



Monday Memo Newsletter

Monday 31st March 2025

Congratulations!

A huge congratulations to our Value winners for last week.

'Hope Hero'	
Reception	Robyn K-B
Year 1	Lucas C-C
Year 2	Grace I
Year 3	Jamie B
Year 4	Drew P-C
Year 5	Max DeN
Year 6	Henry D

Diary Dates

World Autism Acceptance
Month April 2025

April is an opportunity for everyone to come together and raise awareness, foster acceptance, and create a society where autistic people are supported, understood, and empowered. Whether you're at home or at work, your involvement can make a real difference.
Head over to:
www.autism.org.uk



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.

Attendance

w/b 31/03/25

Reception 94%

Year 1 97%

Year 2 99%

Year 3 98%

Year 4 99%

Year 5 100%

Year 6 100%

Whole School Overall 98%

House Points

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

w/b 31/03/25 results are:

Pendle: 146

Bowland: 155

Longridge: 175

Parlick: 149

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

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

Friday 4th April 09:00am-10:00am

Lancashire Minds - Resilience workshop.

All are invited to attend a resilience workshop delivered by the Lancashire Minds team. They will provide resources on how to embed resilience and positive coping strategies at home.

Monday 7th April 09:05am

End of term awards

Wednesday 9th April

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



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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.



LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. It's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.



KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>



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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

