

January 2026 Newsletter

Singleton Church of England Primary School

"Passion for LearningPassion for life"

Christian Value – Friendship

"A true Friend shows love at all times." Proverbs 17:17

Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a wonderful festive season, full of joy, relaxation, and special family moments. After a well-deserved break, our staff have returned to school recharged and ready for an exciting new term.

As always, we have plenty to look forward to, so please keep an eye on the diary dates. This term, our much-loved X-Factor times table competition will be back — so keep practicing those times tables! Mrs. Millward is also preparing a vibrant MAD (Music, Art, and Drama) week, packed with creative themes and activities.

In addition, our Year Six Numeracy and Literacy Booster Classes will begin this term. These sessions will run on Mondays and Tuesdays after school from 3:15 – 4:15 pm, and Mrs. James will be sharing more details with the children about how they will work.

We're excited for another fantastic term ahead, filled with learning, creativity, and fun!

Opening Times

Monday	7.30 am - 8.40am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
Tuesday	7.30 am - 8.40am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
Wednesday	7.30 am - 8.40am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
Thursday	7.30 am - 8.40am	3:15 – 5:30 pm
Friday	7.30 am - 8.40am	3:15 – 5:30 pm



Acorns
Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Booking for Acorns closes at 7 p.m. for the following day. This helps to manage staff and ratios. Without booking the day before, the children will be unable to attend. 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:

Acorns has its own Facebook page – please have a look at all the wonderful activities that they provide. The feedback from our children is that the club is “amazing”. We agree with them!!!

For any further enquiries, contact details are as follows:

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

Current Fees

Before School Breakfast Club	7.30 am - 8.45 am	£5.45 per child (includes breakfast)
After School Club – full session	3.15 pm - 5.30 pm	£10.45 per child (includes snack)
After School Club – early session	3.15 pm - 4.15 pm	£5.45 per child (no snack)
After School Club following an extra-curriculum activity	4.15pm - 5.30 pm	£5.95 per child (includes snack)



School Office

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

Monday 8.00am - 3.45pm

Tuesday 8.00am - 3.45 pm

Wednesday 8.00am - 3.45 pm

Thursday 8.00am - 3.45 pm

Friday 8.00am - 3.15 pm

Tel (01253) 882226

Please note that the office is closed for lunch between

12:00 and 1:00pm (Mon-Thurs)

12:00 and 1:30pm (Fri)

The phone will not be answered at this time as the office staff are not available.

Payments to School

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

Dinner Money

You can pay for School dinners on a weekly or half-termly basis. If you choose to pay weekly, you will need to pay a week **in advance**.

Dinner money for this term will be £84.10 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 **weeks'** notice as all food is ordered a week in advance.

Absence

If your child is absent from school, please inform the office by **9.10am** and **leave a message** on the answerphone.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Information about PE and extracurricular activities

- **Additional Kit:** Please ensure your child has an additional kit for any after-school activity, as their P.E. kit must not be worn.
- **Correct Kit for Sports:** For sports like football and hockey, children must have the correct kit (e.g., football boots, shin pads, waterproof clothing). If unsure, please ask Mrs. James.
- **Club Supervision:** Mr Rawcliffe will oversee the clubs provided by 3rd party providers and ensure children are handed over to parents/carers at the end of the session.
- **Collection Point:** All children attending extracurricular clubs should be collected from Class 1's door.
- **Pick-Up Time:** Please pick up your child promptly at 4:15 pm after clubs.
- **Payment:** Ensure you pay for clubs in advance. If payment is not made, your child will not be booked on the course.
- **Sports Grant:** We will continue to supplement the cost of extracurricular activities with the Sports Grant this year.



The overall attendance for **December** was

%

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
January

1st – Imogen
1st – Olivia
4th – Jack
15th – Fleur
24th Daniel
27th – Theo
30th – Ralph W

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS FROM MONDAY 12TH JANUARY – THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2026

	Lower School	Upper School
Monday	Brass (Lunchtime) Y2 £25 Dodgeball Y2 £15	Brass (Lunchtime) Y3/4/5/6 £25 Dodgeball Y3 £15 Dance Y3/4/5 £15 Numeracy Booster Class Y6
Tuesday	TAG Rugby (Outdoor) Y2 £15	TAG Rugby (Outdoor) Y3 £15 Multi Skills Y3/4/5 £15 Literacy Booster Class Y6
Wednesday	Tennis Y2 £25	Tennis Y3 £25 Outdoor Hockey Y4/5/6 £15
Thursday	Singing Y1/2 £25	Singing Y3-Y6 £25

Payment Information for Extra-Curricular Clubs

- **Club Information:** Ms. Stansfield will inform parents about the available clubs before the new term. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Sporting clubs are provided by third-party providers.
- **Payment System:** All payments are now made via the 'Parent Pay' system.
- **Advance Payment:** Clubs must be paid for in advance as per our payment policy.
- **Non-Refundable:** Payments are non-refundable. If a child is absent due to illness or a behavioural incident, no refund will be given as coaches still need to be paid.
- **Refunds for Cancellations:** If a coach cancels a session, a full refund will be provided as we are not charged in such instances.



Parish and Community links



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)

StChads@5 - a new monthly service, held at St Chad's Church in Poulton on the third Sunday of the month. The service is aimed at young people and families, with contemporary music and an informal feel, and provides an alternative time for those who find Sunday mornings difficult. You are invited for drinks and cake from 4:30 pm with a 45-minute service beginning at 5:00 pm. We would love to see you!"

Children are both welcomed and encouraged at all our services.

Lost Property

Lost Property

We seem to have a lot of lost property already in school this term. Please ensure that all your child's uniform (this includes coats and Extra-Curricular sport kits) is 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 in reception.

Y6 Booster Classes

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

The key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026.

Key Stage 2 SATs Timetable 2026:

- **Monday, 11 May 2026:** English Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling (Papers 1 & 2).
- **Tuesday, 12 May 2026:** English Reading.
- **Wednesday, 13 May 2026:** Mathematics (Paper 1: Arithmetic & Paper 2: Reasoning).
- **Thursday, 14 May 2026:** Mathematics (Paper 3: Reasoning).

We will be running Booster classes from January in Literacy and Numeracy every Monday and Tuesday. 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>

CARE AWARDS

December 2025

Foundation

Ezra,
Roman.

Class 1

Gabriel, Layla,
Harlow, Alice.

Class 2

Olivia, Thomas,
Sophia, Ayla,
Alice Y.

Class 3

Huxley, Samson,
Matilda, Aidan,



These are awarded to children for working hard in class and demonstrating good behaviour.

December 2025

No Head Teacher Awards

due to
Prize Giving.

Diary Dates and Holidays

HOLIDAYS 2025 /2026

Autumn Term 2025

Open: Thursday 4th September 2025
Half Term: Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025
Closes: Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Open: Tuesday 6th January 2026
Half Term: Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February 2026
Closes: Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Open: Monday 13th April 2026
May Day: Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term: Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2026
Closes: Friday 17th July 2026

Total number of openings – 190 days

HOLIDAYS 2026 /2027

Autumn Term 2026

Open: Friday 4th September 2026
Half Term: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2026
Closes: Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term 2027

Open: Tuesday 5th January 2027
Half Term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2027
Closes: Friday 26th March 2027

Summer Term 2027

Open: Monday 12th April 2027
May Day: Monday 3th May 2027
Half Term: Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June 2027
Closes: Tuesday 20th July 2027

Total number of openings – 190 days

Inset days

1st, 2nd, 3rd September 2025
5th January 2026
20th July 2026

Inset days

1st, 2nd, 3rd September 2026
4th January 2027
21st July 2027

Dates for your Diary - (3 months in advance)

January 2026	February 2026	March 2026
TUESDAY 6th – School Opens. W/C 12 th – X Factor (Time tables) Competition starts this week. 12 th – Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15 13 th - Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm 15 th Life Education Bus Visit. 19 th - Y5/6 Worship – Parents Welcome 8.50am 19 th - Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15 20 th - Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm 26 th -Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm 27 th -Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15- 4.15pm. 30 th - Learning Mentor Workshop – All Parents Welcome 2.15pm.	2 nd – Class 2 Worship – Parents Welcome 8.50am 2 nd – Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 3 rd - Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 9 th – Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 10 th – Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 12 th – Worship in Church: 9am – All Parents Welcome. 13 th – School Closes at 3.15pm. 23 rd – School Opens. 23 rd – Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 24 th – Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 27 th – FOSS Non-Uniform Day – Easter Egg / Chocolate donation.	<u>W/B 02/03/26 – MAD Week</u> 2 nd – Class 1 Worship – Parents Welcome 8.50am. 2 nd - Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 3 rd – Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 5 th – World Book Day. 9 th – Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 10 th – Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 11 th - Parents Evening in School – from 3.30pm. 12 th - Parents Evening in School – from 3.30pm. 16 th – Foundation Worship – Parents Welcome 8.50am 16 th – Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 17 th – Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15p.m. 18 th – JLT Sponsored Event. 23 rd – Year 6 Maths Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 24 th - Year 6 English Booster Class 3.15-4.15pm. 25 th – Easter Open Afternoon – <u>All Welcome.</u> 26 th – Worship in Church: 9am – <u>All Welcome.</u> 27 th - Prize Giving 8:50 am. 27 th – School Closes at 1.30pm.

Please note that 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 quite clearly indicated in the monthly newsletter which gives up to 3 months' notice. Miss Stansfield usually does try to send out reminder texts/Facebook notices as additional support to parents, but this may not always happen during busy periods.



FOSS (Friends of Singleton School) Updates

Up and coming events	
Event	Date and time
Non-uniform days	Friday 27 th February 2026– Easter Egg / Chocolate donation for Easter raffle.
Easter Egg Raffle	Tickets will be on sale via ParentPay – FOSS will send out detailed information nearer the time.



FOSS will be running the very popular Easter Egg raffle for the children once again this year. Each class will have a range of Chocolate hamper Prizes.

- Friday 27th February - Non uniform day – Easter Egg/ Chocolate donation.
- Monday 2nd March – Raffle tickets will go on sale via ParentPay.
- Friday 27th March – The raffle will be drawn.

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

Facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1451922088447440>

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

Facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1451922088447440>

FOSS FUNDRAISING – SCHOOL'S WISH LIST

- Cabins for Schools
- IPADs
- Outdoor Sheds for the Playtime toys



Miss Manns is going to run Parent Workshops again this this academic year. They are very much an informal coffee and a biscuit type event and we encourage parents to come along.

This year after feedback from parents and staff the focus is going to be on the following:-

- Supporting your child with emotional health and well being
- Supporting with behaviour and dysregulation
- Supporting with resilience

These workshops are intended to be a supportive session. We will go through the Solihull approach looking at the importance of reciprocity, containment, resilience and the relationship between a parent and a child.

We will chat about behaviour, looking at behaviour management strategies, consistency, boundary's structure and routines. Finally, we will discuss behavioural developmental milestones.

The next session is planned for
Friday 30th Jan 2026 at 2:15
Please let the office know if you can attend.



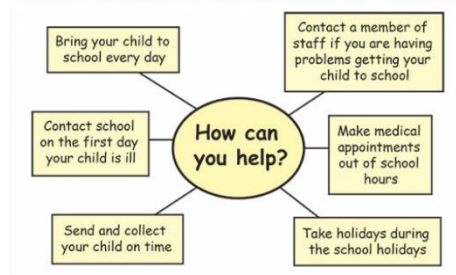
The Importance of Good Attendance



Attendance during one school year	Equals absent days	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....**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.

A Polite Reminder About Drop-Off and Collection Times:

- Parents are expected to drop off and collect their children (or arrange for this to happen) punctually. If parents are late, children will be placed in Acorns Club, and a charge will apply. Please ensure you collect your child promptly at 3:15 pm (or 4:15 pm if your child participates in an extracurricular activity).
- Late drop-off and collection are monitored by Miss Manns, our Family Learning Mentor.

Please Note: -

Lancashire County Council's policy states that:




- **Penalty notices** are issued for unauthorised absences of 5 days (10 sessions) or more.
- If a child accumulates **15 days or more** of unauthorised leave, the case is **reviewed individually** and may lead to **prosecution under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996**, especially if previous fines have been issued or ignored.
- After **two penalty notices** within a 3-year period, further unauthorised absences will not result in another fine but may lead to **court proceedings**

Note from the Governing Body:

Our school is required to comply with the new DfE guidance, which includes the use of fines for unauthorised absences. Although we have always indicated that fines may be issued, this will now become more of a reality. Each case will be considered individually. Regular attendance is crucial for your child's education and development. Extended absences can significantly affect academic progress and social integration. We kindly ask that you remember **our staff members** who contact you / send out letters regarding penalty notices are simply following protocol. They are **not responsible for making the rules**. Please treat them with respect and understanding. Thank you for your cooperation.



Prize Giving Winners - December 2025

Christian Values Award	Creativity Award	Ethos Award	Progress Award	Effort and Achievement Award
Ezra L	Zara	Hallie		
Cece	Ruby	Martha	Ellie	Harvey W
Elijah	Sophia B	Archie	Joshua	Arthur
Theo	Emma	Daniel	Elsie	George B
				

Pupil Progress Meetings 2026

Booking Information for Pupil Progress Meetings

- **Booking Time Slots:** Time slots will be available to book, and detailed information will be sent out closer to the date. Each slot is limited to a 5-minute progress chat with your child's class teacher. **If you have any concerns or worries, please do not wait until parents' evening as we have an open-door policy.** The focus of these 'Formal Progress Meetings' is to discuss your child's progress and next steps in their learning.
- **Individual Education Plans (IEP):** If your child has an IEP, you will have already had your meeting with the class teacher for this term and you do not need to book a slot.
- **Co-Parenting Arrangements:**
 - If both parents plan to attend the same meeting, please indicate that you only need to book one slot and that both parents will be attending.
 - If you require separate appointments, please indicate this and we will try to accommodate this.
- **Viewing Books:** Some books will be available in the classrooms for parents to review. Please plan an additional 10 minutes into your schedule for this. Note that classrooms will be closed for cleaning from **6:15 pm** onwards. If you book a later slot, please review the books before meeting with the teacher to avoid disappointment. **Children are not allowed to attend this event.**

Full details to book slots will be sent out nearer the time. **Please note that alternative dates and times will not be offered**, so mark these dates in your diaries:

- **Wednesday, 11th March:** Pupil Progress Consultation Evening from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm
- **Thursday, 12th March:** Pupil Progress Evening from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm



Safeguarding information for parents

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

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

Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership

Each month we will provide some links or publications to download that will cover a wide range of current Safeguarding information for parents taken from the Children's. Safeguarding Assurance Partnership Website.

What is early help?

'Early help' describes any service that supports children and families as soon as problems emerge. Watch this short video for more information

<https://lancshiresafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/p/safeguarding-children/early-help-support-for-families>

Examples of early help services include:

- Parenting support
- Play and activity groups
- Emotional health and wellbeing support
- Communication and language support

Early help (sometimes referred to as 'early intervention') services are provided by local authorities. The type of support on offer can vary a lot. Many services will provide information and advice to support families. This can be offered in a one-to-one setting or as part of a group. They may also help families find solutions to specific problems.

Further information about Lancashire's Early Help offer can be found [here](#).



Applying to Secondary Schools

Important dates

The arrangements for the transfer of pupils to secondary schools in September 2026 will, as far as possible, conform to the following timetable.

1 September 2025 - Apply from this date

- School places are not allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

31 October 2025 - National closing date for secondary applications (statutory).

- During this period all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the published admissions policy. Where there are more applications than places available, decisions are made as to which children should be offered the available places. We will liaise and exchange information with all other admission authorities including neighbouring local authorities. The allocation and offer of a secondary school place are finalised.

2 March 2026 - Offers issued to parents

(The national offer date is 1 March, if this date falls on a weekend or a bank holiday, offers are sent the next working day.)

If you are not happy with an initial offer the appeals period starts from your receipt of the offer. [Appeal information](#) will be issued later as this allows some time for reserve lists to operate.

Appeals that we receive after the deadline will be slotted into the schedule where possible. We cannot guarantee this, however, and late appeals may have to be heard after the agreed date at a second round of hearings. The schedule is subject to change depending upon the availability of appeal panel members, clerks, venue, etc.

Applying to Primary Schools

Important dates

The arrangements for the admission of pupils to primary schools in September 2026 will, as far as possible, conform to the following timetable.

1 September 2025 - Apply from this date

- School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

15 January 2026 - National closing date for primary applications (statutory).

- During this period all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the published admissions policy. Where there are more applications than places available, decisions are made as to which children should be offered the available places. We will liaise and exchange information with all other admission authorities including neighbouring local authorities. The allocation and offer of a primary school place is finalised.

16 April 2026 - Offers issued to parents

(The national offer date is 16 April, if this date falls on a weekend or a bank holiday, offers are sent the next working day.)

If you are not happy with an initial offer, the appeals period starts from your receipt of the offer. [Appeal information](#) will be issued later as this allows some time for reserve lists to operate.

Appeals which we receive after the deadline will be slotted into the schedule where possible. We cannot guarantee this however, and late appeals may have to be heard after the agreed date at a second round of hearings. The schedule is subject to change depending upon the availability of appeal panel members, clerks, venue, etc.

