



Newsletter Friday 31st January 2025

Exodus 14 - Frieze Panel 2

I'm singing my heart out to God—what a victory! He pitched horse and rider into the sea. God is my strength, God is my song, and, yes! God is my salvation. This is the kind of God I have and I'm telling the world!

Dear Parents and carers,

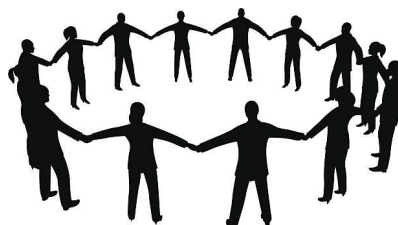
What a super week we have had in school. When we came back after Christmas and the various snow days, some of our children had forgotten how to behave towards those adults in our school who come to provide certain services (Sports coaches and the computing teacher) - or indeed visitors in general. We were hearing back chat, seeing children just ignoring instructions and being disrespectful. We have worked with the children and I am delighted to say that these behaviours have sorted themselves out! Indeed two visitors this week have commented upon the politeness and friendliness of the children. Well done one and all.

Supporting your child's learning journey is a partnership, and we encourage you to get involved! There are many ways you can help at home. Reading with your child regularly, even for a few minutes each day, makes a huge difference to their literacy skills. Talking about their school day and the things they're learning helps to reinforce their understanding. Exploring topics together through library books, online resources, or even trips to museums and parks can spark their curiosity and make learning fun. Keep an eye out for information about upcoming parent workshops and events – these are a great opportunity to learn more about how we teach different subjects and pick up helpful tips for supporting your child's progress. There are so many different areas being offered from Maths to animation, engineering to crafts. We value your input and believe that working together, we can help your child reach their full potential.

The other area of support which we are desperate for is for our Friends group. Our wonderful Friends of St John's is always looking for new members to join their small but enthusiastic team! Whether you have lots of time to spare or just a little, your contribution would be highly appreciated. Joining the group is a fantastic way to get more involved in school life, meet other parents, and have a real impact on the resources and opportunities available for our children. From helping out at events to sharing your skills and ideas, there are many ways to contribute. Even a small amount of time can make a big difference. If you'd like to find out more about how you can get involved, please contact the school office. Without our Friends fundraising events so many things would disappear from school life, the Year 6 residential, bookbags for the reception children, new books for school, art resources, and so on. We'd love to welcome you to the team! Go on, be brave, come along, stepping out of your comfort zone may be just what you need.

Kind Regards,

Mrs M Underwood



This weeks Medal Winners are:

Teddy	-	Year 2	- for super speedy calculations with money
Molly	-	Year 2	- for excellent writing about owls
Shahwaiz	-	Year 3	- for excellent sentences about iron man
Olivia	-	Year 3	- for brilliant writing in the role of the iron man
Isla H	-	Year 4	- for being a bright learner
Zayan	-	Year 5	- for bring a brilliant historian
Harrison	-	Year 6	- For marvellous maths
Mohammad	-	Year 6	- for vivacious vocabulary

Our next Friends meeting will be on Tuesday 4th March at 3.30-4.30pm in the hall. We would love for any parents/carers to come along and help us plan for our next Easter event. Children are very welcome to come and play whilst we meet.



Valentines Disco

Thursday 13th February.

KS1/Rec - 3.30pm - 4.45pm

KS2 - 5pm - 6.30pm

There will be no physical tickets on sale for KS1/REC instead payment should be made on the day. Please send £2 in a named envelope on the day. KS2 tickets will go on sale from Monday 3rd February and can be purchased from the office for £1.

We are **URGENTLY** in need of **VOLUNTEERS** to help run these events, please let the office know if you are available.

Help your child to love maths!

We have a series of sessions taking place on **Wednesday 12th February** to work together at developing a love of maths. If you would like to join us please contact the office via Class Dojo or complete and return the form your child has brought home this week.



WE NEED YOUR HELP:

KS2 are having a NHS careers Day in March. We are looking for some parent volunteers who work within the NHS (doctors, nurses, midwives, radiologists etc) who would be happy to come into school on Thursday 13th March and spend a little bit of time in each of our KS2 classrooms just to talk to the children about their jobs and inspire them. If you are happy to donate some of your time on this date, please get in touch with Mrs Fletcher in the school office and let her know what your job role is and when you are available on this date.

In February it will be internet safety day and to promote this Lancashire Adult Learning are delivering a 'Prevent Identity Theft' course that is just for **adults only** (no children) and is free for all Lancashire residents.

Where Nelson library

When Mon 17th Feb

Time 1-3:30pm

How to enrol :

<https://www.lal.ac.uk/course/prevent-identity-theft-online/BICLZ011/>

CAR PARKING:

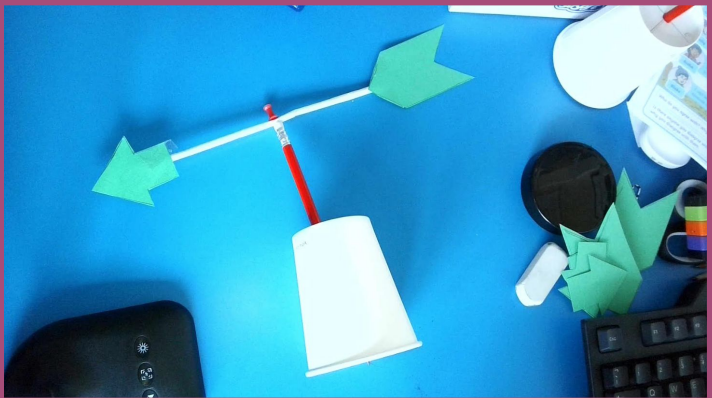
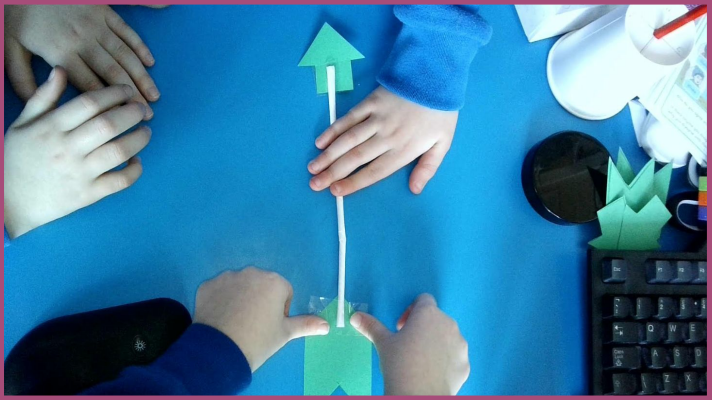
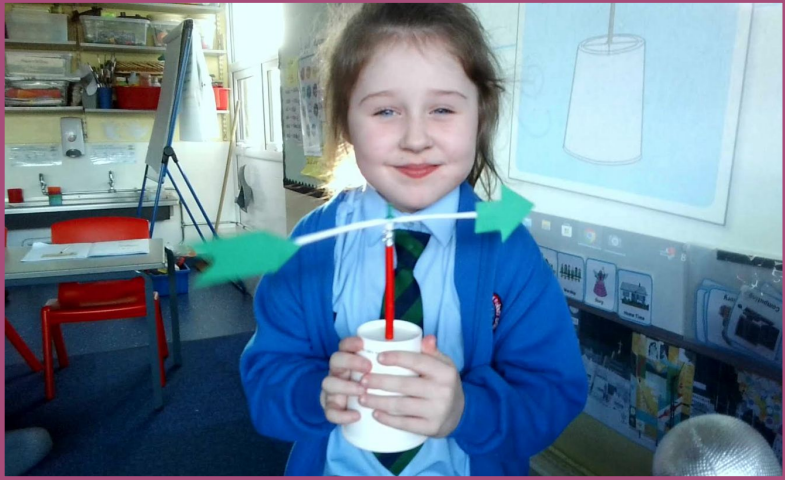
We previously sent out a message asking people to park appropriately in the car park. There have been numerous complaints recently regarding inconsiderate parking - a white Audi in particular has been reported more than once on different occasions. May we politely ask the owner of this vehicle to please park in one bay and please be respectful to our Neighbours and school family

POLITE REQUEST: Please remember to report absences to the school office by 9am. This can be done via Class Dojo or by ringing the school office.

In Year 4, we have been learning about the life cycle of a plant and using interpretive dance to show this.



Year One have made weathervanes in science to test the direction of the wind



Become a Friends Member.

We are actively seeking new members to come and join our meetings. If you are interested, please either contact the office or attend the next meeting which will be held on Tuesday 4th March at 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Childcare can be available in school for those attending.

Our Friends group is made up of teachers, parents and friends of the school community. Anyone is welcome to join, and our aim is to help plan and arrange fundraising events to benefit the children. Any money raised is used around the school on things such as new equipment and special events or trips to help enrich the children's experiences whilst at school.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEVELOP EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Emotional literacy refers to the ability to recognise, understand and express our feelings effectively. It plays a crucial role in strengthening a child's wellbeing by enhancing their relationships and resilience. However, emotional literacy is not necessarily an innate talent, and its development may present challenges. This guide gives parents and educators practical tips on supporting children to cultivate this essential skill.

1 NAME THE EMOTION

Encourage children to identify and name their emotions. This helps them understand what they're feeling and why. Use simple language and relatable examples to make it easier for them to share their emotions. This builds a foundation for emotional understanding and open communication.

2 MODEL EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

Demonstrate healthy emotional expression by sharing your feelings visibly. When children see adults properly displaying how they're doing and what they're thinking, they learn to do the same. Discuss how you handle emotions in different circumstances, providing a real-life framework for young ones to follow.

3 MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES

Teach children mindfulness practices to help them stay present and manage their emotions during more challenging moments. Activities like deep breathing, meditation or yoga can reduce stress and enhance emotional regulation. Regular practice can improve focus and emotional stability, which can significantly help children both as they're growing up and throughout their adult life.

4 USE STORYTELLING

Incorporate storytelling to help children understand emotions. Stories can offer relevant scenarios illustrating how the characters experience and manage their feelings. Discuss the emotions depicted in stories and ask children how they might feel in similar situations.

5 PRACTISE EMPATHY

Teach children to consider others' views and emotions – and to explore why they might think or feel this way. Role-playing and discussing various scenarios can enhance their ability to empathise. Understanding others' emotions helps children to develop compassion and improve their social interactions.

6 ENCOURAGE JOURNALING

Suggest keeping a journal to make note of thoughts and emotions, as writing can provide an outlet for self-reflection and emotional processing. Encourage children to write about their daily experiences and feelings, helping them gain insight into their emotional world. Do this alongside them, so they can see and experience how to do it effectively.

7 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Do what you can to help children develop problem-solving skills to assist in managing emotional challenges. Discuss potential solutions to emotional conflicts and encourage them to think critically about what they (and others) can do to process their feelings in a healthy way. This empowers children to handle emotions positively and build resilience.

8 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Establish an environment where children feel safe to display their emotions without judgement. Encourage open exchanges and reassure them that all feelings are valid. This supportive atmosphere promotes trust and encourages children to express themselves with confidence.

9 USE VISUAL AIDS

Take advantage of visual aids like emotion charts or mood meters to help children identify and express their feelings. Use these tools regularly in your interactions. They provide a visual representation of emotions, making it easier for children to communicate their emotional state.

10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Acknowledge and celebrate progress in emotional literacy, and praise children for expressing their emotions and handling them effectively. Positive reinforcement is a useful tool that will encourage continued growth and reinforces the importance of emotional literacy – encouraging young people to maintain the good habits and healthy behaviours that you've taught them.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, an organisation that supports schools in improving their mental health provision.



WakeUp
Wednesday

The
National
College



MATHS - How does it make you feel?

worried, scared, anxious you're not alone!
Come for a brew and we'll take your worries away!



The school is delighted to have been selected to work with the independent charity National Numeracy on an exciting project which encourages children and families to do maths together. As part of the project, we will be hosting different workshops to help support you in your own maths journey.

Our first workshop will be **Help your child to love maths!** This workshop is to help break down the barriers to maths and there is **NO MATHS INVOLVED!** We would like you to join us to look at the different barriers to maths and how we can support you and your children to love and develop everyone's confidence in maths.

We have a series of sessions taking place on **Wednesday 12th February** to work together at developing a love of maths. If you would like to join us please tick the following option and return to school .

☞

Name of adult

Session (please select only one)

8:30 - 9 15

2:30 - 3:15

3:30 - 4:15

Children who attend GMSJ will be supervised for the before and after school sessions.

Friends of St. John's

Thursday 13th February



KS2

5-6.30

£1 per ticket.

There will be a tuck shop for sweets.

Friends of St. John's

Thursday 13th February



EYFS / KS1

3.30-4.45pm

£2, which includes a bag of
sweets