students were singled out for having **outstanding behaviour** in Junior Jam:

Harrison Hudson Evie Chloe L Diana Mila

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 - From the 15th April these will be increased to £2.50. The increase will only affect the pupils who pay for their school meals. Please see the attached letter.

Year 4 - Remember to bring your swimming kit, including towels, swimming caps and correctly sized swimwear, every Thursday.

We have gone onto a new system for reporting if your child has an accident at school. You may notice the slips have changed. Please could you ensure that any **phone numbers** and **email addresses** we hold are up to date in order for us to implement this new system accurately.

Pe Kit & School pumps - Is your child wearing correctly fitting school shoes and PE pumps? Please ensure they are, and that these are properly labelled if kept in school.

Absence - Is your child off sick or due an appointment? 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.



Great Marsden St John's Primary School

Church of England Academy

Headteacher
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14th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Unfortunately, due to an increase in catering costs, the prices for school meals will have to be increased. The price will increase from £2.41 to £2.50, starting from the 15th April 2024, the first day after the Easter holidays.

We are trying to keep the costs as low as possible for parents, as we know that an increase in prices can be a burden on people's finances. We have kept the increase of prices off for as long as possible and it has now become unfeasible for us to continue at this current cost. The school will continue to subsidise part of the cost, but this extra money from parents will allow the school to spend this money on other areas of the school.

This will not affect any students who are entitled to Free School Meals, as the school receives special funding for these dinners.

We hope this increase in cost does not cause too many issues for anyone and we sincerely apologise for this increase.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs M Underwood

Headteacher

LET'S GO SING!

at

King George's Hall
Blackburn

2024

Concerts start at 6pm

Monday, March 4

Tuesday, March 5

Wednesday, March 6

Thursday, March 7

Friday, March 8

Monday, March 11

Tuesday, March 12

Wednesday, March 13

Thursday, March 14

Friday, March 15

Monday, March 18

Tickets £8.00 (Adult) & £3.50 (under 18)

Available now from King George's Hall, Blackburn

Tel: 01254 582579 or www.bwdvenues.com

SportsCool would like to present a

FREE EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB



FREE to all children aged 4-11 years on Free School Meal Benefits and those who require SEN provision, thanks to the government backed HAF programme. Lunch will be provided to any child attending.

PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL - BB8 0QJ

Dates: 2nd - 5th April

FSM: 8:30am - 12:30pm

SEN: 1:00pm - 4:00pm



Free for children eligible for Free School Meal benefits or requiring SEN provision

DODGEBALL

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

HANDBALL

DANCE

FOOTBALL

EASTER EGG HUNT

PLUS MORE

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

Please book **NOW** to guarantee your place
via the online form below

<https://bit.ly/parkeasterHAF2024>





UK Health
Security
Agency

Measles: How to Stay Safe

The best protection is 2 doses of the safe, effective MMR vaccine at 1 year of age, and 3 years, 4 months



If you have not had two doses, you can get them free from your GP surgery



Know the symptoms!
Keep people with symptoms away from others



Call ahead before going to A&E or your GP



Symptoms

Rash



Temperature



Runny Nose



Red Eyes



Cough



MEASLES

Don't let your child catch it

– get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

- measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated
- measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill
- your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection
- if your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible*
- if you can't remember if your child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP
- if you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected

*In response to a local outbreak then the 2 doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.

Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at 3 years and 4 months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with 2 doses one month apart.

Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to 6 weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the 3 diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles or 2 doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

For more information about measles and MMR go to www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/



Save the dates

Parent webinars

March

Thursday 14th 6pm
**Helping your child
with exam stress**

April

Thursday 18th 6pm
Food and Mood

May

Thursday 9th 6pm
**Supporting your
child's mental
health**

June

Thursday 13th 6pm
**Understanding
Anxiety**

July

Thursday 11th 6pm
**Understanding
Low mood**

August

Thursday 8th 6pm
**Children's mental
health in the
digital age**