Lytham Church of England Primary Newsletter

LOVE

During worship, we explored how love can be shown through kindness. The children heard the story of Ruth and Naomi, which demonstrated loyalty, care and friendship during difficult times. Together, we identified simple acts of kindness that we can carry out in school, at home and in our community.

Dear God,
Help us to show love through kindness, just as Ruth cared for Naomi. Help us to be good friends, use kind words and look for ways to help others every day.
May we share your love wherever we go.
Amen.

Stars of the Week

Reception - Gracie
Year 1 - Gabby
Year 2 - Daisy
Year 3 - Edie
Year 4 - Freyja
Year 5- Oliver
Year 6 - Ellis

Parable of the Talents

Music

Reception - Emilia
Year 1 - Elliott
Year 2 - Florence
Year 3 - Henry B
Year 4 - Amelie
Year 5- Monty
Year 6 - Ronan

Attendance

Reception - 98.5%
Year 1 - 95.2%
Year 2 - 99.1%
Year 3 - 95.3%
Year 4 - 98%
Year 5- 95.9%
Year 6 - 96.8%
A huge well done to Year 2 winning with 99.1% attendance!

Our School Council have been busy celebrating Parliament Week! They had the exciting opportunity to meet Councillor Tim Ashton and ask him questions to learn more about Parliament and how decisions are made. They then led a whole-school worship, sharing everything they had discovered with the rest of the school. A fantastic opportunity to develop their understanding of democracy and having a voice!

Our Year 6 children were also treated to a wonderful performance and workshop from the Drama team at AKS. A brilliant opportunity to experience drama and explore their creativity!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our PTFA wreath-making workshop, led by Flower Design. It was a fantastic event and we are so grateful for your support. Keep an eye out for posters advertising more exciting PTFA events over the coming weeks!

Next Friday, we will be having our Own Clothes Day in exchange for tombola prizes. Thank you in advance for your generous donations to support our PTFA.

Our Year 2 and Year 4 children will also be visiting church next week for Christmas Through the Keyhole, a lovely opportunity to explore the Christmas story as we begin our festive celebrations!

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GRAND THEFT AUTO VI

Grand Theft Auto 6 (also stylised as GTA VI) has been one of the most highly anticipated games of this generation, following GTA V, one of the best-selling video games of all time. Set in the fictional state of Leonida, including Vice City, it follows criminal partners Jason and Lucia as they become embroiled in a wider conspiracy. Although GTA VI is intended for adult audiences, its enormous popularity means that younger people may still encounter gameplay footage online or express an interest in playing it.

AGE RESTRICTION PEGI 18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXTREMELY VIOLENT CONTENT

GTA VI is rated PEGI 18 for a reason. Players may encounter weapons like guns, knives and explosives, with violence portrayed in highly realistic ways. As in previous GTA games, players may also encounter violence involving vehicles and other characters. The game is categorically not for younger audiences, with blood, gore, and intense violence clearly identified in its official content

SENSITIVE SOCIETAL TOPICS

Like other games in the Grand Theft Auto franchise, GTA VI uses satire to explore aspects of society and contemporary culture. Its exaggerated characters and situations are fictional and may be intended to challenge or mock particular attitudes rather than endorse them. Younger viewers, however, may struggle to recognise this context and could misunderstand jokes, stereotypes, or social commentary without guidance from a trusted adult.

TALKING TO STRANGERS ONLINE

GTA Online, the multiplayer experience associated with GTA V, allows players to communicate with others online. GTA VI has been announced as a single-player experience at launch, so the same in-game chat risks should not yet be assumed. Children may still discuss the game through other online platforms potentially encountering strangers, inappropriate language and adult themes.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

Throughout GTA VI's storyline, drugs and alcohol form part of the game's criminal world. The official content rating identifies the use of both, while Rockstar's character descriptions reference drug runners and dealers. Earlier titles also showed substance use affecting how characters see and move around the world. Younger viewers may struggle to understand these portrayals in the context of a fictional crime story, particularly without guidance from a trusted adult.

NUDITY AND SEX

Relationships and sexual themes feature in GTA VI, while previous GTA titles have allowed players to visit strip clubs and solicit sex workers. It should also be recognised that GTA VI's graphics aim to be realistic, meaning depictions of nudity and sexual content may be explicit. Official ratings confirm nudity and strong sexual content, although details of specific scenes should not be assumed from earlier games.

OPTIONAL IN-GAME PURCHASES

As with its predecessor, GTA VI includes optional in-game purchases that use real-world money. While these purchases are not necessary to play the game, the appeal of additional content may encourage some players to spend more. Younger players may not fully appreciate the cost or how quickly small payments add up.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental controls can block age-restricted games, but they won't remove GTA VI's adult themes from elsewhere online. On PS5, go to Settings > Family and Parental Controls > Family Management, select the child and choose your restrictions. On Xbox Series X|S, use Settings > Account > Family settings, or the Xbox Family Settings app, to manage age restrictions and screen time.

LIMIT ACCESS TO BANK DETAILS

Limiting access to banking details helps prevent accidental or unauthorised purchases. Avoid storing payment details on a child's account and require approval before spending. On PS5, parents and carers can set a monthly spending limit through Family Management. On Xbox Series X|S, the Ask to Buy feature can request adult approval for purchases, helping children and young people understand their real-world cost.

COMMUNICATION RESTRICTIONS

On PS5 and Xbox Series X|S, parental controls can restrict voice chat, messages, friend requests, and communication with other players. Parents and carers can limit interactions to approved friends or prevent communication altogether, depending on the available settings. These restrictions are especially helpful for reducing children's exposure to strangers, inappropriate language and adult themes through console chats or other multiplayer games.

MAKE THIS A CONVERSATION

Even if a child is not playing GTA VI, they may still watch gameplay clips, livestreams or trailers shared by friends and content creators. It's important to talk openly with children about why GTA VI has an adult age rating and discuss its violence, crime, strong language, sexual themes, satirical lens, and other mature content. Ask what interests them about the game and what they already know. Talk about the difference between fictional behaviour and real-world consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 12+ years as a journalist, editor and social media expert. He's travelled the world playing video games and working with publishers and developers to fine tune their audience messaging. When he's not gaming, he can be found watching horror and sci-fi movies, TV series, listening to music or deciding which world marathon to plod around.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.11.2026

🍂 AUTUMN TERM ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER 🍂

Every Day Counts! Every Day Matters!

At Lytham CofE, we know that every day in school makes a difference. Regular attendance gives children the very best opportunities to learn, develop friendships, build confidence and enjoy everything school life has to offer.

We understand that children become poorly and that absence is sometimes unavoidable. However, we want to work together with families to make sure that children are in school as often as possible.

🌟 WHY IS ATTENDANCE SO IMPORTANT?

Every school day brings new opportunities. Missing school means missing more than just lessons!

📚 Learning: Children build on what they have learned each day. Missing lessons can make it harder to catch up.

👫 Friendships: Being in school helps children develop relationships, social skills and a sense of belonging.

💚 Wellbeing: Routines, friendships and familiar faces all support children's emotional wellbeing.

🌈 Confidence: Regular attendance helps children feel settled, secure and confident in their learning.

📊 DID YOU KNOW?

Attendance Days missed in a school year

100% 0 days

95% 9.5 days

90% 19 days

85% 28.5 days

80% 38 days

90% attendance might sound good, but it means your child has missed the equivalent of nearly four weeks of school!

Small amounts of absence can quickly add up.

🤧 IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

We know this can sometimes be difficult to judge, particularly during the winter months when coughs and colds are common.
The NHS provides helpful guidance for parents and carers.

✅ USUALLY OKAY TO COME TO SCHOOL

Children can generally attend school if they have:

- A mild cough.
- A runny nose.
- A slight sore throat.
- A cold sore.
- Conjunctivitis, provided they are otherwise well.

If your child feels well enough to take part in normal school activities and does not have a temperature, these minor illnesses do not usually require them to stay at home.

🏠 WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD STAY AT HOME?

There are some illnesses where children should remain at home:

- High temperature: Keep your child at home until their temperature has gone.
- Vomiting and diarrhoea: Children should stay off school until 48 hours after their last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.
- Chickenpox: Stay at home until all spots have crusted over.
- Feeling very unwell: If your child is not well enough to participate in normal activities, they should stay at home.

For further advice, please visit the NHS: Is my child too ill for school?
Please always follow specific NHS guidance for individual illnesses and seek medical advice where needed.

⏰ EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

Arriving on time is just as important as attending every day.
Children who arrive late can miss:

- Morning activities and settling-in time.
- Important teacher instructions.
- Reading, phonics and other key learning.
- Opportunities to catch up with friends and start the day positively.

Please help us by ensuring children arrive ready for the start of the school day.

💚 HOW CAN YOU HELP?

A few simple steps can make a big difference:

• Establish a consistent bedtime and morning routine.

• Encourage children to get their uniform and bags ready the night before.

• Arrange routine medical and dental appointments outside school hours wherever possible.

• Avoid taking holidays during term time.

• Contact school if your child is struggling to attend for any reason.

If your child is experiencing anxiety, friendship difficulties or worries about coming to school, please talk to us. We would much rather work together to find a solution than see children missing valuable learning opportunities.

🏆 LET'S CELEBRATE ATTENDANCE!

We want to recognise and celebrate the importance of good attendance across our school.

Throughout the year, we will continue to celebrate children who demonstrate excellent attendance and make positive improvements.

Most importantly, we want every child to feel happy, safe and excited to come to school.

❤️ OUR MESSAGE TO FAMILIES

In school, children learn, laugh, grow and belong.

Every day really does count, and together we can give our children the very best start.

Thank you for your continued support in making attendance a priority at Lytham CofE.

Let's make every school day count!

Useful information for parents

NHS: Is my child too ill for school?

Government guidance: Improving school attendance

PTFA

Lytham CofE Primary School

CHRISTMAS FAIR 2026

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER

DOORS OPEN FROM 4PM

£1 ENTRY

EVERYONE ATTENDING NEEDS A TICKET

BUY TICKETS BELOW

Scan to pay

TICKET SALES CLOSE MIDNIGHT ON 10TH DECMEBER

FATHER CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

£10 PER CHILD

OUR AWARD WINNING FATHER CHRISTAMS IS BACK. BOOK YOU PLACE NOW, LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE. YOUR TICKET INCLUDES A BEAUTIFUL GIFT, PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AND MAGICAL TIME WITH MR AND MRS CLAUS

RAFFLE - TOMBOLA -FUN GAMES - BAR AND HOT DRINKS
SWEET TREATS - TURKEY BARMS WITH ALL THE TRIMINGS
FACE PAINT - HOMEMADE GIFTS BY THE CHILDREN



Any questions - happy to help at ptfa@lytham.lancs.sch.uk


Hot Chocolate Cones
£1.50 each or 3 for £4
PTFA
Lytham CofE Primary School
After School Treats!
'Hot Chocolate Cones'
Thursday 3rd December
KS2 Playground
Cash preferred

LYTHAM ST ANNES PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS CLUSTER ASSOCIATION

As a groupofprimary schools in Lytham St Annes, we work together to promote physicalactivityforall young people in our schools. Through our work, we encourage the participation of all children in both competitive and non-competitive events. Primary school sport should be fun and the focus is placed on participation rather than competition.

Primary school sport goes beyond performance because its purpose is not just to produce winning athletes. We believe that it is a powerful tool for children's overall development.

WE ARE ALL REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR SCHOOL

CHILDREN - STAFF - PARENTS

EACH ONE OF US HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO BE ROLE MODELS AND WEAR OUR SCHOOL BADGES WITH PRIDE.

As a team of schools, the following points will be adopted by all:

- SCHOOL SPORT SHOULD BE FUN AND ALL CHILDREN SHOULD WANT TO TAKE PART.
- THE DECISION FOR TEAM SELECTION LIES WITH THE SCHOOL STAFF. THEY WILL SELECT TEAMS BASED ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE WHOLE CHILD.
- NOT EVERY CHILD WILL BE SELECTED FOR EVERYTHING. PART OF SCHOOL SPORT IS TO BUILD RESILIENCE IN EACH CHILD AND REPLICATE WHAT THEY WILL ENCOUNTER AS THEY JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE.
- WE WILL WIN GRACIOUSLY AND LOSE GRACIOUSLY - ALWAYS SHAKING HANDS POST MATCH AND THANKING THE MATCH OFFICIALS.
- THERE WILL BE FULL RESPECT AT ALL FIXTURES AND COMPETITIONS - ENCOURAGEMENT AND KINDNESS TO BE SHOWN BY ALL CHILDREN, STAFF AND PARENTS.
- SCHOOL STAFF ARE VOLUNTEERING THEIR OWN TIME TO FACILITATE SCHOOL SPORT