



Scotforth St Paul's C of E Primary & Nursery School

"Let faith be your shield"

Newsletter No 22 Friday 1st March 2019

MISSION STATEMENT

We seek to follow the example and teaching of Jesus by:

- ensuring every member of the school is valued and cared for as a member of God's family;
- providing the best education possible so that all pupils are enabled to reach their full potential in every aspect of life.



Scotforth Superstars



Internet Safety

Please see the attached letter and information with regard to the issues in school this week.

Music Festival

Please can parents return their ticket request slips by **Friday, 8th March** at the latest so that we can order any extra tickets.

Year 4

Macavity the Mystery Cat - drama activities. Year 4 children can bring in clothes to dress up as cats on **Monday, 4th March** if they want to. We have made masks in school.

Year 3 Roman Dressing-up Day

Advance warning—we will be dressing up as Romans on Tuesday 12th March.

Swimming Lessons

There has been some confusion regarding what the boys can wear for their swimming lessons. The policy of the University is that they wear swimming trunks such as Speedo type with lycra (they can be the longer leg type) but NOT shorts—they will not be allowed to take part in the lesson if they do.

We Love to Read Events—Next Week

To celebrate reading next week, parents/carers/grandparents are invited to come and read in class with their child (and friends!). We can provide the reading matter but you are also welcome to bring in short stories/poems that you like (and are suitable for the age group).

***Remember too: WORLD BOOK DAY** next Thursday, 7th March. (Come dressed as a book character and remember to bring a potato! MORE INFO on the attached poster.

There is also a fantastic event taking place on Saturday, 2nd March at Lancaster & Morecambe College for everyone. Again, please see the attached poster for full details.

Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y2

We are planning a visit to South Lakes Safari Zoo on Friday, 29th March. Please look out for a letter with full details next week in your child's bag.

Name	Nominated by	Nominated for
Archie Lamb	Mrs Belshire & Mrs Mayor	A huge improvement in handwriting
Lilly Hunter Nicole Percival	Mrs Mayor & Mrs Belshire	Enthusiasm and great skill shown at the football competition
Evelyn Baldwin	Miss Stritch	Trying hard in her phonics
Sophie Lloyd	Miss Strich	Super independent sentence writing
Rafael Kelly	Miss Strich	Settling well and trying hard with all his work
Gracie Hoogstins	Mrs Boyle	Excellent effort in her independent writing
Xavier Lamb	Mrs Boyle	Excellent effort in his
Cole Mort Dillon Mellor Amy Atkinson Verity Doran Alfie Ackerley Jules Taylor	Mrs Cross	Fabulous chunking to divide larger numbers

Kitchen Trophy

"For good manners and helping at lunchtime."

Congratulations to Rose English Year 6.

Well Done.

Awards will be presented during our celebration assembly on Friday, 8th March at 9.15am
All welcome.

Celebration Topics for this term:

8th	March	Sport	29th	March	Class
15th	March	Class	5th	April	Sport
22nd	March	Uniform/Arts			

Diary Dates

World Book Day Lunch	Thurs 7th Mar
Oliver Twist (Whole School)	Fri 8th Mar 1.30pm
Open Classrooms	Weds 13th Mar 3.15-3.40 pm
Music Festival Y2 & Y4 (letters sent out)	Mon 18th Mar Weds 20th Mar
Church Service	Tues 9th Apr 2.40 pm
Close for Easter	Tues 9th Apr 3.10pm
School re-opens	Thurs 25th Apr 8.55 am

Clubs

Monday -	Football Y3,4,5 &6	3.15—4.15pm
Tuesday -	Athletics Y5/6	12.30-1pm
Wednesday -	Sportz4All (6th March)	
Thursday -	Karate	3.30-5.30pm

FOSSY Activities

Oliver Twist—FOSSY have kindly paid for the whole school to watch a performance of Oliver Twist on Friday 8th March. Many thanks.

FASHION SHOW - Unfortunately due to lack of enthusiasm FOSSY have had to cancel the show due to take place on Thursday, 7th March. If you have already bought a ticket please come to the office for your refund.

MEETING: There will be a FOSSY meeting straight after school on Monday, 4th March. Everyone is welcome.

School Dinners

Please note these should be paid for in advance, if your child has a meal everyday the total up until Easter is £73.60. If your meal bill escalates to more than £23.00 you will be asked to provide a packed lunch for your child until the debt is cleared.

Recently there have been children who have chosen a hot meal and then later in the morning realise they have a packed lunch. In these circumstances the meal will be charged for.

Sponsored Swim in aid of Breast Cancer Now

Mr Hammond, one of our parents, and a friend are planning to do a charity swim in aid of Breast Cancer Now. Their aim is to swim 24 miles in 24 hours. To donate to this worthy cause please visit—

<https://www.justgiving.com/2swim4life2019>

Mosque Open Days

On Sunday this week, the Muslim council of Mosques are holding open days for people in the area to visit mosques. This is a really good opportunity to build interfaith relationship and understanding and would also be a chance for people in schools to learn more about their nearest mosque. There will be a number of mosques open in our diocese in Preston, Blackburn and East Lancashire from around 11am to 6pm on Sunday. This is a good occasion for teachers/head teachers to make contact with their mosque and build links for potential school visits, or simply to build professional knowledge. All will be welcomed. In addition, it may be useful to promote this venture to parents in communities where it would be good to build relationships.

The website with details of which mosques are open and information about appropriate clothing is below.

<https://www.visitmymosque.org/>

Stephen Whittaker Director of Education

Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education, Diocesan Offices, Clayton House, Walker Office Park. Blackburn. BB1 2QE



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Scotforth St Paul's Primary and Nursery School
Scotforth Road
Lancaster
LA1 4SE
Tel: 01524 65379
Head Teacher: Mrs A. Aylott
e-mail: head@scotforth-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk
website: www.scotforth-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk
28.2.19

Dear Parents,

I spent a significant amount of time yesterday following up on an issue that has occurred regarding an unpleasant hoax called Momo.

You will note that an information sheet was sent home regarding this as various members of staff became aware that a few KS2 children had searched online for Momo. Two of these children then showed an image of the character to some other children. At no time was any video accessed or watched. The LCC filtering system called Lightspeed blocks children accessing sites such as YouTube, Instagram, Facebook etc. However, newspaper articles (such as the one attached) are able to be searched for by children, and may have contained a picture of the unpleasant face that symbolises Momo.

I have spoken to all the children involved and, every single one was able to tell me school's rules regarding safe use of the internet. Unfortunately, a few children chose to disregard the rules and searched anyway. As a consequence, the children involved will not be allowed the use of Ipads until we feel we can again trust them.

We have acted quickly regarding something that has only just become an issue- in this school and very many others both locally and nationally. We take safe use of the internet extremely seriously, in fact a Policeman was in for a scheduled visit to a KS2 class just yesterday again.

I would appreciate your support in talking to your child/ren and reinforcing our safe use of the internet policy and procedures.

If you have any further questions please get in touch. Thank you

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A. Aylott
Headteacher/NLE



Viral 'Momo challenge' is a malicious hoax, say charities

Jim Waterson Media editor
6 hrs ago

It is the most talked about viral scare story of the year so far, blamed for child suicides and violent attacks – but experts and charities have warned that the “Momo challenge” is nothing but a “moral panic” spread by adults.

Warnings about the supposed Momo challenge suggest that children are being encouraged to kill themselves or commit violent acts after receiving messages on messaging service WhatsApp from users with a profile picture of a distorted image of woman with bulging eyes.

News stories about the Momo challenge have also attracted hundreds of thousands of shares on Facebook in a 24-hour period, dominating the list of UK news stories ranked by number of interactions on the social network.

There have also been claims that the material has appeared in a video featuring Peppa Pig among YouTube’s content aimed at children.

But the Samaritans and the NSPCC have dismissed the claims, saying that while there is no evidence that the Momo challenge has initially caused any harm itself, the ensuing media hysteria could now be putting vulnerable people at risk by encouraging them to think of self-harm.

The UK Safer Internet Centre called the claims “fake news”. And YouTube said it had seen no evidence of videos showing or promoting the Momo challenge on its platform.

The NSPCC said there is no confirmed evidence that the phenomenon is actually posing a threat to British children and said they have received more phone calls about it from members of the media than concerned parents.

A Samaritans spokesperson was similarly sceptical, saying: “These stories being highly publicised and starting a panic means vulnerable people get to know about it and that creates a risk.” They recommended media outlets [read their guidelines on reporting suicide](#) and suggested press coverage is “raising the risk of harm”.

“Currently we’re not aware of any verified evidence in this country or beyond linking Momo to suicide,” said the Samaritans spokesperson. “What’s more important is parents and people who work with children concentrate on broad online safety guidelines.”

Child safety campaigners say the story has spread due to legitimate concerns about online child safety, the sharing of unverified material on local Facebook groups, and official comments from British police forces and schools which are based on little hard evidence.

While some concerned members of the public have rushed to share posts warning of the suicide risk, there are fears that they have exacerbated the situation by scaring children and spreading the images and the association with self-harm.

“Even though it’s done with best intentions, publicising this issue has only piqued curiosity among young people,” said Kat Tremlett, harmful content manager at the UK Safer Internet Centre.

© PA Molly Russell, 14, took her own life in November 2017 after viewing harmful content on social media. (Russell family/Leigh Day Law)

The rumour mill appears to have created a feedback loop, where news coverage of the Momo challenge is prompting schools or the police to warn about the supposed risks posed by the Momo challenge, which has in turn produced more news stories warning about the challenge.

Tremlett said she was now hearing of children who are “white with worry” as a result of media coverage about a supposed threat that did not previously exist.

“It’s a myth that is perpetuated into being some kind of reality,” she said.

Although the Momo challenge has been circulating on social media and among schoolchildren in various forms since last year, the recent coverage appears to have started with a single warning posted by a mother on a Facebook group for residents of Westhoughton, a small Lancashire town on the edge of Bolton. This post, based on an anecdote she had heard from her son at school, went viral before being picked up by her local newspaper and then covered by outlets from around the world.

The supernatural “Momo” image, originally from an artwork made for a Japanese horror show exhibition, has been circulating on the internet for several years but last summer became attached to unverified claims that teenagers were being prompted to kill or harm themselves by messages on WhatsApp.

Many campaigners in the child safety sector have been reluctant to issue statements for fear of fanning the flames of the story but are changing direction after seeing the sheer number of dubious stories written to attract clicks on the issue.

Hundreds of separate articles have been written on the topic by British news websites in the last three days, dominating the most-read lists on tabloid news sites. These include explainers for concerned parents on how to protect children from the supposed risks of the challenge and claims about the acts that children are supposedly committing after seeing the images. Celebrities such as Stacey Solomon have weighed in and expressed their concerns, creating even more justifications for headlines.

Multiple police forces have issued formal warnings about the supposed risks of the Momo challenge, in addition to hundreds of schools. In one example, a Hull primary school posted on its Facebook page an unsourced claim that clips of the Momo challenge image are “hacking into children’s programmes”, with no evidence of what is meant by this claim.

A YouTube spokesperson said the claims were completely false: “Contrary to press reports, we have not received any evidence of videos showing or promoting the Momo challenge on YouTube. Content of this kind would be in violation of our policies and removed immediately.”

Several outlets, including the Mirror and many local newspapers, have also claimed that the Momo game has been linked to 130 teen suicides in Russia, with no supporting evidence.

An identical claim was made in 2017 about a similar supposed viral suicide craze called Blue Whale, which was also linked to exactly 130 teen suicides in Russia. This figures came from a much-criticised single report in the Novaya Gazeta newspaper, with later reporting suggesting that not a single death could be conclusively linked to the game.

“We almost need to stop talking about the issue for it to not be an issue any more,” said Tremlett.

- *In the UK, Samaritans can be contacted on 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org. In the US, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 1-800-273-8255. In Australia, the crisis support service Lifeline is 13 11 14. Other international suicide helplines can be found at www.befrienders.org.*

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 7th March

Come dressed as a book character!
(Bring the book too...)

COMPETITION: decorate a potato
(or similar root veg!!) as a book
character. Prizes available.

PARENTS/CARERS/GRANDPARENTS
ALSO: ^ Come and read with your
child (and friends!) in their class:

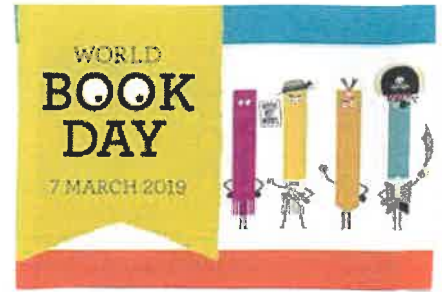
Year 5 & 6 Wed 6th 11.30-12

Rec-Year 2 Wed 6th 2.15-2.45

Nursery Wed 6th 2.45-3.10

Year 3 & 4 Thurs 7th 2.30-3.00

The more the merrier so please come if you can!

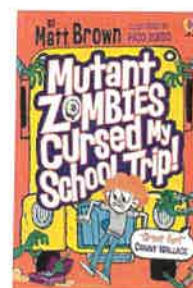
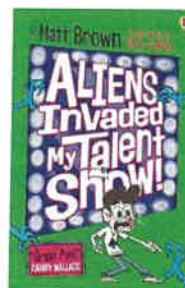
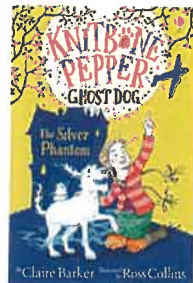


Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are writing to let you know that your child will be attending a Big Book Bonanza on 12 March with much loved children's authors Claire Barker and Matt Brown! World Book Day is the biggest celebration of reading in the UK and your child is involved!

Copies of Claire and Matt's books will be available at a discounted price of £6 (rrp £6.99). We are able to offer a World Book Day Special Offer where 2 books can be bought for £10 or 4 for £20. Cash or cheques payable to Silverwood Book Events will be accepted. Matt and Claire write warm and humorous stories that keep readers guessing as to what happens next and contain a lot of lovable characters and laughs! The books are perfect for sharing or reading alone.

Often pupils are very inspired to read the author's book after meeting the author and this is a rare chance for them to have books signed and personally dedicated by one of the field's biggest stars.



Claire Barker's Knitbone Pepper books and Matt Brown's Mutant Zombies are discounted to £6 (rrp £6.99) each or World Book Day Special: Any two books for £10 or four for £20

Matt Brown is an author and broadcaster who has presented on some of the UK's most popular TV shows liked Nickeloden and I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here, he was voted the 'greatest writer ever in the history of the world' by Stockport Grammar! Claire is one of Mumsnet's top pick authors and her stories have the feel of being instant children's classics.

Research shows that author events in schools inspire children and help them on their journey to a love of reading.

'The impact of an author visiting shouldn't be underestimated. These are the types of things that people talk about when you ask them what they remember about school.'

Times Educational Supplement

'Writers visiting schools can make a significant difference to a child's attitudes to and enjoyment of writing, offering new perspectives on writing and what it can do.'

The Arts Council

We hope your child will hugely enjoy and benefit greatly from this visit.



January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

We Are Reading Festival 2019

Lancaster and Morecambe's FIRST EVER family reading festival is taking place on Saturday 2nd March 2019 @ Lancaster and Morecambe College. Come and join us for a fun filled day. There is free parking and refreshments available whilst you enjoy a range of fantastic activities.

This is the district's celebration of a year-long focus on reading activities based in schools from the Lancashire 'We Are Reading' initiative. This has been such a successful initiative within our schools that we wanted to leave a legacy by holding an annual Children and Families Reading Festival.

We are really looking forward to this day long event, please come and join us and support your child's reading journey.

Activities include puppet making, story stones, designing book marks, book swapping and opportunities to meet and chat to local illustrator Tania Sneesby as well as meeting authors Tim Milner, Frank English and Jamie Charles.

Tania Sneesby often displays her amazing art work in illustrator exhibitions and has illustrated books for local author Tim Milner. She will be available throughout the day and will be bringing some of her fantastic work with her.

Local author Tim Milner is a teacher at one of the high schools in Lancaster. He has written a lovely range of books including 'Where's my Hug?' and 'What could I be?' His first book was originally written for his own daughter when she was 3 years old.

Frank English will also be attending the festival. He has written the well-known Jack series volumes 1-4. Other of his titles include 18 Mulberry Road and The Seasons collection which are aimed at children 6-12 years old.

The festival will allow the opportunity to meet up and coming author Jamie Charles who is actually two authors who have combined their names and skills to create a fantastic new fairy detective series - Marshmallow Raisinhorn! Half of this duo actually attended Bowerham Primary School when he was younger!

You will be able to find out more about purchasing books by these authors on the day as well as having the opportunity to chat to them about how they became published authors and being able to listen to extracts from their work.

You don't need to bring anything with you to take part in the festival - just yourselves. However, if you would like to participate in the book swap make sure you bring along a book to swap! There may also be merchandise from the authors and illustrators to purchase on the day (as well as ordering) so bring along your purse just in case!

Please see overleaf for more information. We hope to see you there!

Thank you

**FREE
ENTRY**

Saturday 2nd March
Lancaster & Morecambe College

**FREE
Parking**

Family event

Make Slime
Bring a book for our Book Swap
Story Stones **Design a Bookmark**
Story Inventions **Reading Top Tips**
Colour a Character **Puppet Making**
Treasure Hunt **Listen to a Story**

Book Reviews
Library Service

Local Choirs
Face Painting



Audio Books
**Adventure
Writing From
Each School
Showcased**

REFRESHMENTS
Local Illustrator - Tania Sneesby
**Local Authors - Tim Milner,
Frank English & Jamie Charles**

**Hosted by
local schools**

In the Conference Centre
11 - 1pm and 1:30 - 3:30pm



Wink
WOMEN INTERESTED IN NETWORKING KNOWLEDGE

EXCLUSIVE

shopping

**LOCAL DESIGNERS
from South Lakes & North Lancashire**

★ MEET the MAKERS ★

**SATURDAY 9th
MARCH 2019**

**at The Villa Levens, Kendal
10am - 4pm**

Free Admission

Tea • Coffee • Lunches • Afternoon Tea

available from The Villa Levens