

Dolphinholme Dispatch

**Dolphinholme Church of England Primary School,
Dolphinholme, Lancaster. LA2 9AN**

Head Teacher: Miss Joanne Mather head@dolphinholme.lancs.sch.uk
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**Friday 14th
November 2025**

Welcome to this week's Dolphinholme Dispatch.

Thank you for all of your fantastic fundraising in aid of Children in Need. The total raised will be shared in due course.



Attendance Matters



This week's whole school attendance:

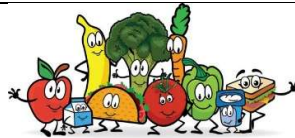
98.1%

Number of late marks: 0

Our Christian value for this half term is: Peace



And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Colossians 3:15



School lunches:

Week beginning 17th November 2025 – Week 3

The price for a school lunch is

£2.99

Are you entitled to free school meals? Please come and speak to Mr Cronshaw or Miss Mather for further information.

In Celebration Worship this week, and last week, we have celebrated:



24.10.2025	Value – Rule of Law	Good Work – Maths	Special Person
Reception	Harry – for remembering and following the class rules and for helping his peers to follow them also.	Alice – for her excellent attitude towards her work and always giving her best.	Luke – for a great week learning his phonics and being helpful with the new school guinea pigs.
Year 1/2	Harriet – for always following rules and helping her friends and peers do the same.	Arnie – for mastering his number bonds to 10.	Reuben R – for always checking on people and making sure they are okay.
Year 3/4	Annabelle – for sharing her opinions in class discussions and doing so within the agreed framework.	Oliver – for his excellent times table skills and knowledge and love he shows for learning them.	Max – for always tackling his work with a great attitude and taking things in his stride.

Year 5/6	Hugh – for always being willing to share his thoughts and ideas on the topics being discussed in a thoughtful and respectful manner.	Sam – for his excellent engagement with his Maths work and willingness to tackle a challenge.	Flora – for showing excellent resilience when taking on a challenge and doing so with a smile!
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Points:

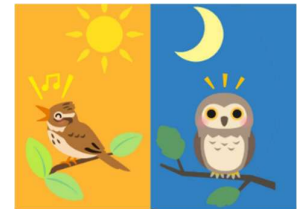
Harris: 3pts Grizedale 4pts Hayshaw 1pt Clougha 3pts



School Bookings

Please can we ask that children are booked into Breakfast Club and After School Club, where possible, before the day. We know that occasionally this may not always be possible as life and work events can crop up at short notice. On these occasions, please can you **phone** Mr Cronshaw to book your After School Club place(s) for your child(ren) rather than email as these can be missed or not picked up in time. Please can you also make sure that your ScoPay account for Breakfast Club and After School Club is paid up and not in arrears.

Many thanks.

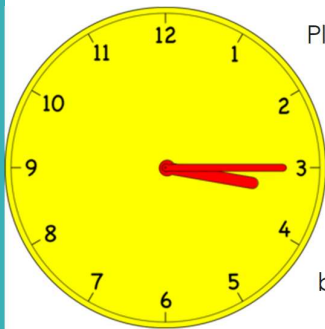


Outdoor and Adventurous - Residential Educational Visits 2025/2026



There was an error on the letter sent out to Years 3/4 regarding the date for the parents' information evening regarding the residential to Hothersall Lodge. The date of the meeting is Tuesday 25th November at 6pm. My apologies for this.

Pre-School Pick-up



Please can we ask that you are prompt to collect your children from pre-school.

Pre-school closes at 3:15pm so please ensure you are here by then. If you aren't here to collect your children and have not rung ahead to inform us then they will be taken into after school club and you may be charged for the first hour. Could we also ask that if you have children to collect from school you collect from pre-school **first**, we have found that parents are not arriving to pre-school until 3.20- 3.25pm and staff need to clean up and/or go over to after school club but cannot do this until all the children have left.

We would be very grateful if you could please let anyone who will be collecting your children such as grandparents know this information. Could we also ask that if you are not collecting children from pre-school, you refrain from using our playground as a path/cut through in and out of school, we have found that often the gate is being left open which makes this very unsafe for both children who are on the school playground and also our children as they leave.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Do you have...

Does anyone have a 'traditional' doctor's bag similar to the image to the right that Year 1/2 could borrow for their Nativity: A Midwife Crisis? If not exactly like the image, along those lines? Please let Mrs Hanger or Mrs Clarke know if you have something and are happy to lend it to our very responsible and careful Midwife actress. Many thanks.



Could your child be entitled to Free School Meals?

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you are in receipt of any of the qualifying benefits (including Universal Credit, Income-Based Jobseekers' Allowance and Child Tax Credit).



Are you entitled?

Free School Meal eligibility not only provides daily free lunches but also free milk for Rec & KS1, a £15 supermarket voucher per child for each week during the school holidays (adds up to £195 per year) and reduced costs for residential visits. For parents of children in Reception and KS1, this is different to the universal free school meals that all are entitled to. If you are eligible and claim, school will also receive an additional grant that can be used to offer support to children in school.

If you think you may be eligible, it is free to apply and you can do so on this link:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=3>

If your child is currently eligible for free school meals, that eligibility will be protected until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they are in.

Service Child Pupil Premium

Schools receive additional funding for any pupil with one of their parents serving in the regular armed forces (including pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full-time reserve service).

If this applies to you, please e-mail Mr Cronshaw (bursar@dolphinholme.lancs.sch.uk) with your child's name, class and parents' details.

If you have any queries regarding Pupil Premium entitlement for your child, please contact Mr Cronshaw on 01524 791530 or email bursar@dolphinholme.lancs.sch.uk

Village Family Games Night – POSTPONED

Due to a clash of dates with other events taking place in the local community, the decision has been made to postpone the launch of the family games night to December where it will be launched with festive flair!



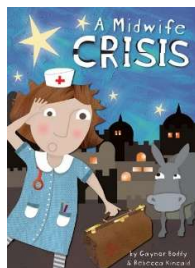
Term Dates 2026/2027

Please find attached to this week's Dispatch the agreed term dates for the 2026/2027 academic year.

We have tried to provide some long weekend options to help families plan for holidays whilst keeping in-line with the wider Lancashire Schools holiday pattern.



EYFS and KS1 Nativity – Save the dates...



Tuesday 9th December: Dress rehearsal for the whole school

Tuesday 9th December: 4:15pm – tickets needed

Wednesday 10th December : 9:30am – tickets needed

Further information to follow.

PTFA Christmas News...

We are getting ready for the annual Christmas Bauble Raffle, this is usually our biggest fundraising raffle and a lot of fun. If anyone runs, or works for a local business and would be able to support us by donating a prize, for example a voucher or product, we would be very grateful for any prizes to add to our fabulous themed hamper prizes to make this our biggest and best raffle yet.



Also if anyone would like to help us ask local businesses for their support with prizes, we would be very pleased to have some extra people power to organise this.

Health and Safety – food preparation

For young children, food can be a choking hazard, especially when they do not chew their food well. Choking can happen with any foods, but firm foods, bones and small round foods can be more risky. As is our statutory duty, when school provide foods for our younger children, the picture below is how we have to prepare them. Please could we ask that when preparing a packed lunch or snack box for your child(ren), you follow the NHS recommended preparation guide below and cut foods into narrow batons, and avoid round shapes by cutting grapes, tomatoes etc. into quarters. Thank you.



<https://www.nhs.uk/best-start-in-life/baby/weaning/safe-weaning/preparing-food-safely/>

Breakfast with Santa: Lancaster on Ice



BREAKFAST With Santa
BREAKFAST RAP & DRINK | FESTIVE CRAFTS
9-10-11 MEET & GREET WITH SANTA
12.30, 2.00, 2.30 & 3.00 DECEMBER | 10.00AM-1.00PM IN THE TIPS
Lancaster On Ice
£24.95 PER CHILD
£14.95 PER ADULT

If you are thinking of booking Breakfast with Santa via Lancaster on Ice, our PTFA will receive a £1 donation for every child who books and references our school's name.

Bookings can be made via the link below:

<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/breakfast-with-santa-tipi>

Breakfast with Santa!

Join us for Breakfast with Santa! Tickets include a breakfast bag & drink. Festive crafts and a 9-11 meet & greet with the big man himself, Santa!

Tickets will be at the school hall to book (The Ticketbox in the Old School Hall and 23rd of December Book your tickets now!

Book Now

100 tickets
The Tipi Bar
School Hall Lancaster Unit
100

DATE & TIME
12th, 13th, 14th & 15th
December from 10.00am-1.00pm



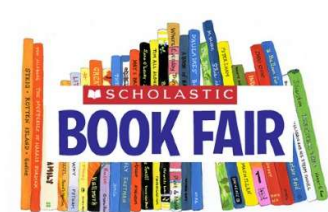
PTFA Christmas Clothes Swap Shop

The PTFA Christmas Clothes Swap rail is now ready for swaps in the entrance porch to school.

This is a great opportunity to give any festive clothes that no longer fit or take your fancy a new lease of life by swapping them for something new-to-you. Donations of good quality children's festive jumpers, festive pyjamas, party wear, party dresses, festive tops and adult festive jumpers etc. are all welcome.

Please bring any donated items into school and add them to the rail. You do not need to swap anything if you are happy to just donate or shop. The collection tin for any donations is also with the rail. Many thanks and happy swapping!

Scholastic Book Fair



The Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to school for a Christmas Book Fair! It will be a great opportunity to get some lovely Christmas presents. The Christmas Book Fair will be on:

- Tuesday 2nd December – 8am till 8:40am
- Tuesday 2nd December – from 3:30pm
- Wednesday 3rd December – 8am till 8:40am
- Thursday 4th December – 8am till 8:40am

Please be aware that this is a cashless book fair and you are required to pay on the day by card machine, or online via <https://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay> or by the QR code.



SAVE THE DATE for the PTFA's Fused Glass Workshop

Wednesday 10th December. School Hall. Time tbc.

The PTFA are organising for Sarah Walkley to come in and run a stained glass window Christmas Craft workshop.

Further details to follow!





School Teatowels – pre-order.

A new and updated 2025/2026 school tea towel is currently in production!

It will include the images of all staff and children, including Little Dolphins, and is this year's must-have Christmas gift (according to Miss Mather!)

Pre-orders can be made via Scopay from next week: 1 for £5 or 3 for £12.

Diary Dates...

Friday 14th November: Village Family Games Night. 6-7:30pm at Dolphinholme School Hall. **POSTPONED**

Sunday 16th November: All Age Family Service. 4pm at St Mark's. Year 4 will be helping Reverend Cindy.

Thursday 20th November: Individual and sibling photographs (Tempest Photography)

Thursday 20th November: School Council Elections

Friday 21st November: Indoor Athletics at Lancaster and Morecambe College

Friday 28th November: Non uniform day in exchange for a chocolate item for St. Mark's Christmas Fair

Friday 5th December: St Mark's Christmas Fair

Monday 8th December: Whole School trip to The Grand Theatre to watch Puss in Boots.

Friday 12th December: Village Family Games Night. 6-7:30pm in the school hall

Friday 19th December: **NO After School Club**

Friday 19th December: School closes for Christmas break.