



Newsletter Friday 4th July 2025

KINGDOM OF GOD

Peter breaks free

"Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists. Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we hurtle towards the final few weeks of what has been a fantastic summer term, there's still a buzz of excitement and learning in every corner of school! I have to say that this is mostly due to the large amount of food that is in school at the moment. Part of our Design and Technology curriculum is around product design of food items. The process involves planning, making, tasting and improving before making the final product. All parts of the process are fun, but the tasting always goes down particularly well. Watch this space as the children prepare Michelin star standard fruit smoothies, samosas etc. I wonder if we have any future Gordon Ramseys or Mary Berrys in the school?

Looking Back at a Busy Term

It feels like only yesterday we were welcoming you back after the Easter break, and what a term it's been! We've enjoyed:

- Two Sports Days, both of which were well attended - thank you. What a brilliant couple of mornings that was! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make them such a success, especially Mrs Fletcher and her trusty band of cake makers.
- From the Reception class trip to Blackpool zoo to Year 5 learning bike and road safety skills through Bikeability, each year group has had unique and enriching experiences.
- It's been wonderful to see so much progress across all subjects. The children have been working incredibly hard and their dedication is truly commendable. It was a huge pleasure to give out the first two silver Dojo badges and certificates today at our SHINE assembly. Earning 150 Dojos is certainly something to celebrate.

Our worship theme over the past few weeks has been the New Testament story about the disciples, Peter mainly, and how they managed after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus gave them a 'job' which was to spread the word of God as wide as possible and begin to build the church. The church is less about buildings and more about people coming together who share common beliefs.

Just a quick reminder that we do have a few places in classes across school. If you know a friend, family member or neighbour who is looking for a school for their child/children please consider putting our name forward.

Warm Regards,

Mrs M Underwood



Dates for your Diary

10th July	Whole School Parents Evening	
11th July	Y6 Leavers production/talent show 2.30pm (parents only)	
15th July	Year 6	Bowling Trip
16th July	Year 6	Leavers Party 4.30- 6pm
18th July	Year 6	Leavers Assembly at church 9.30-10.30
22nd July	2pm	School closes for Summer Break
3rd September	8.45am	School re-opens



Parents Evening

Remember to book your slot using Arbor for the upcoming parents evening on Thursday 10th July. Invites to join Arbor were emailed to parents last week and reminders were sent on dojo.

Don't forget: There is no crossing patrol until further notice. Take extra care on roads around school and assist other children crossing where possible. Thank you.



Stay and read for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is every Tuesday from 8.45am - 9am in the classrooms.

Sports Day

Thank you to all our parents who were able to attend our Sports Days this year. We managed to raise an amazing £106 from the sale of the refreshments. Thank you for supporting us.

Beat the Teacher

Our beat the teacher sponsored event was very popular with the children this year. We raised a huge £585. Thank you to everyone who participated and more importantly sponsored the children.

This weeks Medal Winners are:

Maya	- Reception	- for independent writing about the ladybird
Rose	- Year 1	- for writing about Bernard al by herself
Camilla	- Year 1	- for being able to orally explain her mental maths calculation
Evie	- Year 4	- for marvellous maths
Aiza	- Year 4	- for independent writing about the ladybird
Kacper	- Year 4	- for writing about Macavity
Harvey	- Year 4	- for writing about Macavity



Reception's Roaring Good Time at Blackpool Zoo!

This week, our **Reception** children had an absolutely amazing time on their trip to **Blackpool Zoo**! They were thrilled to see so many incredible animals, including the majestic **lions**, gigantic **elephants**, playful **monkeys**, and waddling **penguins**. A huge highlight was definitely enjoying the fantastic **sea lion show**!





Miss Wintergill's Guided Reading group had been practising the play "The Porridge Pincher" all week. This morning they performed their play to the delight of Miss Fenwick's group, who were blown away by their reading skills. They used lots of expression and big clear voices, they even added actions to the story! What a fabulous lesson we had! Well done to Hamdan, Felicity and Harvey from year 4 and Romie and Charlotte from year 3.





SPORTS DAY

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience, formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch. Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



absolute

Summer HAF Multi-Sports & LEGO Holiday Camp

 Great Marsden St Johns C of E
Primary School
BB9 0NX



Summer Dates

Week 3 - Mon 4th August - Thu 7th August
Week 4 - Mon 11th August - Thu 14th August
Week 5 - Mon 18th August - Thu 21st August
Week 6 - Tue 26th August - Fri 29th August



1pm - 5pm



4-11

(Reception to Year 6)

LIMITED PLACES - BOOK THROUGH



HolidayActivities

Or Tap/Visit the link below for our assisted booking form:



<https://bit.ly/AbsoluteSummerHAFGreatMarsden>

<https://absolute-futbol.org>

HAF@absolute-futbol.org



[AbsoluteFutbol](https://absolute-futbol.org)

08450 942290



[absolutefutbol ltd](https://absolute-futbol.org)



Pendle
Borough Council