



School Prayer This Week

Dear God, please give us the wisdom to explore and discover ourselves. Help us notice and celebrate the good in everyone we meet. Thank you for accepting us exactly as we are. Amen



School Diary

3 rd November	School re-opens after half term
5 th November	Year 3 trip to 'Bring Yer Wellies'
7 th November	Virtual visit from a famous author for Y5/Y6 classes
11 th November	Y6 Remembrance day assembly
12 th November	Y3 Cinema morning Wild Robot
14 th November	Y4 cinema morning Paddington
21 st November	Non-uniform day – bring a bottle
25 th November	Y5/6 cinema - Bad Guys 2
26 th November	Parent's evening
28 th November	Wear blue for St Andrew's day

Important Updates

- Quick reminder -please do not park on the zigzag lines outside school. These are there for the safety of our children and all our families.
- Applications are now open for **September 2026** intake for reception. Please complete any application forms by **January 2026**, even if you have siblings in the school, to be considered for a place next year. Please pass on to family and friends.
- Year 6 students need to have made their Secondary School applications by **Friday 31st October 2025**.
- Gas works will be starting on Bennington Street from the end of October (start date moved forward) for approximately 3 weeks – See information sheet below.

Uniform Reminders

All children must come into school:

- Wearing a tie
- Wearing shoes, not trainers
- Not wearing earrings
- Have all clothes labelled

Pupil Vacancies in Reception and Year 1

We currently have 4 places available for pupils in Reception and 3 places available in Year 1. If you know of anyone who would like to join our wonderful school. It is rare that we ever have places in our school available for pupils.

Half Term Activities

Lots of half term activity ideas can be found on the following website:

[Visit Lancashire](#)

Attendance for the week

Whole school target: **96%** Current attendance of whole school: **94.9%**

Rec: **92.3%**

Year 2: **94.0%**

Year 4: **99.2%**

Year 6: **100%**

Year 1: **95.0%**

Year 3: **92.1%**

Year 5: **91.3%**

Overall attendance week winners.....Year 6!

BENNINGTON STREET

13 October 2025

Hi there,

**We'll be improving your gas pipes from
03 November 2025 until 29 December 2025**



**Be prepared for interruptions to
your gas supply during this period**

We'll work as quickly and carefully as possible to make your pipes safer and greener. There will be some disruption. Here's what you need to know.

At your property

We'll need to come into your property to turn your gas off and on, on one or possibly two days, from around **8am until up to 8pm**. We'll let you know the exact date with an orange card through the door, 24-48 hours beforehand.

In your street

We'll be interrupting your gas supply to replace the gas pipes, so there will be some noise and there may be some parking restrictions and road closures. Our team will work hard to keep any disruption to a minimum.

Got a question or want an update?

Simply scan the QR code.

Thank you for your patience whilst we improve your gas pipes.

Paula Steer

Network Director

Sign up to the Priority Services Register at [cadentgas.com/PSR](https://www.cadentgas.com/PSR). A free service for people who might need extra support.

Cadent

Your Gas Network

Cadent Gas Limited
Chaddock Lane
Manchester
M28 1XW

Our work reference:
NWGA261661

**We'll be interrupting your
gas supply**

Get updates here

Scan the **QR code** or
WhatsApp 'Sign me up' to
0789 701 7887 for updates

Find out more at
[cadentgas.com](https://www.cadentgas.com)



We're here to help:
0800 090 3071

Everything you need to know

Please read our **'Ready for better'**
leaflet for answers to all your questions
or **find it online at [cadentgas.com](https://www.cadentgas.com)**

Help! Pomoc! Ayuda! Madada Karō!

Find this information in other languages
at [cadentgas.com](https://www.cadentgas.com)

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[Cadentgas.com/support](https://www.Cadentgas.com/support)

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2

PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES

You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.



3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES

For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.



4

THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES

As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the internet.

5

MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER

Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.



9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

6

REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS

Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.



7

DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE

Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.



8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'content and context' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than a decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **GROUP CHATS**

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are one of the most popular ways that children connect. Group chats allow messages, images and videos to be shared in one place and help friendships flourish; however, they also come with a number of risks.

TEASING AND BULLYING

Children of all ages are keen to fit in socially, and group chats can sometimes complicate that process. While group chats can foster connection, they can also give way to mean comments or jokes at someone's expense, especially when others join in for laughs. When bullying happens publicly, in front of friends and classmates, it can intensify the emotional impact – adding to embarrassment, anxiety and feelings of isolation for the child being targeted.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Children often can't control who is added to a group, which can lead to privacy concerns. Sharing personal details in group chats can be dangerous, and children have no control over what others do with the material they send. Some members of the chat might even decide to use such information maliciously.

PEER PRESSURE

Children may feel they have to constantly stay engaged just to be included and keep up with the conversation. In some cases, they might partake in inappropriate behaviours – like sharing explicit photos, jokes or teasing – just to fit in. Group settings can also encourage children to act in ways they normally wouldn't, or stay silent when they know something is wrong, out of fear of being excluded. Some children may find it difficult to leave toxic group chats.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some group chats may include inappropriate language or imagery, even if a child isn't actively participating in the conversation, they may still be exposed to this content simply by being part of the group. Some apps have disappearing messaging features, where content is only available once or for a few seconds, which makes it harder for children to report something they've seen.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

Exclusion in group chats is common and can take several forms. Sometimes a new group is created specifically to leave one child out on purpose. In other cases, the chat may happen on an app that a child doesn't have access to, making it impossible for them to join in. This can cause feelings of being left out – even unintentionally.

VIDEO AND LIVE CHATS

Many popular apps allow children to engage in live streaming with interactive chats or have group video chats. Anyone can be added to these streams, and often children tag peers in the comments and have conversations which are unmoderated. There's a risk of being exposed to inappropriate or violent content and offensive language, either in the group videos or via the group chats.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for children to compete for social status. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave unkindly. If a child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

SET SOME GROUP CHAT RULES

Discuss safe group chat practices, such as asking a peer for consent before adding them to a group chat, or leaving a group chat if a stranger is added. Tell children that if they're added to a group they didn't agree to beforehand, it's OK for them to leave immediately.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child encounters inappropriate content or feels uncomfortable in a group chat, encourage them to block and report the sender and leave the group. Make sure children know it's OK to leave a group chat if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being bullied.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

It's vital for children to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure they understand the importance of not revealing personal details – like their address, their school, or photos they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up or how it might be used.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Being bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of a group chat while disabling notifications. In fact, it would be healthier for them to do so, helping them avoid the pressure to respond immediately.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at iCyberware, who has developed anti-bullying and cyber-safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government, comparing the internet use and online behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators EMPOWER DYSLEXIC LEARNERS

Dyslexia affects how some people process information relating to reading, writing, and memory. It varies widely between individuals and can influence how learners engage with certain tasks. With the right support and understanding, children and young people with dyslexia can feel confident and included in their learning environment. This guide offers practical tips to help parents and educators create supportive, responsive spaces that promote engagement, independence, and wellbeing.

1 UNDERSTAND DYSLEXIA

Take time to understand the diverse ways in which dyslexia manifests in children and young people. Recognise the challenges and the strengths, from difficulties with literacy to increased creativity, problem-solving, and big-picture thinking. A strong foundation of knowledge leads to more effective support, and by rooting your understanding of children's individual ways of working and thinking, you can help them feel proud of who they are.

2 ADAPT TEACHING

Learners with dyslexia often thrive with multisensory approaches, so it's important to explore and adapt teaching styles that engage multiple senses or reduce sensory input when needed. Flexibility is key! Remember, what works well for one learner may not work for another, so encourage pupils to experiment and personalise their own approach to classroom learning.

3 CREATE SAFETY

Foster a classroom culture where dyslexic pupils feel safe to be themselves. When learners don't feel the need to mask their difficulties, they're more likely to engage, take risks, and grow. Think Maslow before Bloom!

4 CELEBRATE ALL ACHIEVEMENT

Recognise and celebrate progress, academic or otherwise. Acknowledging effort and success builds confidence and reinforces a growth mindset. Let young people know you believe in them and help them see their own strengths.

5 SUPPORT NOTE-TAKING

Support children and young people in finding note-taking methods that work for them, such as mind maps, colour-coding, sketches, voice recordings, or digital tools. These strategies not only aid learning now but are valuable skills for future education and employment.

6 SET SMART GOALS

Set SMART goals: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic & Timely. Focus on what's achievable to build momentum. For example, if a pupil is consistently scoring 3/10 on spelling tests, adjust the target to match their current level and celebrate progress.

7 MAKE LEARNING MEANINGFUL

Connect learning to real-life contexts. Use imaginative, relatable examples to bring abstract concepts to life, for example, using squash ratios or zoo feeding routines to teach proportion - relevance boosts motivation and retention.

8 KEEP RECORDS

Keep a clear, up-to-date record of what strategies and accommodations work best for each learner. This 'case history of need' is invaluable during transitions from one setting or phase of education to another and helps ensure continuity of support - a key component of making reasonable adjustments.

9 TEACH ORGANISATION

Organisation can be a challenge for dyslexic learners. Regular check-ins on homework, projects, and deadlines can make a big difference. Teach and model planning tools, such as calendars, checklists, and visual timetables, to build independence over time.

10 CHAMPION INDIVIDUALITY

Just like fingerprints, no two dyslexic learners are the same. Be open to trying different approaches and encourage students to reflect on what works for them. Promoting self-awareness and independence is one of the most powerful things you can do!

Meet Our Expert

Elizabeth Wilkinson MBE is a pioneering advocate for neurodiversity and the founder of The Dyslexic Dyslexia Consultant. With a career spanning over two decades, Elizabeth has become a nationally respected voice in the field of dyslexia awareness, education, and inclusion.



The National College