

February 2024 Newsletter

Singleton Church of England Primary School

"Passion for LearningPassion for life"

Christian Value – Endurance

"Let us run with endurance the race God has set before us". Hebrews 12:1

Dear Parents,

January has once again been a very busy month in school. Our Year Six children have settled into their revision term, attending 'Booster Classes' with a positive mind-set. They all work extremely hard at all times and we are all very proud of them.

Mrs James our Maths lead has begun the knock out stages of the annual X-Factor competition and she is very impressed with how many children have entered and how determined our children are to learn their tables. Times tables are crucial to maths....and it is never too soon to start learning them!

Mrs Warner has settled well into life at Singleton School, she came in to school for a day a week prior to taking up the post which has helped with a smooth transition. Please keep your eye on the diary dates as there is a lot happening over the next few months.



Acorns
Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Opening Times

Monday	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:00 – 5:30 pm
Tuesday	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:00 – 5:30 pm
Wednesday	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:00 – 5:30 pm
Thursday	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:00 – 5:30 pm
Friday	7.30 am - 8.45am	3:00 – 5:30 pm

Booking

All booking information and links are on the school website. Please be aware that fees are subject to change. Acorns offer a 10% discount for siblings. This will automatically be deducted upon booking.

Important Information:

Staff are trained in pediatric first aid and have regular safeguarding training. We can offer the club sessions on a regular and one-off basis, although sessions will need to be booked in advance. Acorns is owned by Sarah Goldie, a fully qualified teacher of 20 years and managed by Gabrielle McGowen.

Current Fees

Before School Breakfast Club	7.30 am - 8.45 am	£4.75 per child (includes breakfast)
After School Club – full session	3.00 pm - 5.30 pm	£9.50 per child (includes snack)
After School Club – early session	3.00 pm - 4.15 pm	£4.50 per child (no snack)
After School Club following an extra-curriculum activity	4.15pm - 5.30 pm	£5:00 per child (includes snack)

For any further enquiries, contact details are as follows:

- Sarah Goldie TEL: 07860816175
- EMAIL: sarahgoldie_uk@outlook.com

ALL enquiries and bookings should be directed to Sarah Goldie the owner of the provision. NO bookings can be made through the School Office.



School Office

If you need to contact school for any reason then the office opening hours are as follows:-

Monday	8.00 am - 4.15pm
Tuesday	8.00 am - 4.15 pm
Wednesday	8.00 am - 4.15 pm
Thursday	8.00 am - 4.15 pm
Friday	8.00 am - 3.15 pm

Tel (01253) 882226

Please note that the office is closed for lunch between **12:00 and 1:00pm** (Children cannot be collected, without prior arrangement, between these times).

The phone will not be answered at this time, but a message can be left.

Payments to School

Please note all clubs and dinners must be paid for **in advance**.

Dinner Money

You can pay for School dinners through ParentPay. This does still need to be done in advance on a half-termly basis.

Dinner money for next term is £72.50 (up to 28th March), please pay this via ParentPay.

If you decide that, you no longer want your child to have a school lunch you must give the office a **week** notice as all food is ordered a week in advance.

Absence

If your child is absent, from school please inform the office by **9.20am** and **leave a message** on the answerphone.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Information about PE and Extra-Curricular Activities;

- Please make sure that your child has additional kit for any after school activity, as P.E. Kit **must not** be worn.
- It is important that for sports such as football and hockey your children have the correct kit as these clubs **will always** take place outdoors (e.g. Football boots, shin pads, waterproof etc.)— Please ask Mrs James if you are unsure what your child needs.
- Ms Stansfield will oversee the smooth running of the clubs and ensure that children are passed over to parents/ carers at the end of the session. For all queries relating to extra-curricular please contact Ms Stansfield.
- All children attending extra-curricular clubs should be collected from Class 1's door- on the playground
- Please pick up your child promptly at **4.15pm after clubs**.
- Please make sure that you pay for clubs in advance. If this does not happen then your child will not be booked on the course.
- Please note that as we continue to receive the Sports Grant in the year 2023 /24 we will continue to supplement the cost of the extra-curricular activities once again this year. However due to increases in on costs there has been a slight price increase to £3:00 per session (£4.50 for tennis).

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

FROM MONDAY 18TH FEBRUARY TO THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024

	Lower School (FS /1/2/3)	Upper School (4/5/6)
Monday	Handball Y2 £18 STEM Science Club FS/Y1 £12	Handball Y3 £18 Dance Y3/4/5 £18 Numeracy Booster Y6
Tuesday	Brass (Lunchtime) Y2 £25 Tag Rugby (Outdoor) Y2 £15 Spring Reading Club FS/Y1/2 £5	Brass (Lunchtime) Y3/4/5/6 £25 Tag Rugby (Outdoor) Y3 £15 Multi Skills (Outdoor) Y3/4/5 £15 Literacy Booster Y6
Wednesday	Tennis Y2 £22.50 Forest Schools FS/Y1/2	Tennis Y3 £22.50 Netball Y4/5/6 £15
Thursday	Singing (Lunchtime) Y2 £30 Speed Stacking Y2 £18	Singing (Lunchtime) Y3-Y6 £30 Speed Stacking Y3 £18 Tag Rugby Y4/5/6 £18

There will be no Club's afterschool on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th March, due to Parents Evenings

No Brass Lessons the last week of term (W/C Monday 24th March).

Payment

Ms Stansfield will email parents in advance of the new term to outline the clubs on offer. Club places are allocated on a first come first served basis. Sporting Clubs are provided by third party providers. We are a cashless school and all payments should be made via the ParentPay system.



The overall attendance for January was

96%

For more information about attendance and holidays in term time, please check out the school website.

If you need support with attendance and punctuality please contact Miss Manns, our Family Learning Mentor.



Happy Birthday to the following children

February

2nd Aidan
3rd Thomas C
10th Violet
10th Seb
12th Ava B
15th Matilda G
18th Margot
19th Joshua
20th Annabelle L
23rd Emma
27th Darcey
28th Carter



Parish and Community links



Time for reflection Wisdom

**"All wisdom comes from God."
Proverbs 2 v 6**

Through this Christian Value, we try to develop within our children a good sense and judgement based on life experience and biblical teaching. Also, an understanding that Wisdom is not about what you know (this is knowledge/information) but about what you do with what you know - the application of your knowledge. Being wise does not necessarily have anything to do with age or intellect. Although it is a gift, it is a virtue that we believe needs to be nurtured.

Family Communion

Our Family Communion service is held every Sunday at 9.30am. On the first Sunday of the month this is followed by coffee and biscuits served in church.

Children

Junior Church runs on the second Sunday of every month at 09:30am. (Contact Fiona Small for information; 07913901015)

There is also an All-Age Family service at St. Chad's on the first Sunday of every month at 10:00am (lasts about 45 mins).

Children are both welcomed and encouraged at all our services and especially at our regular Family Communion held each Sunday. There are toys and books at the back of church for children to use during the service.



January 2024

Foundation

Fleur, Alice, Etta, Emmeline, Margot, Harriet

Class 1

Olivia, Sophia, Oliver, Malayka, Lily Fox, Elijah

Class 2

Autumn, Ted, Charlie, Charlotte, Harris, Evie

Class 3

Molly, Ruby, Isabelle, Oliver R, Eliana, James

Lost Property

Please ensure that all your child's uniform (this includes coats and Extra-Curricular sport kits) are clearly labelled. We will only be keeping lost property for the full term, because as you can imagine we haven't got much space to store it all in school. Please check the lost property box at reception.



Healthy Snacks Policy

As you are all well aware, the Governing body have a policy that **only fruit snacks** are permitted in school for break times.

We ask that you ensure that you continue to support this; the Governing Body made this decision because we have a number of children with allergies and we also promote 'Healthy Eating' in our school. If other snacks are sent in, they will be returned home.



January 2024

Foundation

George, Etta, Emmeline, Freddie

Class 1

Matilda, William, James, Alice

Class 2

Theo, Autumn, Ted, Imogen

Class 3

Alfie, Oliver H, Finley, Nancy



Pupil Progress Meetings 2024

Second 'Pupil Progress Meeting' of the year will be held as Face to Face meetings in the school hall.

Tuesday 12th March – Parents evening in school 3:30 – 6:00pm

Wednesday 13th March – Parents evening in school 4:00 – 6:30pm

- The time slots will be available to book on line and links will be sent out nearer the time. The allocated time is limited to a 5 minutes progress chat with your child's class teacher. Please remember if you have a concern or worry then do not wait until parents evening as we have an open-door policy. The focus of 'Formal Progress Meetings' is for staff to run through progress and next steps within learning.
- If your child has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) then you will have already had your meeting with your child's class teacher for this term and so **do not** need to book a slot
- If you co-parent and intend to both attend the same meeting please book only one slot but place a note on the system to indicate that both parents will be attending.
- If you co parent and wish to have a separate appointment then please book individual slots but place a note on the system to indicate this is the intention.
- Some books will be available in the classrooms for parents to look at – so please plan a further 10 minutes into your schedule. Please note that the classrooms will be **closed for cleaning from 6:15pm onwards** – so if you book a later slot please look at books before meeting with the teacher to avoid disappointment.
- Full details and links to book slots will be sent out nearer the time but please note the dates for your diaries
- **Please note children are not allowed to attend this event. Acorns will be available should you require short term child care. They are offering a 30-minute slot for your appointment for £2.50, up to 5.30pm when the club will close. These slots can only be booked directly by contacting Sarah Goldie on 07860 816175.**



Y6 Booster Classes

Booster classes run from January in Literacy and Numeracy every Monday and Tuesday to ensure given the challenging few years our children have had that we give them the best possible support. We ask that all Y6 children attend these. The children will be given additional specific SATs related homework and there will be an expectation that they also use BBC bitesize. BBC bitesize should be used for 10 - 15 mins a day, it offers a range of videos, quizzes and games for the children to watch and learn from. The children should pick topics that they feel less confident with. Please click the link below: -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrybvk7>

This year the KS2 SATs will take place as follows: -

The key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May 2024.

- **Monday 13th May:** English grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS) papers 1 (questions) and 2 (spelling)
- **Tuesday 14th May:** English reading paper.
- **Wednesday 15th May:** Mathematics papers 1 (arithmetic) and 2 (reasoning)
- **Thursday 16th May:** Mathematics paper 3 (reasoning)



Diary Dates and Holidays

HOLIDAYS 2023 /2024

Autumn Term 2023

Open: Wednesday 6th September 2023
Half Term: Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October 2023
Closes: Thursday 21st December 2023 at 1.30 pm.

Spring Term 2024

Open: Monday 8th January 2024
Half Term: Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2024
Closes: Thursday 28th March 2024 at 1:30pm

Summer Term 2024

Open: Monday 15th April 2024
May Day: Monday 6th May 2024
Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2024
Closes: Friday 19th July 2024 at 1:30pm

Total number of openings – 190 days

Inset days

1st, 4th and 5th September 2023
22nd December 2023
22nd July 2024

HOLIDAYS 2024 /2025

Autumn Term 2024

Open: Thursday 5th September 2024
Half Term: Monday 21st October – Friday 25th October 2024
Closes: Friday 20th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Open: Monday 6th January 2025
Half Term: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2025
Closes: Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Open: Tuesday 22nd April 2025
May Day: Monday 5th May 2025
Half Term: Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May 2025
Closes: Friday 18th July 2025

Total number of openings – 190 days

Inset days

2nd, 3rd, 4th September 2024
21st and 22nd July 2025

Dates for your Diary - (3 months in advance)

February

5th – Class 1 Assembly at 8.45am
5th – Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
6th – Year 6 English Booster 3.15-4.15pm
8th - X – Factor Final.
9th – Miss Natasha’s Musical Theatre performance
Class 2 at 2.55 p.m. (Parents Welcome).
9th – School Closes at 3.15pm.
19th – School Opens.
19th – Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
20th – English Booster 3.15-4.15pm
23rd – FOSS non-uniform – Easter Egg / Chocolate donation.
26th – Class 2 Assembly at 8.45am
26th – Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
27th – English Booster 3.15-4.15pm

March

4th March – MAD Week
7th March – World book day
4th – Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
5th - Year 6 English Booster 3.15-4.15pm
11th – Foundation class worship 8:45am
11th – Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
12th – Parents evening in school 3:30 – 6:00pm
12th - **No** Literacy Booster / afterschool clubs
13th – Parents evening in school 4:00 – 6:30pm
13 - **No** after school clubs
18th - Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
19th - Year 6 English Booster 3.15-4.15pm
20th - Christian Leaders Sponsored Event
20th Eggstravaganza: Open Afternoon 1.15pm
25th – Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
26th - Year 6 English Booster 3.15-4.15pm
28th - Prize giving 8:50 am
28th - School Closes 1:30 pm

April

15th – School Opens
15th - Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
16th - Year 6 English Booster 3.15-4.15pm
17th – Y3/4 Swimming
19th – FOSS Non-uniform day – Bring a bottle
22nd - Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
23rd - Year 6 English Booster 3.15-4.15pm
29th - Year 6 Maths Booster 3.15-4.15pm
30th - Year 6 English Booster 3.15-4.15pm

We try to inform you of diary dates/changes to dates well in advance so that you can plan. We will not necessarily send out specific letters for every individual event as dates and times are indicated in the monthly newsletter which gives up to 3 months’ notice. The Office will try to send out reminder texts/Facebook notices as an additional support to parents but this may not always happen during busy periods.



FOSS Updates

Up and coming events

Event	Date
Non-uniform day	Friday 23 rd February - Chocolate – Easter raffle
Non-Uniform day	Friday 19 th April – Bring a Bottle



FOSS will also be running the very popular Easter Egg raffle for the children from Monday 4th March. Tickets will be sold via ParentPay. Each class will have a range of Chocolate hamper Prizes. More information to follow

All the money raised by FOSS is currently being used to focus on reading for pleasure. We have been updating our libraries, buying new books and furniture and wall art. Mrs Millward is now looking at subscribing to a range of comics and magazines for the children to read and also looking to invest in furniture and book storage for reading areas in the classrooms and also outdoors.



All families are automatically a member of FOSS (Friends of Singleton School)

FOSS are a small team of parent volunteers that work incredibly hard behind the scenes organizing events. They are always looking for volunteers and encourage parents to become involved. You don't have to be available to help with every event, they welcome any support even if it's just behind the scenes support. The more money that FOSS raise the more exciting projects we can do for the children.

If you can help in any way, please email friendsofsingleton@outlook.com



Primary School Applications

The application process has now closed.

Lancashire's online system will go live on the morning of 19th April 2024 and will allow online applicants to view their school offer. Please be patient as around 13,000 applicants may be trying to access information.

LCC email school offers to you. They cannot confirm results with you over the phone due to data protection.



Sponsored Event 2024

Ms. Rund and the Junior Leadership Team (JLT) will organize this year's sponsored event. For those of you that are new to school every year we task our Junior Leadership Team with the development and organization of a sponsored event. The money raised from the event is used twofold: -

- To update playtime toys and equipment each year
- To support a children's charity

The Junior Leadership Team work with Mrs. Rund to find a children's charity that they feel they would like to support. This is such a valuable opportunity for our older children to develop an understanding of the needs and experiences of other children in our world. Having focused, intentional discussions with children about charity increases the likelihood that they will give or think of others. Charity builds empathy, which is a critical social and emotional skill.

The JLT also then are given a budget and the responsibility of picking equipment and resources to encourage exercise and fitness and creative play at playtimes. Again, this is such a valuable life skill for our older children.

Once the children have made their plans they will send out more information. The sponsored event will be launched in March.

Sponsored Event Wednesday 20th March 2024



World Book Day / MAD week

Mrs. Millward is once again organizing a Fabulous MAD (Music Art and Drama) week which will encompass the 'World Book Day' celebration for our children. She is going to send out full information about the activities planned over the next few weeks.

MAD week will take place during the week beginning 4th March.

World Book Day is on **Thursday 7th March**. For our new parents:- on World Book Day the children can come dressed as one of their favourite book characters and bring the book with them to share with their class.



The Importance of good attendance



Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which is this is the number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

Your children get 14 weeks holiday a year!

There are **38 weeks** in the year when schools are open, and **14 weeks (175 days)** when families can visit family overseas; go on holiday; travel; pupils can work, take educational trips, attend non urgent medical appointments.....**So is your request for leave exceptional?**

When a Child Arrives Late:

- It interrupts concentration
- It wastes valuable learning time
- The teacher repeats information / instructions whilst others have to wait
- The late child is at an immediate disadvantage because they may have missed important teaching points, missed discussions where ideas are shared and will be generally unsettled
- Children feel stressed and anxious about having to walk into their lessons late, some children find being late very distressing.
- **Please note school starts at 8:40 and the expectation is that all pupils enter school at this time.**



A polite reminder about drop off and collecting on time before / after school and after clubs.

- Parents will drop off / collect children (or arrange for this to happen) punctually – if parents are late then the children will be placed in Acorns Club and there will be a charge. Please note there is an expectation that you collect promptly at 3:15pm (or 4:15pm if your child participates in an extra – curricular activity)
- Late drop off and collection is monitored by Miss Manns – Family Learning Mentor.



Safeguarding information for parents

Singleton Safeguarding team

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL)

- **Amanda Clayton** (Head) – Lead DSL
- **Leonie Millward** (SENCO) – DSL
- **Kate James** (Online / PREVENT) – DSL
- **Susan Manns** - DSL

Governors with Responsibility for Safeguarding

- **Alec Davies** – Chair of the Governing Body / safer recruitment
- **Keith Walker** – Chair of the SHE committee / Safer recruitment

Safeguarding DBS lead

- **Rachel Reeves** (Office Manager)
 - Rachel keeps and maintains a log of all staff and volunteers who have DBS clearance to work with children and the Governors review, and general safeguarding in school monthly.

Prevent Lead

- **Kate James** (Y5/6 Teacher)
- **Alec Davies** (Governor)



Useful information / Publications for parents

Each month we will provide some links or publications to download that will cover a wide range of current Safeguarding information for parents.

This month we have focused on a general overview of safeguarding – see below for the ‘Safeguarding’ Parents handbook and a link to the NSPCC website that focus’s on having the more difficult conversations with our children.



safe_parenting_handbook.pdf

<https://clickweb.lancashire.gov.uk/?siteid=3028&pageid=6618&e=e>

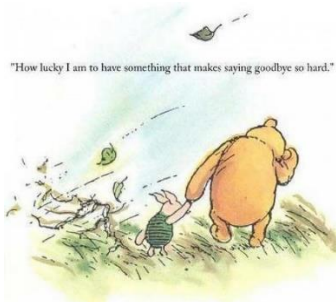
The NSPCC provide a wealth of information for parents on a range of topics to help you keep your children safe. Sometimes as parents we have to have more difficult conversations on more challenging topics. Please click on the link below for advice and support around having those conversations about ‘difficult subjects that you may need to have to keep your children safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/talking-about-difficult-topics/>

**Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility**



Governing Body updates



THANK YOU

On behalf of the Staff, Governors, parents and children I would like to thank Julie Webster our outgoing Vice Chair of the Governing Body for her dedicated service to our little school. Julie has supported Singleton School for many years, in the first instance as our School Advisor and then in more recent years as a member of our Governing Body. Julie has without a doubt been a source of strength, an exceptional leader and she has gone above and beyond in her Voluntary role as Vice Chair of Governors. Julie will be greatly missed and we wish her well in her future endeavors.

Singleton Trust

As most of you are aware we are incredibly lucky to have the support of the Richard Dumbreck Singleton Trust. Over the years the Trust have provided significant financial support for our school that has enabled us to carry out building works. They also match fund any money that we raise so we can buy lovely resources for our children. This year they are supporting us financially with a significant fencing project which is booked in for February half term and also with some tree felling. We are so very grateful for their ongoing support and would like to thank them for all that they do for us.

For those of you that don't know about the trust a brief summary is provided below:-

Richard Dumbreck's Singleton Trust (The Trust) was established in 2003, following the death of Richard Dumbreck. Richard Dumbreck was a wealthy landowner, whose fondness for the village and its community was so great that he left his estate in trust for the benefit of the Singleton community. The Trust owns much of the heart of the village (Great Singleton) together with a large acreage of farmland and woods. It has responsibility for the maintenance of this extensive estate that includes over 30 homes, a farm and 580 acres of land surrounding the village.

Achievements

Residential Property

The Trust provides and maintains just over 30 residential properties in the centre of Great Singleton. These properties are rented out primarily to local people or people with connections to Singleton village mostly at 80% (or less) of the market value. During the period from 2015 to 2020 the Trust has invested over £700,000 in maintaining and renovating these properties.

Permissive Footpaths

In 2015 the Trust has created permissive footpaths that have opened up Singleton Park and some adjoining farmland so that residents and visitors can enjoy the local heritage and this attractive natural environment. Their continued maintenance is funded by the Trust.

Peace Garden

In 2018, to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, the Trust created the Peace Garden which is a quiet place for all to visit, sit and reflect.

Singleton Church

Singleton Church is central to the community and continues to benefit from financial assistance provided by the Trust. In 2017 the Trust donated money to pay for the new heating system that was installed in the church

Singleton Primary School

In 2011 the Trust made available a significant financial contribution to the school and this commitment enabled funding from the Diocese to be made available and together, the new school hall was built.

Singleton Primary School continues to benefit from financial assistance provided by the Trust which includes: a new heating system; a total rewire; reroofing; new toilets, as well as many other donations.



We are proud to be part of the **Preston Primary and Secondary Alliance**. This is a group of over 40 local primary and secondary schools who work together to improve standards and the overall quality of education for all our children. One key aspect of our work is the recruitment and training of the teachers of tomorrow via our trainee teacher programme. Working in partnership with the University of Cumbria, the training provides graduates with a direct route into teaching. All of the training is completed in schools and is led by highly experienced practitioners who are teaching children on a daily basis. At the end of the one-year course, successful participants are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) with Qualified Teacher Status.

We are recruiting now for 2024-2025 in the following subjects:

Primary: General Primary and Early Year Foundation.

Secondary: Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Design Technology, Drama, English, Geography, History, Languages, Maths, Music, PE, Physics and RE.

There are extremely generous bursaries available for anyone interested in pursuing this profession.

**If you are, or know of someone, with a degree or who will have a degree by Summer 2024,
NOW is the time to apply.**

We only have a very limited number of places and they are taken extremely quickly.

Anybody who is interested or has any questions,
please contact our administrator, Karen Eastham on tel: 01772 867210

easthamk@broughtonhigh.co.uk



We are rightly proud of our history of success and many of our teachers chose the Preston Primary and Secondary Alliance programme as their training route into the profession.

What Fantastic Fundraising.

One of our Class 1 children had her hair cut on Saturday! She has raised **£1,120 plus £260 Gift Aid!** We are all absolutely amazed! This means that she has raised enough to cover the cost of making, styling and fitting of the wig her donated hair will make and also cover the cost of a second!

