

Monday Memo



Monday 18th May

Summer Term

Issue #31

Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to the recipients of last week's awards.

These children demonstrated exceptional effort and dedication, and their accomplishments reflect the positive culture we continue to build together enabling them to thrive and flourish.

	Star of the Week	Good Work	Fantastic Friend
Reception	Freya G	Sienna N & Frankie D	Opal C
Year 1	Amelia D	Robyn K-B & Dexter N	Amelia O'M
Year 2	Amelie A	Rory O & Leyanah W	Leonardo L
Year 3	Grace D	Aidan McA & Bobby S	Ted N
Year 4	Ernie O's	Henry S & Caitlin S-J	Harry B
Year 5	Isabella G	Niamh McD & Charlotte L	Ella-Rose R
Year 6	Henry P-C	All of year 6	Jaxon S



Staffing



We are pleased to share that Mrs Braddock will be returning to school following the half-term break after a period of long-term sickness absence.

On her return, Mrs Braddock will initially resume her role as a Teaching Assistant in Year 3. Over time, she will gradually return to her wider responsibilities, including her roles as After School Club Manager and Higher Level Teaching Assistant.

We are delighted to welcome her back to the school community and look forward to her continued contribution to the life of the school.

We are excited to announce that due to a change of circumstances, Ms R Todd will be joining our team as our Family Support Worker. Ms R Todd will start w/b 8th June.

Walk to school week Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May

This week is our Walk to School Week 2026!

This week, we're celebrating Walk to School Week. Whether children arrive on foot, by bike, or via scooter, we're encouraging active transportation and outdoor movement.

Walking to school offers wonderful benefits—fresh air, exercise, and a chance to start the day with energy. If walking isn't possible for your family, that's perfectly fine. The goal is simply to recognise the value of movement and healthy habits. Thank you for supporting this initiative.

★ How will you travel to school? Good luck! ★

Diary Dates

Monday 18 th - Friday 22 nd May Walk to school week	Tuesday 19 th May Reception and Year 1 Tots on Tyres	Friday 22 nd May End of term awards 09:05am Close for half term 3:20pm from School	Monday 8 th June School re-opens for Summer 2 Term
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Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement calling Christians worldwide to pray for evangelization from Ascension to Pentecost. This year's Thy Kingdom Come is all about the presence of God through His spirit.

For the current year, this powerful 10-day wave of prayer runs from Thursday 14th May to Pentecost Sunday 24th May



St. Pauls' Parish News & Events

Tuesdays 09:00am—11:30am

Warm Space (coffee and bacon butties)

Supported by members of our

Children's Chaplain from

10:00-10:30am

Attendance w/b 11/05

Reception: 100%

Year 1: 95%

Year 2: 95%

Year 3: 99%

Year 4: 100%

Year 5: 100%

Year 6: 100%

Whole School Overall: 98%

Target: 97%

House Points w/b 11/05

Parlick: 131

Longridge: 74

Pendle: 108



Bowland: 132



Worship Values

Our worship value this half term is 'Friendship'.

In our Celebration Assembly, we will celebrate 1 pupil from each class who has shown the term's value.

This term we will celebrate our 'Fantastic Friend'.



www.stpaulsprimaryschoolfarington.co.uk



www.instagram.com/faringtonmossstpauls/



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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APP & PLAY STORES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use and attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the ages of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. This guide will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

MALICIOUS APPS WITH MALWARE

Although Google and Apple must approve the apps on their official stores, inappropriate content sometimes slips through the net. For example, in 2025, the security company Kaspersky found that multiple iOS and Android apps contained screen-reading software, primed to look for passwords and stealing crypto-wallet recovery phrases captured in screenshots.

UNOFFICIAL COPYCAT APPS

Both official app stores contain copycat apps – often games – designed to look like popular rivals, mimicking their branding, layout and logos. While these will usually just offer a poor experience packed with ads as a quick money-making exercise, they're also more likely to be vessels for malware than the products they're counterfeiting.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As the App Store and Play Store are for all ages, there's a lot of content available that's inappropriate for children. Examples include apps that have references to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence or gambling. In general, these are sensibly age-rated, but social media sites such as YouTube and TikTok, which both have an App Store age rating of 12+, can be gateways to adult material.

PREDATORY IN-APP PURCHASES

App-making is a business, and most creators have found that 'freemium' software is the way to make money. That means the app will be free initially but will either require the user to watch ads or rely on them making in-app purchases. Some 'free' apps can be predatory, and there are plenty of examples reported where parents have racked up huge bills on behalf of their children's app activity.

ADDICTIVE BY DESIGN

Phone addiction is fast becoming recognised as a real concern, and apps are a big part of this. Freemium apps have a real incentive to keep children checking in every day in order to generate more ad views or secure extra in-app purchases. This can interfere with schoolwork and other offline hobbies.

SIDeloADED BANNED APPS

'Sideloading' – the more complicated practice of installing applications on a device from sources other than the official app stores – bypasses Google's and Apple's security procedures; however, it is possible for tech-savvy users. This opens up huge risks – not just apps that would be forbidden by Apple and Google, but pirate ones packed with malware too.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOR APPS

Both Google and Apple have apps that can give adults greater control over children's phone activity. 'Screen Time' (iPhone) and 'Family Link' (Android) have a range of features, such as letting you set age-related restrictions on the app stores, require permission to download an app, set daily time limits on specific apps, and control real-world spending.

DO YOUR RESEARCH

If children ask permission to download an app, do your due diligence and research it. Read the app summary and search the internet for reviews and discussions to establish its legitimacy, safety and appropriateness – if it doesn't seem to be appropriate, look for safer alternatives instead.

LOOK BEYOND THE REVIEWS

App store reviews are helpful, but they are easily gamed, and some unscrupulous developers will pay for quick reviews to give their work perceived legitimacy. Take more than a cursory glance at listings by digging out the one- and two-star reviews and looking closely at the developer – for example, if they've published a lot of unrelated apps, that's a red flag.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD

Talk to children and make sure they're aware that apps can be risky. As part of a wider talk about internet literacy, ensure they don't download apps outside of the official channels, nor grant apps permission to access their camera, microphone, or photos without a good reason. Make sure they understand that in-game currency costs real-world money.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



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