



St. Peter's Newsletter

Flourishing Together

'I have come that you may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Friday 6th February 2026



Weekly Updates

We hope everyone has had a wonderful week. It has certainly been a busy one in school! Our Trading Card Club was a huge success, with many children enjoying the chance to swap and share their cards.

Our Planet Protectors have also been busy, ensuring the birds are taken care of in this cold weather, creating and hanging their homemade birdfeeders around the school grounds. This is a fantastic opportunity to share with our children the importance of caring for nature, even in our very own playground!



Young Voices was an incredible experience for our pupils, who loved performing in the Co-op Live Arena in Manchester. A big thank you to all staff, children and families for their commitment and for the planning and preparation that takes place behind the scenes. It was a wonderful day and night enjoyed by all!



You may also have noticed our planters being prepared for our 'Year of Growth'. We're excited to spend the year growing a variety of flowers, vegetables and fruit together! A huge thank you goes to all the families who have kindly donated seeds for planting and for those who have helped to make our planters for this project. We are excited to share progress with you over the course of the year...

Key Reminders

Young Voices Group will be performing some of the songs from the showcase on Wednesday 11th February at 9am. Children who have participated can wear their young voices T-Shirts on this day. This is for members of the family that were unable to make it to the arena or to repeat for parents who want another opportunity to see their child perform. For fire safety, we can only welcome a maximum of 3 places per child. No booking is required but we will check people off our list against the children's names upon arrival.

Y1 parents – Oystercatcher class will be leading their class worship on Friday 13th February from 2.30pm. Parents of children from Oystercatchers are welcome to come along. Maximum of 2 spaces per child, no booking required.



Y2 are busy preparing for the Lancaster Music Festival and we are looking forward to hearing the wonderful songs at this event when it takes place.

Mrs Dodd and the team at St Peter's

Our Christian Values



This half term, our focus is on **Our Wider World** and the Christian values of **Peace** and **Patience**.

On Monday, we learned about being peacekeepers and how we can help make our school a happy place. We talked about the difference between unkind behaviour and bullying. The children understood that bullying is when someone is unkind on purpose, again and again. It was a great chance to think about how we can all play kindly and look after each other.

On Tuesday, Rev. Mark joined us to teach us about the importance of Candlemas. We thought about how light brings hope, and the children enjoyed acting out the story of Jesus being presented to Simeon. It was a lovely time of learning and reflection for everyone.

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School Trips – Reminder of the Process

We are delighted to continue to offer wonderful school trips to children across our school and will continue to share information at the earliest opportunity when we make plans.

As a reminder, we usually send a paper letter home followed by an electronic copy via email and will add items on ParentPay. We then require all actions to be complete on ParentPay within the dates specified on the letters. Please remember that without these actions being complete, we cannot take children offsite, so we do appreciate your cooperation in providing the online consent and payment at the earliest opportunity. Thankyou

Stars of the Week

Stars of the Week receiving a Headteacher Award are...



We are celebrating children who have settled back to school and are demonstrating our high expectations for behaviour and learning.



Skylark Classes <i>George</i>		Oystercatchers <i>Benny</i>	Eider Ducks <i>Charlie</i>
Turnstones <i>Harry C</i>	Dunlins <i>Kiki</i>	Lapwings <i>Irma</i>	Curlews <i>Emma</i>

Social Interactions and Play Opportunities

Some parents have recently raised concerns about rough play and children's social interactions at playtimes. Like many schools, we are seeing that children are still developing their understanding of play, friendship and kindness. Accidents and mistakes do happen, and this is a natural part of learning. Our staff work hard to teach respect, kindness and positive social skills, and we ask parents to remember that the children are still learning and should not be labelled. Staff work hard to monitor play interaction, teach and investigate situations where there may have been falling outs, rough play and physical behaviours.

Very often this is children quickly reacting and not planning to hurt or harm others. When issues arise, we use them as opportunities to help children learn how to handle things differently. We would really appreciate your kindness, care and understanding in how situations are dealt with and handled.

Best Start

The DfE and schools recognise how important it is for children to have the Best Start to education. This begins long before they start school, through experiences such as childcare, nursery provision and early opportunities to develop key skills.

We are increasingly seeing children start school without essential pre-school skills such as communication, social interaction, emotional regulation and independent toileting and eating, which has a significant impact on early years learning.

To support families, the national 'Best Start to Life' website offers practical guidance for parents and carers, and school will continue to signpost and support families in accessing this advice. If you are hoping for a sibling or family member to join us in the future, we kindly ask that you familiarise yourself with the expectations of school readiness.

<https://startingreception.co.uk/>

These are key skills that are currently being worked on in school and can be practiced at home, relating to **building relationships and communicating** and **being with others**.

Practising sharing and taking turns with toys

- Talking to them about how they are feeling and why
- Looking at story books together and speaking about what characters are feeling is a good way to do this
- Beginning to recognise what others are feeling, e.g. understanding if a friend is sad
- Encouraging them to set boundaries for themselves and others (e.g. knowing how to say 'no')

Lost Property Reminders

Our lost property is, once again, overflowing. Please ensure you clearly label each item your child brings to school, including lunchboxes, water bottles and clothing items to ensure they can make their way back home.

We recommend you encourage your child to take responsibility for their belongings – remembering to bring coats, jumpers and lunchboxes into registration after lunchtime, to help reduce the amount of items found and placed in lost property.

Dates for the Diary – Week Commencing 9th February 2026

Monday 9th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights Check: Please see email communication regarding this process • Y6 HMPSA League @ BLA afterschool: Please see letter and emails for details
Tuesday 10th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y4 Swimming - please make sure kits are in school • Y5 and Y6 have fitness sessions in school - PE kits required • Parents Evening: Please ensure you arrive in good time for your slot as we cannot reschedule these
Wednesday 11th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young Voices Concert @ 9.30am. Please see above for details. Max 3 spaces per child • Y3 Ukulele lessons (PM) – please ensure instruments are in school • Parents Evening: Please ensure you arrive in good time for your slot as we cannot reschedule these
Thursday 12th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y4 Ball Games Club: 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 13th February	<p>Last Day of Spring 1 Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y1 Class Worship @ 2.30pm. Please see email for details. Max 2 family members per child welcome to watch.

Spring Term Up and Coming Dates

- Y4 Trip to the World Museum in Liverpool – Thursday 26th February. Please see the letter and email communication, and ensure you have completed all actions ASAP before the date.
- Y2 Lancaster and District Singing Festival – Tuesday 17th March. Please see the letter and email communication, and ensure you have completed all actions ASAP before the date.

HALF TERM DATES

Last Day - Friday 13th February
Back to school - Monday 23rd February



**Sweet and Savoury
Free February Half Term Fun**

Judges Lodgings Museum
Friday 20 February 11am - 3.30pm

Get hands on this half term making Valentine keepsakes and creative treats. Have fun making and decorating salt dough ornaments and sugar craft treats! No booking required.

*Activities are free but charges apply if visiting the rest of the museum (Adults £5 / children free)

https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/museums
01524 581241
judgeslodgings@lancashire.gov.uk

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wildlife watch

Wildlife Watch Group

Time: 10.00 a.m. till noon.
Heysham Nature Reserve welcomes children aged 8 - 13 years with children over 6 accompanied by an adult, to learn all about our wildlife.

Activities 2026

- Sat 10th Jan - Recycled Bird Feeders
- Sat 14th Feb - Orienteering
- Sat 14th March - Seed Sowing
- Sat 18th April - Exploring Soil
- Sat 9th May - Rock Pooling at HMB
- Sat 14th June - Butterfly House
- Sat 11th July - Snails & Slugs
- Sat 12th Sept - Life of Mammals
- Sat 10th Oct - Den Building
- Sat 7th Nov - Conservation work
- Sat 12th Dec - Christmas Decorations

For more information about our group and how to register a place, please contact us via:

email: egarston@lancswt.org.uk or 07717366812

We meet every 2nd Sat of the month (no session in Aug).
The fee is £2 per child.

Location: Heysham Nature Reserve. Money Close Lane, Heysham. LA3 2UW



Art School... In A Trail!

GO ON A CREATIVE ADVENTURE WITH
ART SCHOOL (IN A BOOK)

WIN A SIGNED COPY

This February, children and their families are invited to see artwork at the Judges' Lodgings Museum in a whole new light with *Art School... in a trail!*

Pick up a free activity sheet* when visiting the Judges' Lodgings and enjoy a gallery spotter trail with a creative twist – each stop unlocks a playful mission designed to help visitors look at and talk about artworks in fun, accessible ways. Complete the activity sheet and receive your *Art School* sticker!

* Free activity when visiting the museum (Charges apply to visit Adults £5/ Children Free)

Lancashire
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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com).

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake 'facts'. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools require conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday

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