

12.12.25
Issue 14

Lightcliffe C of E Primary School Newsletter

This term's Christian Value is:

Trust

*My God is my strength in
whom I trust. Psalm 18.2*

Attendance

Attendance this week: 95.4%
3 classes this week have had 97+% attendance
Whole school attendance to date: 96.3%
This academic year our target is 97%



Lightcliffe 100 – this week's words have been: **evidence, exceed, familiar**

The Overgate Elf Dash!

All classes have now completed the Elf Dash in support of Overgate Hospice. Thanks to your incredible generosity, sponsor forms returned by Monday have already raised over **£2,000** - an amazing achievement! More forms have been coming in this week, so the total is still growing. If you have any remaining sponsor forms, please return them by **Wednesday, 17th December**.

A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed, your support makes a real difference!



PFSA Christmas Fair

Despite the poor weather, many families joined us for the PFSA annual Christmas Fair, and what a fantastic event it was! Families enjoyed meeting Father Christmas, trying their luck at the class tombola's, sampling a variety of delicious refreshments, and being entertained by our talented buskers and choir. Raffle winners have now been announced and can be found at the end of this newsletter, as well as on the PFSA Facebook page: [Lightcliffe PFSA | Facebook](#). Congratulations to all the winners, and a huge thank you to the staff and parents who worked tirelessly to make this event such a success once again.



It's the Season!

It has been a delight to fully get into the Christmas Spirit this week. We have held Christmas parties for Years 3, 4 and 5, enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner cooked by Mr Ball and the team and enjoyed the first of the Christmas performances by Year 5 this afternoon. The children were exceptional!



Mrs Dunkley



Mrs Hustler

Upcoming Events

Sat/Sun 13th & 14th Dec
Between 8th & 19th Dec
Fri 19th December
Mon 5th January 2026

St Matthew's Christmas Tree Festival
Performances and parties (see website)
School Closes for the Christmas holiday
School opens

St Matthew's Tree Festival

The Tree Festival takes place this weekend, and we can share that we have decorated **two beautiful trees** with crafts made by the children.

Please head down to the church to admire the trees and enjoy some refreshments:

Saturday: 10:00am – 4:00pm

Sunday: 12:00 noon – 4:00pm



Un-named and un-claimed school uniform

If your child is missing any items of clothing, please check the clothing rail outside the school office. **Named items** will be returned to their owners, while **unnamed items** will be placed on the rail for collection throughout the week.

We kindly ask that you **label all your child's clothing**, including school uniform and PE kit. Last year, we had a large amount of unnamed and unclaimed uniform. While many items were washed and reused as spares or donated to the PFSA, a significant number had to be disposed of.

By naming clothing, we can **encourage sustainability**, reduce unnecessary waste, and ensure items make their way back to the right owners. Thank you for your support!

JOIN THE FUN THIS WINTER
AND ENJOY A HEALTHY HOLIDAY!

Bookings are now open for the Healthy Holidays Calderdale Winter Programme! FREE holiday club places are available this December for children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

Book here: <https://healthyholidays.calderdale.gov.uk/>



FOOTBALL & MULTI-SPORTS CHRISTMAS CAMPS 2025



FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOL YEARS RECEPTION TO YEAR 7

£25

Single Day Rate

£45

2 Days

9 AM - 3:30 PM
MONDAY 22ND DEC
TUESDAY 23RD DEC

SIBLING DISCOUNT & EARLY DROP OFF AVAILABLE

LIGHTCLIFFE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
WAKEFIELD ROAD
LIGHTCLIFFE
HALIFAX
HX3 8SH

TO BOOK, PLEASE TEXT OT WHATSAPP 0794 959 7032 (JOE) OR 0786
864 0602 (LUKE)

Raffle Winners

- £200 - 5367 - **Karen Bailey**
- £100 - 4046 - **Laura Standidge**
- £50 M&S Hamper -1122 - **Uncle Paul**
- Horseshoe Reindeer - 3809 -**Denise Cummings**
- Hypnotherapy Session- 4997 - **Steve Rone**
- £50 Luxe Me Aesthetics Voucher - 4606 - **Dave Lightfoot**
- Huddersfield Town Ticket -3300 - **Tim Silvester**
- Golf Sim Session @ Mulligans -3535 - **Verity c/o Benedict**
- M&S Gift Wrap Hamper - 0562 - **Barbara**
- £30 Belles Balloon Voucher -5071 - **Danielle G - Gails Daughter**
- Cut and Blow Dry from Hair by Kizzy - 4848 - **Frank Spirit**
- Gel Nails @ Beau Medispa - 5629 - **J Macintyre**
- PT Session with Complete Wellness - 1416- **Hollis**

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- £30 Radiance by Becca Voucher -5972 - **Jo Ngan**
 - Wreath from Natasha Jane Events - 0618 - **Richard Roberts**
 - Beauty and the Barista Voucher - 4985- **A Chymera**
 - £20 Ricci's Place Voucher -5510 - **Chris Fosco**
 - £15 Bluebells Voucher - 5444 -**Anna Heath**
 - Personised homework box from Keepsake Blocks - 4614- **Michelle Lightfoot**
 - Aerial Circus Skills Session - 0529 -**Lorraine**
 - Aerial Circus Skills Session 1655 - **Celia Hepworth**
 - Jump Start Maths Class - 2747 - **George Walker**
 - Jump Start Math Class - 0605 - **Richard Roberts**
 - Crochet Hanging Pot - 0582 - **D Roberts**
 - World Kitche Celebrations Book - 2419 - **Matthew**

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. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON.

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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