



St Clare's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 13th November 2024

St Clare's is a Christ-centred family where everyone is valued and respected. We learn and grow, whilst strengthening our relationship with God and one another. Together in His love, we can achieve our full potential.

Play, learn and grow together with Christ

Mrs Charnley's Message



What a week it has been! There seems to be a real buzz in the air as the children across the school are busy getting ready. I know you will be in for a real treat with our Advent Service led by Year 5 and Year 6 on the 4th of December. Key Stage 1 are also throwing themselves in rehearsing for 'Mend the Manger'. While Reception are getting ready to perform 'Born in a Barn', and Little Saplings are on with 'filming' their Nativity to make sure everyone, no matter what day they come to preschool, has their moment to shine. Advent is just around the corner and I know the weeks are just going to fly by as we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

Year 4 children were fantastic in representing our school with their visit to Corpus Christi this week. They clearly all really enjoyed the science lesson on rocks, and the excitement of working in a laboratory was evident in the wonderful work and photos. If you get a chance, have a look at the Elder Class's blog to see the joy on the children's faces. Thanks to Corpus Christi and Mr. Tootill, our parent governor, for helping Mrs Clack make it all possible.

This week, I have had the joy of examining the teaching of Geography across the school. I really enjoyed seeing the wonderful learning in every class. It was amazing to see how much the children are growing in their understanding of our World from oceans and continents to our local area. It was great to see such fantastic fieldwork and mapping skills.

The highlight has to have been our Talk Master Competition. To see the heats on Monday was amazing, and I did not envy our judges, Mrs Aikman, Mrs Flett and Mrs Foster, as it was such a hard task to choose the key stage winners. This afternoon was no different for the finals. Mrs Wroblewski and Miss Metcalf really did have the hardest task. Please see below for our winners. Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in preparing the children? The standard has been excellent, and we should celebrate as a school how much all the children have achieved.

Finally, this week saw us say 'so long' to one of our foundation governors. Mrs Monk has served Saint Clare's for over thirty years. She joined our school community as staff and then became a foundation governor on her retirement in 2012. We have been so lucky to have had Mrs Monk as part of our school family; her ability to inspire minds has been a blessing.

Have a lovely weekend. True Lancashire autumn weather is here, so I am sure you have your wellies and umbrellas ready.

God Bless,

Mrs Charnley and all the staff of Saint Clare's.

Headteacher Award of Excellence



This Weeks Winners Are...

Little Saplings: Olivia - *"For great work on the 'three little pigs'"*.

Rowan: Ivy - *"For trying hard to complete independent tasks"*.

Willow: Ayizah - *"For working super hard on her story in English"*.

Hazel: Kiaan - *"For excellent effort to improve your handwriting"*.

Beech: Aamina - *"For improved effort in English especially with her diary entry"*.

Pine: Alice - *"For fantastic 3D drawings in art"*.

Elder: Aaminah G - *"For working hard in all areas of the curriculum & always having a smile on her face"*.

Cherry: Leon - *"For lovely manners & setting a good example to his peers"*.

Oak: Alayna - *"For Fantastic English work, working hard across the curriculum & showing Kindness"*.

The Winning House this week: Plessington

Talk Master Competition Winners 2024

The Winners of the Finals of the Talk Master are;

- Eesa D (little Saplings)
- Saarah K (KS1)
- Martha H (lower KS2)
- Zofia K (Higher KS2)

Well done to all the children who took part!

Dates for your Diary



- Tuesday 19th November - Year 6 Confirmation (7pm).
- Friday 22nd November - Crazy Hair Day (PTFA event, see details below).
- Thursday 28th November - Year 3 trip to Helmsshore Mill.
- Monday 2nd December - Year 5/6 Advent Service.
- Thursday 5th December - PTFA School Christmas Disco (see details below).
- Tuesday 10th December - Little Saplings Nativity (10am).
- Tuesday 10th December - Rowan Class Nativity (2pm).
- Wednesday 11th December - KS1 Nativity (2pm & 3:30pm).
- Tuesday 17th December - School Theatre Trip (see details below).
- Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day.
- Friday 20th December - Last Day of Term (1:30pm Finish).
- Monday 6th January - Return to School.
- Thursday 9th January - Meet the Teacher (5pm).

School Trip



We are Preparing for a tiny adventure at the Dukes Theatre this Christmas!

This year the whole school will enjoy a trip to The Dukes Theatre in Lancaster to see the upcoming production of 'The Borrowers'.

Hidden beneath the floorboards of an empty house you'll find a peculiar miniature world that belongs to brave Arrietty and her family of Borrowers. These clever Borrowers make use of anything they find "upstairs", from buttons to biscuits and baubles.

But their quiet existence is disturbed when a family of Human Beans arrives! Soon the gentle dripping of pipes is replaced by Hoovers, TV's and the sound of Slade on the radio. Arrietty is desperate to understand what life is like for the Beans upstairs and her friendship with eight-year-old Eddie is the opportunity to do just that.

Date: Tuesday 17th December 2024.

Cost: £16 per child. To book your child's place, please register and pay for this trip on Arbor under 'Trips'.

*****Please note that the whole school will be attending this trip including all staff members which means the school will be closed until we return. *****

ST CLARE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA

TOGETHER,

EVERYONE



The next PTFA Events are as follows:

PTFA Crazy hair day - 22nd November

- Children to come into school in their school uniform
- £1 payment to be made via Arbor if your child would like to do something crazy with their hair
- All payments need to be made on Arbor before 22nd November

Christmas Disco - 5th December

- £7 per child will include crisp, drink and snack
- Infants 4-5:30- Juniors 6-7:30
- We have DJ slug booked for the event- Disco tickets will be on sale on Arbor from 22nd Nov.

We urgently need parents to help out and oversee the kids on the evening even if it's only for an hour or two. We need at least 10 parents to help out to run this event. If you can help out please can you contact reception and they can pass you on to the PTFA group.

Rainbow raffle

Please can children bring into school rainbow raffle items between Dec 9th - 13th Dec

Rainbow raffle will be drawn on Christmas jumper day

Little saplings and Rowan - Pink

Willow/ Hazel - Purple

Beech - Blue

Pine - Green

Elder - Yellow

Cherry - Orange

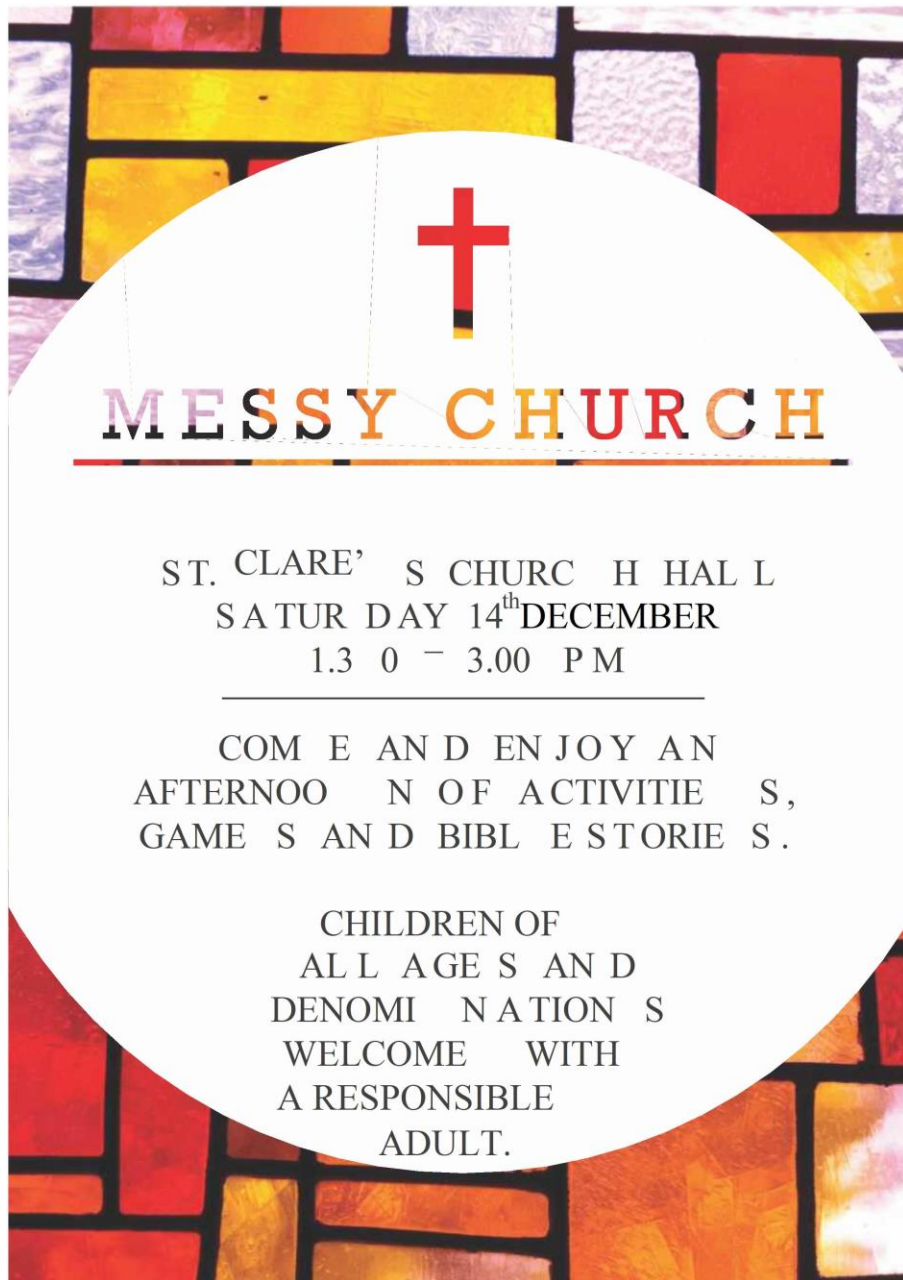
Oak - Red

Christmas Jumper Swap Day

Dates TBC

We're offering a wonderful opportunity to donate children's Christmas jumpers that are no longer needed. You can either swap your jumper for another one or simply pick up a jumper that you like for your child. It's a great way to recycle and save.

We also have an opportunity for a Secretary to join the PTFA. Please let the office know if you're interested or would like some more information.





MESSY CHURCH

ST. CLARE'S CHURCH HALL
SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER
1.30 - 3.00 PM

COME AND ENJOY AN
AFTERNOON OF ACTIVITIES,
GAMES AND BIBLE STORIES.

CHILDREN OF
ALL AGES AND
DENOMINATIONS
WELCOME WITH
A RESPONSIBLE
ADULT.

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

**We raised an amazing £231.50 at our
Macmillan Coffee Morning.**

Thank you to all the Parents / Guardians and Grandparents who joined us for a lovely morning and helped us to raise money for such a great and deserving cause. Your donations have gone towards supporting people living with Cancer.



Parish Christmas Fair Sunday 24th November, after 9:30 am. Mass.

We would be grateful for all donations; prizes for tombola, cakes, toys, gifts for raffle, bric a brac etc. Please start to leave any items in the Narthex. This will be a great Parish occasion.

Attendance



ABSENCE REPORTING

If your child is going to be late or absent for any reason then please call the school office and speak to a member of staff, leave a voicemail, send an email or a message via Arbor to the school. This must be done before the start of the school day which is 8:50am. You must call in everyday that your child is absent. Failure to do this will result in an unauthorised absence mark.

LATENESS

The school day start at 8:50am and we expect all children to be in school and ready for Registration at this time. Being late, not only disrupts the class but also causes problems with ordering school dinners. Those who are persistently late will be marked as such in the register and this could lead to the parents receiving a fine.

If your child is going to be late to school for a specific reason i.e. A Medical Appointment, then school need to be informed before 8:50am. This is to ensure they are given the correct mark in the register and we can put their order in for a hot dinner if needed.

Sickness Policy

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school on the first day. Let us know that your child won't be in and give us the reason so that we may reflect this on the register.

If your child is well enough to come to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with [diarrhoea or vomiting](#) should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

Please follow the link below for the NHS guidelines on different cases of illness;

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Primary School Admissions 2025



**SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS
PRIMARY
NORTH**

**Do you have a child starting
primary school in September 2025
and living in Lancashire?**

Closing date: 15 January 2025

You **must** apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery. Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website, or get a copy from them.

Apply for a school place now by scanning
the QR code or visit **[lancashire.gov.uk/schools](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools)**



 If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call **01524 581148**.

**HAVE
YOUR SAY**

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To find out more please visit **www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces** and click 'school admission policies'.

[lancashire.gov.uk](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk) >>>>

Lancashire
County
Council 

The arrangements for the admission of pupils to primary schools in September 2025 will, as far as possible, conform to the following timetable.

Sunday 1 September 2024 - Apply from this date

School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

Wednesday 15 January 2025 - National closing date for primary applications (statutory).

During this period all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the published admissions policy. Where there are more applications than places available, decisions are made as to which children should be offered the available places. We will liaise and exchange information with all other admission authorities including neighbouring local authorities. The allocation and offer of a primary school place is finalised.

Wednesday 16 April 2025 - Offers issued to parents

(The national offer date is 16 April, if this date falls on a weekend or a bank holiday, offers are sent the next working day.)

To apply for a Reception place , please follow the link below:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>