



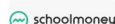
Monday Memo Newsletter

Monday 10th March 2025

Vicar at St. Paul's

Father Matthew will resign as the Vicar of St. Paul's and St. James' on 1st April having been off work for some time. The churches will enter into a vacancy from this date and aim to progress this as quickly and smoothly as possible. I have informed the children of this news during worship today.

Kind regards, Mr J Eccleston



Toast Money

From Summer Term w/b 22nd April, we will be moving to a cashless system for toast. As with all other payments, this will be made available on School Money for the half term.

Unlike dinners and club bookings, the payments will close once the term starts so the kitchen can be given the register of those children having toast.



Eco-Warriors



We have been overwhelmed with the interest in our Eco-Warriors club. Please continue to send in your child/ren's applications by Monday 24th



Attendance

w/b 03/03/25

Reception 98%

Year 1 99%

Year 2 96%

Year 3 100%

Year 4 96%

Year 5 96%

Year 6 100%

Whole School Overall 98%

Target 97%

House Points

The winning team at the end of each half term wins a reward afternoon.

w/b 03/03/25 results are:

Pendle: 225

Bowland: 247

Longridge: 261

Parlick: 305

Worship Values

Our worship value this half term is Hope.

In our weekly Thursday worship, we will celebrate 1 pupil from each class who has shown the term's value.

This term we will celebrate our 'Hope Hero'



Parish News & Events

Warm Space (coffee and bacon butties) Tuesdays 09:00am – 11:30am
Supported by members of our Children's Chaplain from 10:00-10:30am



Diary Dates



Wednesday 12th March

Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights

Thursday 13th March

Year 5 Worship 09:05am

Let's Go Sing at Blackpool Winter Gardens

Wednesday 26th March

Year 5 and Year 6 Swimming Gala

Tuesday 25th March

Key Stage 2 Dance Competition

Wednesday 28th March

FOSPS Women's Appreciation Day

Monday 31st March

Autism Awareness Week

Tuesday 1st April

Parents' Evening
3:30-6:30pm

Wednesday 2nd April

Parents' Evening
3:30-6:30pm
Year 1 class
worship

Monday 7th April

End of term awards

Wednesday 9th April

School Closes for Easter Half Term 2:00pm from Church

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



The National College

Calling all go-getters.

Are you ready to try something new?

scouts.org.uk/join

#SkillsForLife

Did you know 1st Farington Scout Group has been inspiring young minds for over 50 years? We're proud to celebrate this incredible milestone, but we need your help to ensure the adventure continues for future generations! Scouting is about fun, friendship, and new experiences—from building dens and campfires to learning teamwork and life skills. It's a chance for boys and girls to grow their confidence, explore the outdoors, and make memories that last a lifetime. We're actively welcoming new members from all age groups to join our local scouting family. Whether your child dreams of trying new activities, making friends, or just having a great time outside of school, 1st Farington Scout Group is the perfect place to start! Come and be part of our history keep the spirit of scouting alive in our community for another 50 years!

When

1st Farington Scout Group meet every Monday and Wednesday

Beavers (6-8yrs) meet Wednesday - 18:15 to 19:15

Cubs (8-10½yrs) meet Monday - 18:30 to 19:45

Scouts (10½-14yrs) meet Monday - 19:45 to 21:15

Where

St Paul's Church Hall, Church Lane, Farington Moss, PR26 6RD

Contact

Contact Karen Bell on karenbell60@hotmail.com

