



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary & Nursery School News

**SCHOOL CONTACT
DETAILS**
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Friday 9th January 2026

Our Gospel Value *Service*

The best feeling of
happiness is when you're
happy because you've made
someone else happy.



A very happy new year to you all! I hope that you enjoyed your Christmas and managed to make some great memories! It has been a great week getting back into our routines and seeing all the children coming back and engaging so well with their new themes. The staff returned on Monday and had training on how we will make adaptations in lessons to support all of our children so that they can show us how much they know. On Tuesday, we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany and we all joined Our Lady of Lourdes parishioners to celebrate Mass. It was a lovely service and the children read really well especially as they didn't have long to practice. In the afternoon we welcomed Morecambe Football Club back to do some activities with Oak and Willow Class. Today we have had Celebration Assembly and celebrated all the things that the children have been doing throughout the week. It was lovely to show some swimming certificates and some artwork.



Next week, we will begin on Monday, with assembly that will focus on the gospel from Sunday. In the afternoon Willow Class will begin their swimming sessions at Carnforth pool. I am sure that they will be a little apprehensive but will have a great time. On Tuesday, Morecambe Football Club will be in the afternoon with Mrs Bowden to do sport and Music with Oak and Willow Classes. After school the staff have some training around vocabulary in our new curriculum. On Wednesday, our Willow tunnel will have its annual haircut and after school the staff have some more training focusing on Phonics this time. On Thursday we will be celebrating Winnie-the-Pooh's 100th birthday with a special lunch and some activities in class. On Friday, I will be attending an Attendance Conference with the MCMAT and so Miss Townson will be doing Celebration Assembly for me. This will be at the usual time of 3pm.

As always, if anyone has any concerns or worries, please do not hesitate to call, and make an appointment to see us; we are always happy to help and support families as best we can.



Our VIP's this week are:

LITTLE ACORNS (Nursery)	
All of our new starters	
CHESTNUT CLASS	
Nehal Nidhin	
ELDER CLASS	
Malinhara Jayalath	
WILLOW CLASS	
Matthew Gwata	
OAK CLASS	
Oliver Bamford	
WELFARE AWARDS	
Hugo McNeely	Ead Shwan

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Next week is **Week 2**



Liz Kendall

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

LITTLE ACORNS & CHESTNUT CLASS

In Little Acorns we have learnt about owls and made feeders for them.

ELDER CLASS

In Elder Class this week, we have learnt about Mary Anning and drew some amazing fossils.

WILLOW CLASS

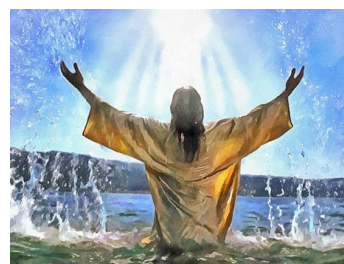
In Willow Class this week, we have explored how levers pivot on a fulcrum.

OAK CLASS

In Oak Class this week, we have been thinking about how latitude and longitude can help us in Geography.

PRAYER & LITURGY

Our assemblies this week will focus Jesus' baptism and how we hear God telling us that Jesus is his Son. The children will understand that we are invited to follow Jesus' example of Baptism and make a bold statement for God in how we live our lives.



Attendance Update

We are trying really hard to improve attendance in school so that we reach the national targets. The children's target is 95%. Let's all keep trying to work hard to improve our attendance.

This week

Chestnut Class	Elder Class	Willow Class	Oak Class
86.36%	86.51%	95.83%	97.14%

Well done to **OAK CLASS**



After-School Clubs

You will have received a letter this week detailing the different clubs that are running over the next term.

Unfortunately, we are not able to offer as many clubs as we would like this term due to staff training - we would have had to cancel some. Please return your letter to Miss Townson as soon as possible.

STAFFING UPDATE

As you may be aware Miss Nixon has been off sick for some time and it is with sadness that I write to let you know that she has decided to resign from her position here and move back to Cumbria. I am sure that you will join us in wishing her well. Miss Kirby who has been covering for her will continue to support in school until the end of the school year.

Miss Bloomfield will continue to work in the school office until Easter (we are hoping to persuade her to extend this).



SCHOOL WEBSITE

Thank you all for your patience. We are really struggling to get this working well so please continue to bear with us. I will continue to use Reach More as well as putting what I can on the website.



Autumn Diary

Dates

We have included as many dates as we are aware of at this time. We will keep updating this, the school website and will send texts as reminders.

Monday 12 th January	9am Assembly 2.15pm Willow Class Swimming
Tuesday 13 th January	1.15pm Morecambe Football Club & Music (Oak & Willow Class)
Thursday 15 th January	Census Day Winnie-the-Pooh Birthday Lunch
Friday 16 th January	3pm Celebration Assembly
Monday 19 th January	9am Assembly 2.15pm Willow Class Swimming
Tuesday 20 th January	Life Education Van Visit 1.15pm Morecambe Football Club & Music (Oak & Willow Class)
Wednesday 21 st January	9.15am EYFS Mini City Role-play
Friday 23 rd January	3pm Celebration Assembly
Monday 26 th January	9am Assembly 2.15pm Willow Class Swimming
Tuesday 27 th January	1.15pm Morecambe Football Club & Music (Oak & Willow Class)
Wednesday 28 th January	10am Dentist Visit (Reception)
Friday 30 th January	3pm Celebration Assembly
Monday 2 nd February	9am Assembly 2.15pm Willow Class Swimming
Tuesday 3 rd February	1.15pm Morecambe Football Club & Music (Oak & Willow Class)

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS September 2026

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS ARE OPEN for children who will start these schools in **September 2026**. Parents need to apply for a primary school place by **15th January 2026**.

Applications can be made at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools



ONLINE SAFETY

Please find attached a useful Online Safety Poster for parents. It is a really useful document that shows how we can keep our children safe whilst using the computer.

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

- 1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS**
Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.
- 2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING**
Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.
- 3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE**
Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.
- 4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS**
When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.
- 5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT**
With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.
- 6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING**
Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.
- 7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES**
Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.
- 8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.
- 9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER**
Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.
- 10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP**
Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and C10P can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

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.
[See full reference list on our website](#)

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

[@wake_up_weds](#) [/www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Children and Family Wellbeing Info and Advice Drop ins

Looking for Support?
Want to talk to services that help parents, young people,
children and families?

Working with CHATS, Citizens Advice, Youth Futures and many more
We are here to help!
Come along, have a drink and a chat, signposting and advice (term time only)

Thursdays

Coffee & Connect One Stop Shop
Morecambe Library
9:30-11:30am (1st Thurs of the month)

CHATs Connections
More Music, Morecambe
10-12am (2nd Thurs of the month)

Next Steps Drop in - for young people
not in education, training and employment
Every Thursday 1-4pm
Morecambe Library

Coffee and Connect
Morecambe Bay Academy
9:15-11:15am (4th Thurs of the month)

Fridays

CHATs Social Café
More Music, Morecambe
10-12am (1st Friday of the month)

Carnforth Warm Space
Carnforth Family Hub
9:30-11am (2nd Fri of the month)

Coffee and Connect
Morecambe Bay Primary
8.45 - 10am (3rd Friday of the month)

Coffee and Connect One Stop Shop
Lune Park Family Hub
1-3pm (3rd Friday of the month)

Coffee Morning @The Venue
Sandylands Primary Morecambe
9:00-10:30am (4th Friday of the month)

Carnforth Warm Space
Carnforth Family Hub
9:30-11am (4th Friday of the month)

