



*Where all our pupils SHINE!*

**Week 26 Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**School closes today and we re-open  
on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

### **Staffing Update for September**

As we approach this term's Parent's Evening it seems appropriate to share the staffing structure for next September.

This year we have been in the very fortuitous position of being able to afford to have five classes. Unfortunately, this is not something that our budget will allow going forward and sadly Miss Hardman has decided that she would enjoy the challenge of a bigger school and so will be leaving us at the end of the year but I am sure that she won't be a stranger and will visit us whenever she is able to!

Mrs Addison will remain championing Pendle Class, Miss Guest is ready for the challenge of Clougha Class, Miss Forbes is going to discover the delights of Nicky Nook and Miss Smillie will continue nurturing The Nook.

### **Class Shields**

The Nook	Maia, for making good progress in her writing, always having a positive attitude in all her learning and being a good friend in class. Well done!
Nicky Nook	April, for her excellent progress in her reading. Her writing is showing lots of imagination and she is an excellent member of the class. Well done!
Beacon	Tommy, for being a great team player, a fantastic communicator and a hard worker. Well done!
Clougha	Hannah, who has gained in confidence and matured into an excellent student and role model. Well done!
Pendle	Eric, for his positive attitude, team spirit in and outside of school and his encouragement of others to be more confident in themselves. Well done!



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Canon Peter Ballard will be holding his last service at Shireshead Church on Easter Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> March). There will be a Jacobs Join in the village hall from 12.00 pm, all are welcome to join.

**FOFS Fun Run – Thursday  
13<sup>th</sup> June 2024!**



### Dates For Your Diary

<b>March</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR EASTER SCHOOL IS CLOSED ON 28 <sup>TH</sup> NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL!
<b>April</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> SCHOOL OPENS
<b>May</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Choir to sing at Oakfield 8 <sup>th</sup> Infant trip to Abbeystead Farm 10 <sup>th</sup> Y6 Parent's meeting SATS at 3.30pm 13 <sup>TH</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> KS2 SATS 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sports Day 24 <sup>th</sup> SCHOOL CLOSED
<b>June</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Y1 Phonics Screening 3 <sup>rd</sup> Y4,5,6 Puberty Talk 13 <sup>th</sup> FOFS Fun Run
<b>July</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> School Reports To Parents 19 <sup>th</sup> NO PM CLUB 19 <sup>th</sup> SCHOOL CLOSSES



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#### GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER – SPRING TERM 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

How quickly the weeks pass, it does not seem long since the last Governor newsletter. But another term has been completed and signs of Spring are all around us as we prepare for the Easter break.

Although it has been a short term it has been an extremely busy one for all involved with school. Enrichment activities and trips including a residential stay in London, visits to the Leyland transport museum, Hothersall Lodge and a slightly wet canal walk to name a few.

Governors have been on training courses, attended regular meetings, received updates on the school improvement plan, the headteacher's report, assessment reports and as you will see in the updates section met with and appointed four new governors.

Sadly, we say farewell and a huge thank you to Canon Ballard who steps down as governor as he leads his last service in the village on Easter Sunday. We wish him well for the future.

May we wish you an enjoyable holiday and let's hope the weather will enable us all to get out and about and enjoy the lovely area we live in.

Peter Taylor (Chair of Governors)

Ruth Ross (Vice Chair of Governors)

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#### Summer Meeting Dates

Standards, Teaching and Learning Committee  
**16<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Resources Committee  
**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024**

Full Governing Board (FGB) Meeting  
**13<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Standards and Effectiveness Committee  
**18<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

#### Governor Updates

We welcome four new governors to the board.

Sue Tresilian as Local Authority governor, Simon Brearley as Co-opted governor, Mark Hurst and Lydia Read-Potter as Associate governors. We look forward to working with them.

#### How to contact us

If you would like to contact the Chair or Vice Chair of Governors to raise any issue in confidence, you can do so either by letter or email via the school office.

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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps that we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

### SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

### HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.



### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.



### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.



### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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