



Where all our Pupils SHINE

Newsletter – Week 14 Friday 13th December 2024

Penalty Fine Information

Please see below information from Lancashire County Council that we have received this week.



Information for Parents

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period¹. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Absences can have a lasting effect on learning

Missing a week of school means your child will miss around 25 hours of learning

This creates gaps in their knowledge and could mean they will not meet their full potential

¹ A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once.

Packed Lunches

In a slight change, children who are on packed lunches will be bringing home any food they have left and any rubbish. This is so parents can see how much their child has eaten and also this is due to food waste legislation changing. Thank you for your co-operation.

Choir

Yesterday, the choir visited Stanley Lodge to sing for the residents. Well done Natalya, Adam, Emma, Elise, April, Freya, Penelope, Nora and Flora, who did a beautiful solo.



Christmas Jumper Days!

Children are welcome to come in a Christmas Jumper as well as their normal uniform on these dates:-

18th December
19th December
20th December

Reindeer Rush!

We will be holding our annual Reindeer Rush in support of St John's Hospice on the 17th December. Sponsorship forms will be coming home tonight in book bags.

Rocksteady Concert





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Children and parents enjoyed our first Rocksteady concert! Well done to all the children, it was an amazing performance.



Pendle Winter Gardens Trip

The children had a fantastic time at the Winter Gardens where they enjoyed Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang. As always the children were extremely well behaved and a credit to the school.



Assembly Themes

Autumn 2

Week 15 - Arrivals

Mobile Library Van

Methodist Chapel car park, Hollins Lane, every 3 weeks, 2 pm – 2.30 pm on the following dates:-

Wednesday, 22nd January, 12th February

FOFS

Dates for the Diary	
December	
13 th	FOFS Movie Night – 3.25 pm
17 th	Reindeer Rush! In aid of St John’s Hospice
18 th	Junior Christmas Celebration 9.00 am Infant Christmas Play 3.30 pm Christmas Jumper Day
19 th	Whole School Dukes Play Trip Christmas Jumper Day
13 th	Own Clothes Day for Hamper Prizes and FOFS Movie Night – 3.25 pm School Hall
20 th	Christmas Jumper Day Close School – NO PM CLUB
January 2025	
6 th	Re-open School
February 2025	
5 th	Reception & Year 6 Height and Weight Screening





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What's On at Garstang Library?

Lancashire Reading Trail: Quest for the festive elf

We are challenging you to read and review 3 books in order to complete the quest, from the launch date of Saturday 7 December until Saturday 22 February.

Children who read and review three books of their choice will win a limited edition Lancashire Reading Trail character card of the Festive Elf, plus a bonus prize.

The quest is open to Lancashire Reading Trail participants, and to new starters. The 3 books count towards your Lancashire Reading Trail progress.



Free Events

Festive Story Time - Monday 30 December 2-4pm- Enjoy listening to stories about this time of year and make a wishing wand to help you ring in 2025. Take part in a scavenger hunt around the library, build with Lego and make a clock decoration.

Lego Club, Board Games and Saturday Stories - Saturdays 10am-12pm

Scratch Challenge Club - Thursdays 4-5pm (book your place online)

STEM Club - first Thursday of the month, 4-5pm (book your place online)

Find even more events on our website!

Digital library

- eBooks and eAudiobooks
- Magazines, graphic novels and comics
- School, homework and study resources
- Family and local history, including Red Rose Collections which has an image archive with over thirty thousand historic photographs

You can access all of these for free, you just need a library card!

You can join Lancashire Libraries for free by applying online or by coming into any branch. There are no overdue or reservation charges for under 18's. Find out more on our website:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/

Registered with FR FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

St John's Hospice

Reindeer Rush!

We will be taking part in the St John's Hospice Reindeer Rush on

17th December 2024

Remember to get sponsored for this fun run for the local Hospice, providing care for patients with life limiting conditions!

United Reformed December Services

DECEMBER SERVICES	
1st December 9.15am Margery Pitcher. Advent 1.	
1st December 10.30am Church Hall open from 10.30am to 3.00pm Refreshments available.	
5th December 9.15am Community Prayer Group	
8th December 2.00pm Revd. Janet Calderley with Broughton Hand Bell Ringers and Christmas refreshments. Advent 2	
15th December 9.15am Revd. David Greenwood. Advent 3	
22nd December 2.00pm Carols by Candlelight with Special Music for Christmas. Advent 4	
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day you are invited to Worship at a sister Church.	
29th December 9.15am Cafe style worship with Revd Irene John	

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY NORTH

Do you have a child starting primary school in September 2025 and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 15 January 2025

You must apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery. Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website, or get a copy from them.

Apply for a school place now by scanning the QR code or visit lancashire.gov.uk/schools

If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call 01524 581148.

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces and click 'school admission policies'.

lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire County Council

