

# Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mrs N Oddie BA(Hons) NPQH



Let your  
light shine

25 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

## NEWSLETTER 8 – Happy Easter

This week we enter one of the most important weeks in the Catholic Church – Holy Week. It is a time to celebrate and remember the life and death of Christ and his love for us as he died on the cross and resurrected for us to have eternal life. It is a busy week in preparation for this with all pupils being able to engage in the sacrament of Reconciliation tomorrow morning. Fr Mark will join us, together with other priests from across the local community. If your child is interested in this opportunity, please ask them to let their Form Tutor know. We also continue this week with our Lenten Almsgiving commitment with our Charity Afternoon tomorrow and our Lent Big Walk fundraiser in PE lessons. These events give our young people the opportunity to put their faith into action and look beyond our school gates into the community that surrounds us, whilst celebrating with fun and a little chaos. Monies raised in both these activities will go to worthwhile local charities, so I urge your child to get involved and help support those needing our help. We will finish our Lenten celebrations as a school family on Thursday, where all our school community will walk to church for our Easter liturgy. **School will finish at approximately 1.30pm.**

### Breakfast Club

Research has suggested that when children are hungry there is a link with poor concentration. In pupil speak “hangry” is not good! To help pupils we are again inviting any child to attend our Breakfast Club. It runs from 8.00am until 8.30am every day in our school hall. The menu includes bagels, toast, cheese on toast and juice. Prices range from 20p-80p per item. Pupils who receive a free school meal are also eligible for a free breakfast up to the value of £1.50. So, ask your child if they’d like to join us and benefit from a full tummy and the additional social benefits of developing new friendships.

### Easter Holiday Vouchers and activities

South Ribble Borough Council are once again running fun activities for children on free school meals during the Easter Holidays. Activities include a climbing wall, carnival games and arts and crafts. This is available for children aged 12 to 16. Please see the attached advert for more information and contact details. Free school meal vouchers are available once again over these Easter holidays. Each eligible pupil will be issued with a £30 voucher to cover the Easter holiday period. Access to the funding will be the same as normal through the LCC Edenred. Please contact [Mr Burrows, our school Business Manager](#) if you have any questions regarding this.

### RSHE Policy Review - Parent Consultation

Last week I wrote to parents and carers to highlight our biannual review of our Relationships Education, Sex Education and Health Education (RSHE) Policy. It is important to ensure that parents and carers are consulted in developing and reviewing this policy. Our aim is that, at the end of the consultation process, stakeholders will have full confidence in our RSHE programme to meet their child’s needs. Please see the policy in the Firefly message dated 21st March. If you require a copy, have any comments or want to ask any questions regarding this policy, then please email our [info@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk) address. The consultation process will end on Sunday 14th April at 5pm.

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## Safety Review

We are constantly evaluating and reviewing how we keep our pupils safe, both in school and in the activities they engage in outside school. Many pupils have completed a survey where they can share their thoughts and opinions and we have spoken about our CCTV and what they need to do and who they need to speak to if they want support. I'd like to remind all our school community of our "I am worried" anonymous email facility and all the support pages available on our school website. Here there is a plethora of signposts to agencies and support available. Should you want to contact someone in school, Miss Mault (Pastoral Deputy Headteacher) and our new DSL Miss Alexander will be available.

## Pupils in the Spotlight

Our amazing Shining Lights newsletter is published termly and celebrates all the activities that go on around school. It showcases their God-given talents and all the work they do serving others with kindness and pushing themselves out of their comfort zones to make a difference to others in their community. I am aware, however, that there are so many activities we may not know about and if you would like your child's achievements outside school celebrated, whether it's in sport, charity events, drama or music, please let us know. Maybe someone who has overcome adversity and doesn't mind sharing about it. We'd love to hear! Get in touch with your son/daughter's Form Tutor/Head of House or contact our Newsletter Editor, Mr Richardson via email at [richardsonj@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:richardsonj@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk).

## Uniform and Standards

We know that in the summer term, pupils start to grow out of the uniform purchased back in August/September. Whilst I appreciate that pupils grow, this must not be an excuse for poor standards. We have a wardrobe full of second-hand uniform and this will be given to any pupil who does not wear our uniform fully. Trainers will **not** be permitted. Again we have multiple pairs of both girl and boy shoes for any pupil to borrow should they need to. If there are any questions about the type of school shoes that are permitted, please visit our website for images of what shoes comply with our [Uniform Policy](#). I would like to thank parents and carers for their partnership and support in ensuring that our standards of uniform remain high. This is what sets us apart from other schools and it is important we get it right and make the great first impression. After Easter, school coats will not be allowed to be worn once pupils are inside the school building.

In our final week and moving into the holidays, I hope we see the sun a little more than we have done recently. We are beginning to see and feel the new life all around us. I wish all our community a well-deserved break and that your Easter is happy and blessed. We look forward to seeing our pupils on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30am for our final 2023-24 term.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'pddie', written over a faint background image of a person's hands.

Mrs Oddie  
Headteacher