



St Mary and St Andrew's Newsletter - September 2025

Guide us O God to be the best we can be: in every thought, in every word and every deed

Welcome back:

It is great to be back in school and the children have settled into their new year groups quickly and are embracing the topics they are studying. We especially welcome our new families and children in reception and those in some of our junior classes.

School Applications

Applications for secondary school places for September 2026 must be made before 31st October 2025. Primary places for Reception Class September 2026 must be made before 15th January 2026. Please notify and friends and families with children that are due to start next year. The online application system is available at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

Catholic Life:

Our school value this half term is "be appreciative". This was launched in assembly and children are encouraged to appreciate people and things in their lives that they are thankful for and for the wonderful world around us.

All children celebrated school mass together in church with the theme of Creation. Our next whole school mass will celebrate Advent on Tuesday 2nd December at 2pm, all families are welcome to join us. Thank you also to the children who helped in this Sunday's 'Creation' mass.

Our hall is now ready to welcome back families to our class assemblies. Robins led the way as they launched our Harvest collection. We look forward to welcoming more families to worship with us.



Parents Evening (Tuesday 11th November, 1:30-6:00pm):

Please join us for our Autumn parents evening where teachers can update you on how your child has settled into the new school year. Appointments are now available on Arbor for you to book.

Wear Yellow for Mental Health (10th October):

We will be supporting "Wear Yellow for Mental Health". You needn't go to any extremes, children can wear their own clothes with something yellow like socks or a t-shirt. If you are willing to dress your child head to toe in yellow then please feel free.

Sport:

Our hockey team have had some successful matches this month and have shown how they are really coming together and improving their skills. Today our footballers are attending a tournament at Play Football.



Jewellery:

Could we please remind you that children should not be wearing jewellery for school. Any earrings should be studs and children should be able to remove them on their own if they choose to wear them on PE days.

Attendance:

Please report an absence on ARBOR on the day (before 8:50am) or please contact the school office on 01772 862335 before 8:30am. Planned absences, i.e. dentist or doctors appointments, can be reported earlier using the online Pupil Absence Form.

96.7%

Snacks:

Junior children are allowed to bring a small snack for morning break. Could we ask that you consider healthy options for the children? Recently we have seen an increase in large bags of crisps and chocolate bars.

Join the PTFA – Get Involved!

The PTFA warmly invites parents and carers to join our friendly group. We meet a few times a year to plan and organise fundraising events that support our school community. We're always looking for extra help, so if you're interested, please speak to the school office for more information.

We're currently preparing for our Christmas Fair and Raffle. If you're able to volunteer your time, we'd love to hear from you. Additionally, if you own a business and can donate a prize for the raffle, please contact the School Office. We have lots of exciting events planned for our children, all made possible by your generous support. Thank you for helping us make these moments special!

Parking:

Parking is such a tricky subject and we are always open to suggestions about how we can help families with this difficult problem. We please ask that you are considerate when parking and do not park in front of the church garages, blocking the car park.

Phone and Device Settings:

We have had several tired children over the last few weeks telling us that they go to bed and then secretly play on tablets or phones. All mobiles, tablets and computers have parental control settings, which can differ between devices, these include: allowing or disallowing in-game or in-app purchases, settings such as location settings and what information your child is sharing, wellbeing settings to help with limiting screen time.

You can get more advice about setting up controls on different devices from your mobile provider and the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#).



St Mary and St Andrew's Autumn Dates

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1/10-2/10: Bikeability Year 6

6/10: Eagles' Class Assembly about St Francis 9am (families welcome)

10/10: World Mental Health Day—children can wear yellow items of clothing

20/10: Jays' Class Assembly about Abraham 9am (families welcome)

24/10: St Andrew's House children dress in blue and white (blue badge team)

3/11: Staff INSET Day

10/11: Owls' Class Assembly about Remembrance 9am (families welcome)

11/11: Parents evening 1:30-6:00pm (book using Arbor)

20/11-25/11: Book Fair 3:00-4:00pm (school hall)

1/12: Wrens' Class Assembly about Advent 9am (families welcome)

2/12: School Advent Mass 2pm in church (families welcome)

5/12: Christmas Fair 3-5pm

11/12: Infant nativity 1:30pm and 6pm

18/12: KS2 Carols around the Christmas tree will be in the afternoon - time to be confirmed (families welcome)

Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service

Get advice and support

Someone to talk to
Problems at
home/school
Jobs and training
Apprenticeships
Staying safe
online
Sex and health
Relationships

Mental Health
Self Harm
Bullying
Drugs and
alcohol
Things to do
Housing, rights
and money
What age can I?

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You can contact us 365 days a year

2pm to 10pm



Text 07786 51 11 11

Talk online lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone

Call 0800 51 11 11



Age 0-19

(up to 25 for young
people with learning
difficulties or disabilities)

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