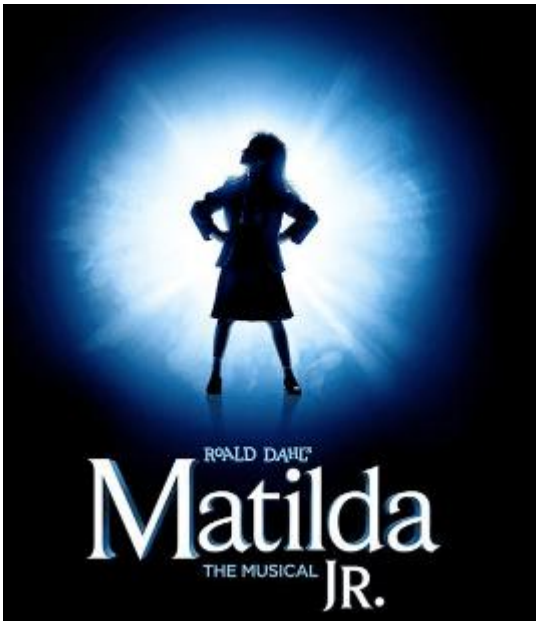
Great Wood News June 2026

This month's value is Independence

Thank you to parents for your support in the last half term. The children really appreciated the interest you showed visiting their classrooms, looking at their work-books and your words of encouragement. The Year 1 children loved having their parents in to see their assemblies. We have benefited from parents chaperoning children on walks, visits and sporting events and we are also blessed with a few parents who visit regularly to listen to children read – that extra attention makes such a difference.

We are always looking for volunteers to listen to children read. It may be something of interest to you or relatives. Please contact Year One teacher, Mrs Lee if interested.

It is such a privilege to watch children grow and mature as they move up through the school. Year Six pupils have completed the Standardised Assessment Tests. Y6 continue learning – recently they completed a trail that highlighted how Lancaster's wealth grew through the trade of enslaved people. Matilda has been selected as their last GW performance and all are welcome to come and see it on July 8th and 9th and celebrate their achievements.



Parents of Year 5 have until October 31st to indicate high school preferences on-line. Y4 parents may also be interested in the high school open day dates.

LRGS: Saturday 20th June 2026 9am- 1pm
Carnforth High School: Tuesday 29th September
LGGS: Thursday 25th June 2026 Open Evening Y4/5 families (no time on website)
Ripley St Thomas: Thursday 9th July 2026, 6 – 8.30 p.m.
Morecambe Bay Academy – no date yet
Bay Leadership Academy, Heysham: Thursday 17th September 2026,(no time on website) Last year 6 – 8.30pm
Dallam School – September 17th Thursday and Wednesday 23rd 5-7pm for both
Our Lady's Catholic College Thursday 24th September 5pm
Central Lancaster High School – no date yet

The children have been out in the allotment planting out seedlings and planting seeds. Each class is looking after their potato crop too. Reception children planted some edibles at Bare Lane Station for the public to taste when they grow.

The PTA sales of ice cream has been a blessing in the hot weather and raised some funds too. We look forward to the community's annual Summer Festival and the long-term forecast is positive though on the cooler side.

Sports Day dates – reminder that the Junior Sports Day is in the morning and the Infant Sports Day is in the afternoon. Dates at the end. Please park sensibly for the Summer Festival and Sports Days

The Parent Questionnaire 2025 is now live and the deadline for completion is June 16th. Click this link: Great Wood Parent Questionnaire 2026 – Fill in form

The Children's Commissioner for England Rachel de Souza has sent a questionnaire for children.. She is the advocate for children who challenges the government to consider the impact of their decision on children. The survey asks about the things they enjoy, the challenges they face, the changes they would like to see in their communities, and what they believe a good childhood should look like today. The findings will help inform national conversations and decision-making about children's lives and futures at the highest levels. Our Year 6 will complete the questionnaire in school but here is the link in case parents want the voices of children in other year groups heard.
http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture

Well done to this Y6 superstar who was awarded 'Man of the Match' playing for Morecambe Under 11 Girls' Team at the Coulton Cup.

Mr Ross recently received a letter of request from a group of girls. As the boys always hog the year group footballs at breaktimes, they were wanting a ball for the girls. They have been provided with that along with a girls only pitch on the grass and when they are not on the field, the football area is girls only on Fridays.

Great Wood are seeking a company willing to sponsor our school for a new football kit. Could anyone who is interested please contact Mr Lamb (o.lamb@greatwood.lancs.sch.uk). Thank you.

Uniform reminder

- ALL-black trainers with no visible logos are acceptable. Trainers with white soles, visible logos etc are not OK for school uniform (They are acceptable as part of a PE uniform but not regular uniform)
- Grey, Black or White plain socks
- Generally, if attention is drawn to a hair accessory or haircut etc., it is considered a fashion statement and is therefore not appropriate for school; it is not uniform. Longer hair must be tied/clipped back away from the face. Plain stud ear-rings only.

Class placements for September 2026

Now - Next	Teacher(s)	Class TA	**Now - Next**	Teachers	Class TA
Acorn – 1LE	**Mrs Lee**	Miss Douglas	**Chestnut – 1V**	**Mr Vincent**	Miss Summers /Mrs Longhorn
1LO – 2P	**Mrs Parkin**	Mrs Bagguley	**1LE – 2LM**	**Mrs Lockett T W Th** **Mr Morland M F**	Mrs Hook
2LP – 3CH	**Mrs Clark M,Tpm** **Mr Hudson Tam,WThF**	Mrs Brierley	**2V – 3H**	**Mrs Hoggarth M,Tu** **Mrs Newton W,Th,F**	Mrs Hollings
3HN – 4P	**Mrs Potter**	Mrs Owen	**3CH – 4HF**	**Mrs Hamilton TW Th F** **Mrs Flaherty M**	Mrs Sharples
4H – 5L	**Mr Lockett**	Mrs McGowan	**4F – 5R**	**Mr G Ross**	Mrs McKinley
5C – 6C	**Miss Camp**	Miss Scott	**5R – 6L**	**Mr Lamb**	Mrs Beamer

As there are transition meetings for some children soon, it is best to be transparent with the above information. Children will have time to process the change but transition will not be a focus in class until the last week of term when children visit their new classes. There is also an opportunity for parents to Meet the Teachers in the last week of term.

Mrs Newton will be on maternity leave for the first two terms – the position is currently advertised and the co-teacher for Mrs Hoggarth to be determined. The placements of teaching assistants who provide additional support aren't published as there can be unforeseen changes.

Congratulations to Mrs Newton who gave birth to a baby boy 3 days after her last day at work! Mother and son are both healthy and well.

We were so proud of our juniors that represented us at the LHSSN Olympics at Salt Ayre.

The feedback from the workshop for parents by Lancashire Dyslexia was positive.

Diary Dates

June 26	
w/c 1st	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check Fortnight
Starting Thur 4th	Y3 weekly rugby with Wigan Warriors
Mon 8th	Y6 trip to Buddhist Temple
w/c 8th	Y1 Phonics Check Week (Y2 retakes too)
Early June	Y2 Assessment Period
Tues 9th June	Y4 Arnside Knott Walk
Thurs 11th	a.m. Opening Morning for 9/27 start
Fri 12th June	Y3 Walk to Williamson Park
16th & 23rd	New Starters Play Morning
Tues 16th 1:30	Infant Sports Day
Wed 17th 9:15	Junior Sports Day
Thurs 18th June	2V visit to Morecambe Bay Academy Art morning
Sat June 20th	**PTA Summer Festival**
w/c 22nd	Bodies, Growth and Relationships Education Week
Mon 22nd	Y5 Trip to Brockhole
Tues 23rd	Infant Sports Day Rain Plan
Wed 24th	Junior Sports Day Rain Plan 1LE Church visit re Baptism 2LP- visit to Morecambe Bay Academy Art morning
Thur 25th	Governors meeting with Staff
Fri 26th June	SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET
Mon 29th 8:45am	Y4,5,6 Parent Q&A re Time for Change/Growing Up Confident.
Tues 30th	Y1 Lancaster Castle Trip
July 26	
Wed 1st	1LO Church visit re Baptism
Fri 3rd	1pm Sharing books with Teddy Bears – bring from home.
Tue 7th	EYFS trip to Sunderland Point
Wed 8th	2pm Y6 Play for Parents
Thur 9th	Y1 trip to World of Beatrix Potter 6pm Play for Parents
Fri 10th	Y6 Leavers Party
Mon 13th	Annual Reports sent home
Tue 14th	9:00 Meet the (next year's)Teacher for Parents
Thur 16th	Leavers' Assembly 2:00pm Last Day of School Year End at Normal time

Summer Activities at Great Wood

Superball-Paul will be running activity days in the Summer Holidays on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the first week. He will also running activity days on Tues 11th and Wed 12th August and Tues18th and Wed 19th August. Please book direct with Paul.

Eden Project
You may have seen the 'Bring Me Sunshine Garden' win a Silver-Gilt award and the Environmental Innovation Award if you are a Chelsea Flower Show fan. If not, here is link with a little more information about this award-winning garden coming to Morecambe as part of the Eden Project.
https://www.edenproject.com/media-relations/the-eden-project-bring-me-sunshine-garden-at-rhs-chelsea-flower-show-2026-marks

Great Wood links to the Eden Project - Miss Young
As part of some ongoing work, I am doing, developing some Early Years resources for Morecambe Bay Curriculum, I was lucky enough to be invited to visit the Eden Project in Cornwall in March this year (along with other educators from the Morecambe Bay Area). The purpose of the visit was to begin to develop ideas about what the Education offer for Eden Morecambe might look like. Whilst I was there, I was able to go behind the scenes and see the plants growing ready for the Bring Me Sunshine Garden at Chelsea Flower show, which is now on its way to being built on our very own Promenade. It was very exciting to see the plants growing in enormous greenhouses and to think our children and families will be walking and playing amongst them soon! This is the first exciting phase of the building of Eden Morecambe, from which our Great Wood children will benefit from in the future!

Community News and Support

Water safety – Important message for parents and schools

Following recent tragic incidents involving water, this is an important reminder of how quickly situations can change. As the weather gets warmer, more children and young people are spending time around rivers, lakes and the coast, increasing the risk of harm.

Even on hot days, open water can be dangerously cold, and conditions are often unpredictable.

Children and young people may not always recognise these risks, so it's vital that key safety messages are shared.

Key water safety messages

Please help reinforce the following advice with children and young people:

- **Stop and Think**: Check for hidden hazards such as deep water, currents and cold temperatures
- **Stay Together**: Never go into or near water alone; choose areas with lifeguards where possible
- **Call 999 in an emergency**: Ask for the Coastguard at the coast, or Fire & Rescue if you are inland
- **Float** – If you fall in, stay calm, float on your back and control your breathing

Wildlife Wellbeing Walks

COMMUNITY FUND

WILD ROOTS
NATURE FEST
6TH - 14TH JUNE 2026

Activities for all, across Lancaster

Wild Roots Nature Fest is an annual festival in Lancaster celebrating the natural world and providing different ways for people to connect/re-connect with the world around us. This year's theme is **reconnecting with our wild roots.** Explore how nature connection can benefit your health & wellbeing with our free events across Lancaster.

Programme of events

The full programme is available at www.wildlifewalk.co.uk/events, or you can pick up a printed programme with a full list at The Storey and other places across Lancaster. Please note the some events need to be booked in advance.

Here's a taste of what's on:

- **Guided Bug and Bird Walks** (6th & 8th June); Fairfield Nature Reserve
- **Folklore and History of the Storey Gardens** (6th June); The Storey
- **Creative Nature Workshops** (7th June); Claver Hill
- **Tree Stories** (9th June); Priory Church
- **Midsummer Market** (12th June); Lancaster Market Square
- **Foraging Walk with Julia Russell** (7th & 12th June); nr Lancaster Castle
- **Family Fun & Wellbeing Sessions** (13th June); Freeman's Wood
- **Big Green Day and Creative Writing Workshop** (14th June); Gregson Centre

See the full programme at
bit.ly/wild-roots-2026
or scan here

C·H·A·T·S CIC

Careers Help Advisory Training Support

Meeting dates Easter to Summer 2026

No April Social Café due to Easter holiday
No April Connections Meeting due to Easter holiday
Thursday 16th April - EBSA - 10am-1pm
Emotionally Based School Avoidance
Thursday 30th April - Zoom online meeting - 7pm-8.30pm

Friday 1st May - Social Café - 10am-12pm
Thursday 14th May - Connections meeting - 10am-12pm
Thursday 21st May - Workshop - 10am-1pm
No May Zoom meeting due to half term holiday

Friday 5th June - Social Café - 10am-12pm
Thursday 11th June - Connections meeting - 10am-12pm
Thursday 18th June - Workshop (to be confirmed) - 10am-1pm
Thursday 25th June - Zoom online meeting - 7pm-8.30pm

Friday 3rd July - Social Café - 10am-12pm
Thursday 9th July - Connections meeting - 10am-12pm
Thursday 16th July - Connections Fair - 10am-1pm
No July Zoom meeting due to summer holiday

Social Café, Connections meetings & Workshops are hosted at
More Music 13-17 Devonshire Road, Morecambe LA3 1QT

chatsnorthwest@gmail.com

easyfundraising

NHS Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

Free

Lancaster & Morecambe College
Celebrating 200 Years of Learning

Budgeting & Taste Test Challenge

Firbank Family Hub, Lancaster, LA1 3HL
10 June 2026

Join us for an engaging Budgeting & Taste Test Challenge, designed to help you make smarter, healthier food choices while staying within budget. Perfect for anyone looking to build confidence in managing household food spending, this friendly session provides a supportive environment with hands-on activities and expert guidance.

For further information contact Jade on:
07586 701704 or
J.Rawsthorne@lmc.ac.uk
or scan the QR code to register your interest:

BREW & YOU

FEELING OVERWHELMED, ISOLATED, OR JUST IN NEED OF A CHAT WITH PEOPLE WHO GET IT?
YOU'RE NOT ALONE

WHY NOT JOIN US ON OUR WEEKLY VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

EVERY WEDNESDAY 10:30-11:30AM

SELF LOVE CLUB

BE GENTLE WITH YOURSELF

WHETHER YOU'RE NAVIGATING YOUR OWN MENTAL HEALTH OR SUPPORTING A CHILD, PARTNER, OR LOVED ONE. THIS GROUP IS FOR ALL.

OUR SUPPORT GROUP IS A WARM, WELCOMING SPACE WHERE YOU CAN CONNECT WITH OTHERS WHO TRULY UNDERSTAND.

Please email
lancasterfamilyhub@lancashire.gov.uk
or scan the qr code below

IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 01524 581280

Lancashire County Council

FAMILY HUBS NETWORK

SAFA

COFFEE & CONNECT

Free refreshments

Toys available to keep your little ones entertained too.

Everyone welcome

A chance for people to drop in and connect with others in a warm and friendly environment.

Get practical advice on:
- *Housing & Finance*
- *Employment*
- *Parenting Advice*
- *Emotional Health & Wellbeing*
- *SEND advice*

every first thursday of the month

9:30am-11:30am

Lancashire SEND IAS

citizens advice

CHATS

nct

hcrg Care Group

Lancashire County Council

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

FAMILY HUBS NETWORK

BEST START IN LIFE

Morecambe Library
Central Dr, Morecambe LA4 5DL

Lancashire Fire

NHS

Lancashire
SEND IAS
Information, advice and support for Special Educational Needs and Disability

Monday 8th June 2026
9.30am– 1.00pm
In-Person Training session

Appealing Section I of an EHCP

At

Poulton Family Hub
Clark Street, Morecambe,
LA4 5HT

To register complete the registration form below:

https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/6sFqPvDvs7?origin=lprLink

Places on this course are limited and allocated on a first come first served basis. Your place on this course will be confirmed by email.

WHAT DO PARENTS SAY ABOUT THE INCREDIBLE YEARS?

'If you're saying as a family you need support but feel like no-one is actually giving you something practical to try / change, then doing the IY definitely will. It's emotional and challenging but it will 100% give you the tools to make positive steps. Stick with it, even if you're not sure at points or can't see the impact immediately, definitely stick with it and just do it step by step.
Embrace the support. You'll feel less lonely in this world of parenting.'

'I would say do the course as it has made a massive difference to how we parent and has had a really positive effect on our family life.....all the work at the start of the course with the play and coaching, has been the most helpful and impactful to enable the later things to work (such as visual timetables and calm down techniques).'

GET IN TOUCH

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT....

DEBRA LAWLESS
PARENTING PRACTITIONER

INTEGRATED CAMHS & CHILD PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE
LANCASHIRE AND SOUTH CUMBRIA NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

TEL: 01524 550 650

EMAIL: debra.lawless@lscft.nhs.uk

OR, Speak to your child's nursery/school Key Worker, SENCO, Learning Mentor or Pastoral team who can complete a referral for you

The Incredible Years®

The Incredible Years®

NHS Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

FREE NHS PROGRAMME FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGE 2-8

- Do you sometimes find parenting difficult?
- Do you want to strengthen your relationship with your child?
- Would you like to promote your child's social skills?
- Would you like to support your child's emotional regulation?
- Would you like to develop positive parenting skills?

IF THE ANSWER IS YES TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS, YOU ARE NOT ALONE! KEEP READING...

The Incredible Years is a free NHS course for parents and carers promoting positive behaviour for children age 2-8 years.

Venue: Harvey House, Ashton Road, South Lancaster

You will learn strategies to support your child's emotional regulation. The programme will focus on:

- Child led play to promote connection, enjoyment and communication.
- Effective praise and rewards to promote behaviours you'd like to see more of.
- Clear limit setting, consistent rules, routines, and consequences.
- Handling behaviour that challenges, calm down techniques and problem solving through play and stories.

The programme will build upon and enhance your child's: language development, social and emotional skills , school readiness and confidence.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15 x weeks, Term Time Only

Meet and Greet
Tuesday 13th October 2026

Session One
Tuesday 20th October 2026

Final Celebration Session:
Tuesday 2nd March

This is a 15 session programme and you are required to attend every session. This will maximise your learning and ensure you benefit from the programme's format and guidance.

If, for any reason, you miss two sessions then your child will be discharged from the Incredible Years service.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT AT AN INCREDIBLE YEARS GROUP?

- Everything we talk about at group is confidential.
- You will meet other parents and encourage one another.
- You will receive handouts and materials to help you to achieve your goals.
- We will watch videos and have guided discussions.
- We will practise the strategies together in a safe, non judgemental environment.
- We understand that you are the expert on your child. You will set your own mini goals each week.
- You will receive a weekly coaching phone call to help you with any barriers – and celebrate successes!