



Livingstone Newsletter

5th September 2025

A big welcome back to all our families – we hope you have had a lovely summer. A special welcome to all the new members of the Livingstone family, in Nursery and Reception and to those in other year groups.

Star of the Week:

All of our teachers in the Star of the Week Assembly today said what a great start to the year everyone had made – and how hard that had made choosing just one Star! Well done to everyone.

Nursery: Chester

Reception: Blossom

Year 1: Jessica

Year 2: Charlotte

Year 3: Leo

Year 4: Junior

Year 5: Benji Mc

Year 6: Miles

Start and finish times:

All children should arrive at school between **8.45am and 8.55am**. Children arriving at school after 8.55am will be marked as late. Children arriving after 09.30am will be marked as an unauthorised absence “U” code. The end of the school day is **3pm** for Nursery, **3.10pm** for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and **3.15pm** for children in Years 3-6.

Welcome to Your New Class sessions:

We are holding **welcome sessions on Wednesday 10th September**. These are for parents and carers to meet teachers, find out about routines and expectations, and about any official assessments that happen this year. Taking place in the classrooms, the sessions will be delivered twice and will last around half an hour: once at **3.30pm** and once at **5pm**. We hope as many people as possible will attend as it will provide lots of useful information.

School Streets:

New parents and carers will have noticed that we have our own School Street. Every morning and evening the bottom of the road is closed for the safety of all our children. We are always looking for more volunteers – without people willing to help out the scheme will not be able to run. Can you help, even if you are only available occasionally or on one morning or one afternoon each week? There’s a short training session to show you what to do, and if you need childcare Little Stones will look after your child for free for the time you are volunteering. Please let us know at school or contact the office.

Even though the last bit of the road is closed, please ensure that as a parent or carer of a child that attends our school you park legally, considerately and safely. Parking should not obstruct a junction, stop access to someone’s driveway, block the pavement to pedestrians or block the road. We regularly get complaints about people leaving their cars even if just for 2 minutes in a place that blocks the road. Please consider parking much further away from school and walking the last bit. This is beneficial for both you and your child’s physical and mental health and provides a positive start or end to the day with time to talk to your child. It will ensure everyone’s safety and mean that the journey to and from school is more pleasant for everyone.

Nut and Sesame free school:

We are a **nut and sesame free school**. This means that children should not bring to school items for their lunch that contain nuts or sesame. This includes peanut butter or chocolate nut spread sandwiches or cake bars, cereal bars with nuts in them and the one that has been catching a few people out recently is hummus as this generally contains tahini which is sesame seed paste. If we see children with these items in their packed lunch we will substitute the item.

Snacks should just be fruit or vegetables. Water bottles should just contain water although other non-fizzy drinks are allowed in packed lunches. Thank you for your help.

School Spider:

School Spider is the app we use to facilitate all payments (uniform, trips, school dinners, nursery snack money), permissions for trips and visits, surveys etc. Please download it from the app store and then select Livingstone. Then you should be able to log in with your email address if we have that on the system. If you are having problems, please check that we have your email address at the office. There is a guide to using it below.

Nursery Snack Money:

This is live on School Spider. There is a charge of £5 for each half term.

Free School Meals:

If your financial situation has changed, and you are now receiving some benefits, please contact the office to see whether you might be entitled to Free School Meals. Eligibility is defined through the benefits that you claim but we can check eligibility at school with just a little bit of information. Once we have entered this information on the system, it will check regularly whether you have become eligible and will notify us automatically. It is worth doing this even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and already gets a universal free school meal or even if your child want to remain on packed lunches because it also brings additional funding in to school to support learning and can qualify you for other support such as holiday food vouchers or access to holiday clubs.

School Dinner Price:

The cost to parents for children in Nursery and Year 3-6 for a meal is now £3. Please pay on School Spider. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still get free school meals through the Universal Free School Meals scheme. Please don't forget to return your menu choices if you have not already done so.

School Pedestrian Gate:

We lock the pedestrian gate when children are out doing PE or outside for another lesson. This means that parents won't be able to access the playground for pick up until the children have gone inside and the gate has been unlocked. This might mean that you are only able to access the playground just before 12pm for morning nursery and just before 3pm for afternoon nursery. Please be patient and wait outside the playground until the gate is opened. Thank you.

WOW scheme:

To encourage children (and parents!) to walk to school, we are continuing with our WOW badges. Children need to walk three times a week to receive a badge each month. This is either from home or, if they live too far away, there is the option to park and stride which still counts. For this to count, children need to have walked either from the Market Ground / St Joseph's or the train station / the Gillery. Walking from the road closure sign doesn't count! Please do talk to your child about where they have walked from and whether this counts as park and stride.

Uniform:

We are already getting lost and abandoned uniform and coats. Please make sure your child's name is in all pieces of uniform and if you have bought second hand uniform on School Spider, please change the names!

PE kits:

All children from Reception up need a PE kit in school. This should be a t-shirt, a pair of shorts / leggings and some black pumps. Whilst we try to help where we can, this is not school's responsibility to provide. Please send your child in with a PE kit on Monday if they don't already have one in school.

Office staffing:

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we are currently operating without full staffing in the office. Please bear with us as we try to get things done between us. Thank you.

Emergency Alerts

The UK Government is due to test the Emergency Alerts system at around 3pm on Sunday 7 September. It's used to warn if there is a danger to life nearby, including extreme weather. During the test, mobile phones will vibrate and make a loud siren sound for roughly 10 seconds, even if they are set to silent. A message will also appear on phone screens, making it clear the alert is only a test. You can opt out of emergency alerts. For example, victims of domestic abuse with a concealed phone may find it appropriate to turn off alerts. Instructions on how to do this are available. Visit gov.uk/alerts/opting-out

Diary Dates

Tuesday 23 rd September	Flu vaccines
Tuesday 7 th October	Year 3 Spanish Day – Mossley Hollins
Thursday 9 th October	School photos – individual and siblings
Tuesday 14 th October	Tag Rugby Competition – Mossley Hollins
Thursday 23 rd October	Halloween Disco (Nursery and Reception AM, Years 1&2 5-6pm, Years 3-6 6-7pm)
Friday 24 th October	Last day of half-term
Tuesday 11 th November	Livingstone School Open Day (9.30am, 1.30pm and 6pm)



Help us run our

SCHOOL STREET

At Livingstone we have a **school street**. Every morning and afternoon the bottom of Old Brow to the school is **closed to vehicles**, making it safer for our children to walk, wheel or scoot to and from school and preventing **congestion** at the gates.



ROAD
CLOSED

Our school street relies on **volunteers** – parents, grandparents and friends – who spend **30 minutes a week** helping to keep their kids and their friends **healthy and safe**.

Can you spare half an hour to help? you'll get **training**, there's **free childcare** at Littlestones if you're dropping off / picking up, and it's a great way to **get to know** the school and other parents and carers too!

Monday – Friday (term time only)
8.25 – 9.00 am
2.55 – 3.25 pm

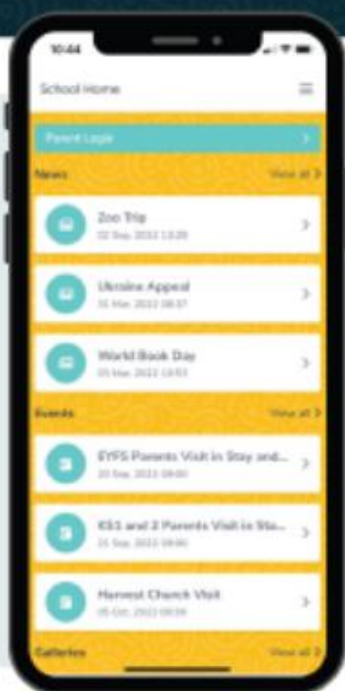
Please speak to the school office or let your child's teacher know if you can help out. Thank you!

Guide to our app for parents & carers



School Spider allows you to receive and return information directly to and from the school. Receive instant messages, complete surveys, book your parents' evenings and report absences.

Select your school to get started!



How to get started

Once you have selected the school, you will see posts from the school website. Click parent dashboard to login or create an account. Create an account by pressing "create account" and enter your email address.

You must have your email linked with the school!

Take a look around...

See all action items on your dashboard

Click to respond or book for each child



Click the envelope to see your recent messages

Click these 3 lines to:

- Switch between areas
- Edit your profile
- Logout

DOWNLOAD NOW

