



# Newsletter

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## Message from Mr McCoy

This term has been absolutely brilliant in school; we have done so many things in such a short term. Just think .... we are halfway through the year already!!

We have had many successes with our sports team in local authority events, our most recent event saw our Y4 Girls Football Team winning the tournament that they attended - well done girls, and another trophy for the cabinet.

Ella in Y2 has donated over 14 inches of hair to the Princess Trust and raised over £700 for the Motor Neurone Disease Association to help her Grandad. Like her parents, we are very proud of her and what a brilliant thing to do for charity. Ella - you are a little superstar!

On Tuesday of this week, Year 3 presented the class assembly about what they had learned in History (Victorians) to their parents and family members. All three classes were amazing; the confidence, signing ability and dancing were a delight to watch. One of the best parts for me was seeing the family members with big smiles on their faces throughout the performances. You should all be very proud of your children, they did a great job.

I have really enjoyed this term and would like to thank you all for your support. Have a fabulous half-term break and we will see you all on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## Merit Award - Children who are good at solving problems

	R.O.T.W	W.O.T.W	M.O.T.W	Bronze	Silver	Gold
RHE	Isaac H	Sophie D	Maggie C	Lucas G	Jackson K	Henry P
RHU	Myles B	Teddy E	George M	Cassidy M-S	Thomas S	Mia P
RR	Penelope H	Harry D	Fin H	Reuben P	Rhys S	Autumn P
1A	Ethan H	Theo C	Ella W	Johnny S	Amiyah M	Reuben B
1CS	Jayson B	Matilda N-C	Vinnie F	Billy McK	Jacob C	Leo R
1M	Kim R	Josh M	Luna R	Etta H	Alex W	Ben M
2G	Penny T	Molly H	Esme B	Amelia G	Lincoln H	Harrison B
2J	Millie H	George M	Harry C	Eleanor H	Dimitar S	Noah D
2W	Isla-Rose R	Bobby G	Ellen H	Sienna C	Theo G	Emily T
3D	Harriet B	Harriet N-C	Theo B	Harper E	Daniel F	Jack G
3H	Robyn L	Jacob S	Olivia C	Jaxon C	Amber C	Martha M
3M	Harry Z	Riley W	Isla McC	Jonjo O'B	Ryan S	Regan L
4C	Oscar D	Sophie C	Phoebe C	Freya A	Michael O	Lilly I
4MC	Natalie S	Bethany H	Lydia C	Max Br	Finley C	Myles B
4MO	Frankie M	Teddy R-G	Annabelle S	Emily L	Gracie L-G	Rosie K
5B	Sonny T	Peyton R	Charlotte T	Ollie L	Lilly W	Emily C
5W	Isabelle K	Scarlett P	Andrew S	Emily D	Niamh B	Finley D
6D	Toby K	Athelia R	Sapphira H	Jessica F	Theo F	Joseph B
6W	Evie B	Alex D	Leo D	Archie L	Leon O'B	Lois T

## What's on w/c 19.02.24

19.02.2024	Before School	During School	After School
Monday		Y2, Y5 & Y6 PE <i>Y6 Trip—Air Raid Shelters</i> <i>5W Swimming</i>	
Tuesday		YR, Y4 & Y5 PE <i>Knowsley Safari Park Roadshows Y3 &amp; Y5</i>	
Wednesday		Y1 & Y3 PE <i>Y5 Trip—Tatton Park</i>	
Thursday		Y1, Y2 & Y3 PE <i>Y2 Florence Nightingale Workshop</i>	
Friday		YR, Y4 & Y6 PE	

## Friends of Bleak Hill

### Dates for Your Diaries

Mothers' Day Shop 08.03.24

Bags 2 School 18.03.24

Easter Bingo 27.03.24

Easter Raffle 28.03.24

Own Clothes Day Bring a Bottle for Gala 28.03.24



We would like to thank M&S for their kind donation of a voucher and mulled wine for the Easter Raffle and Bingo events.

We would also like to thank Martin Mere for their donation of a family pass for the Easter Raffle.

# All Day. Every Day.



## Attendance Matters



Attendance	
Whole School	96.1%
Reception	97.0%
Year 1	94.3%
Year 2	95.7%
Year 3	98.8%
Year 4	95.9%
Year 5	96.1%
Year 6	94.2%

### KEY MESSAGE

Please be aware that in line with Government guidance we must carry out regular register reviews. After a review you may receive a letter informing you of your child's attendance, worries we may have or support we can offer.

### SEPTEMBER TO DATE

Attendance for the whole school  
96.2%



“Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing”

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Useful website

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

We are here to support so please contact

Mrs Aspinall-Wood



Part of our Online Relationships Series



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[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

What you need to know about...

# LOCATION TRACKING

## What is it?

### 'Location Tracking'

Location tracking has always been a fundamental part of the way mobile phones work, the most basic element of which is the ability to triangulate a device's position in relation to a mobile network's radio masts. As smartphones became popular, Global Positioning System (GPS), Wireless networking (Wi-Fi), and Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) technologies complemented this, any one or combination of which can now feed highly accurate location data via any app on that device.

## How Does it Work?

### Based on consent

In the UK, data protection laws require that access to a person's personal data (including their location) is based on consent. In principle, the same protection applies to children even when parents use location tracking to keep tabs on them although this is a grey area for under-16s.

### Location sharing apps

As well as being built into Google's Android and Apple's iOS software, location sharing is often a feature of popular apps, for example Snapchat's Snap Maps, specifically designed to appeal to children, or WhatsApp Live Location. These usually require the user to turn the feature on.

### Wi-Fi surveillance

Although location tracking is associated with GPS, in urban areas Wi-Fi is more important. Tech companies have built up highly accurate pictures of the location of Wi-Fi networks in towns and cities. As a smartphone moves within range of these networks, it's possible to accurately calculate that device's location.

## Know the Risks

### Non-consensual monitoring

Whilst location tracking has many benefits, a number of apps have recently emerged that allow location data to be sent to third parties. This inevitably raises the risk of location tracking via apps being used, without consent, to keep tabs on someone's whereabouts.

### Frequently visited locations

A function of mobile operating systems is to document location history, which can provide someone with access to all past locations a child may have visited since location permission was granted. Anyone with access to a child's phone could establish where they go and when an build up a pattern of where they are likely to be at any particular time of the day.

### Stalking apps

Whilst these apps are often illegal, gathering evidence for prosecutions can be difficult. Stalking apps are designed to monitor someone's smartphone communication and location without their knowledge or consent and could be used as part of harassment or stalking activity.

## Safety Tips

### Disable when not in use

It's possible to turn off or limit location sharing on mobile devices, but this will also disable other features such as street navigation. It may be better to explore which apps are using location sharing and in what ways and that young people know to turn it off when the app is not in use.

### Discuss the risks

Young people are often unaware that location sharing is powerful and open to abuse. Talk to them about how it can be misused and discuss the importance of keeping their data private. Tell them to never provide others with unauthorised access to their phone and to always keep it locked when not in use.

### Talk about location monitoring

Remind children that smartphones are a powerful technology that can monitor and record everywhere a person goes as well as all their communication. Talk about the law and about what they can and can't do to others and that monitoring someone else's location without their consent is a huge invasion of their privacy.

## Our Expert John Dunn



John E Dunn is a hugely accomplished cybersecurity expert who has edited and written for numerous computer and technology magazines since the early 1990s, most recently Which Computing, The Register, Computerworld and Naked Security. He is the co-founder of Techworld and has featured on BBC TV/radio as well as CBC Canada.



## Gorgeous gifts and yummy treats

Enjoy warming lunches, freshly brewed teas and coffees, and delicious cakes at our Mere Side Cafe. Browse our shop for a range of gifts, books, and toys. Every penny spent supports our vital conservation work!

## Everything you need for an unforgettable day out...

### How to find us

**Our address** – Fish Lane, Burscough, Lancashire, L40 0TA.

**By car** – follow the brown duck signs from Junction 8 on the M61, Junction 3 on the M58 and Junction 27 on the M6.

**By bike** – use New Lane Circuit and A Grand Tour of West Lancashire routes.

**By train** – Burscough Bridge Interchange (2 miles), New Lane (0.8 miles) and Burscough Junction (3 miles).

### We're open

**Visit us 364 days a year** – that's every day except Christmas Day.

You can visit us between **9.30am – 6pm** (4.30pm in winter and 3pm on Christmas Eve) and our last admission is one hour before closing.

### We're buggy and wheelchair friendly!

### Get in touch

Call us on 01704 895181

✉ [info.martinmere@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.martinmere@wwt.org.uk)

🌐 [wwt.org.uk/martin-mere](http://wwt.org.uk/martin-mere)

📱 [@WWTMartinmere](https://www.facebook.com/WWTMartinmere)



WWT is the leading conservation charity that protects, preserves and promotes wildlife and wetlands. Come along, explore, get close to the animals, enjoy unique experiences and learn about these amazing habitats.

WWT reg. charity in England & Wales, no. 1030884 and Scotland, no. SC039410

# THIS WINTER

at Martin Mere Wetland Centre



Find out more  
[wwt.org.uk/martin-mere](http://wwt.org.uk/martin-mere)

Cold, crisp mornings, amazing sunsets over the mere and an influx of wintering birds on the reserve makes winter a brilliant time to visit.

Our centre becomes a true **wildlife haven** in winter with visitors from the Arctic including pintail, wigeon and pink-footed geese. The most impressive visitor, the Icelandic whooper swan, will return and fill our reserve with the most spectacular sights and sounds.

To celebrate the return of the swans, we have a number of activities to find out more about these and other species, including our **daily swan feed and talk** and floodlit swans event.

**Wrap up warm and experience an unforgettable winter at Martin Mere!**

Share your visit with us [@WWTMartinmere](https://www.facebook.com/WWTMartinmere)



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### Drawn to Water: Winter

Dec – Feb

Discover our wetlands through the eyes of Quentin Blake this winter, with amazing wildlife including whooper swans and pink footed geese, plus illustrated trails, art activities and more.

FREE.



### Drawn to Water: Quentin Blake exhibition

Oct – 24 Feb

As part of our Drawn to Water: Quentin Blake at WWT partnership, enjoy a unique opportunity to explore some lesser-known works from Sir Quentin Blake's personal archive, on display at our gallery.

FREE.



### Sail to Santa

2 – 17 Dec (weekends only) & 21 – 23 Dec, timed slots

Have a magical Christmas experience at our Sail to Santa event. Sail across to Santa's Island to meet Santa and get busy in the elves' workshop making reindeer food, designing a wooden Christmas tree decoration, and decorating a biscuit.

£17 per child. Booking essential.



### Floodlit Swans

Tues 9, 16, 23, 30 Jan

See up to 2,000 whooper swans on our mere. Join a warden in our hide to learn about these amazing creatures and their migratory journey.

£8.50 (child), £13.10 (adult), £11.80 (concession). Booking essential.



### Mudfest including Puddle Jumping Championships

10 – 18 Feb

We're celebrating all things mud! From mud-soaked obstacle courses, mud kitchens, and mud shows, get ready for a sludge-tastic time! We'll also be returning with the North West Puddle Jumping Championships as part of our brand-new mudfest event.

FREE (puddle jumping 50p per entry).



### Wild Bird Feeds

Mid Oct 2023 – Mar 2024

Join the wardens as they feed thousands of wild birds outside the Discovery hide and Raines Observatory. Hundreds of whooper swans will join the feed whilst you learn more about these amazing birds and why they spend winter at Martin Mere.

FREE.