



St Mary and St Andrew's Newsletter - October 2025

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

Autumn 1:

As we come to the end of a busy first half term, can I thank you for all of the support you have given school especially in our fundraising, harvest collection and spooky disco. We hope that they are all events that will create happy memories for your children. Have a safe and enjoyable half term!

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 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:

Owls, Eagles and Jays have been to church to celebrate their own class masses with Canon Towers. Each class will celebrate their own mass once a term; we look forward to inviting families to join us after Christmas. A group of our Eagles visited Ladywell Shrine; here we celebrated benediction and the rosary with the Papal Nuncio and Bishop Paul Swarbrick. Thank you to all of you who joined us for our class assemblies. Our next one is 10th November when Owls will remind us about Remembrance Day. Thank you also for your donations to harvest day. We were able to share so much with church who distributed it for us.



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

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

Galloways Visit

Wrens and Robins had a very informative afternoon with visitors from the Galloways charity. They took part in different activities learning about the challenges those without sight face and the things that can be used to help live a normal life. Thank you for all of your donations, we were able to give the charity £80.



Sport:

This month both our boys and girls football teams and our hockey team have played some great matches; we are very proud of their sporting attitudes and the effort they put into their games. We have some talented children! October ended with our Pumpkin Power. Thanks for all of the pumpkins; Mrs Foy was able to use them to create a really enjoyable morning of pumpkin based activities for the whole school. Thanks Mrs Foy!

Maternity Cover:

We are delighted to welcome Mr Gibney to the team as he covers Mrs Garnett's maternity leave. He will join Eagles after half term to work with Mrs Garnett for two weeks to ensure a smooth transition for the children.

Attendance:

Our attendance has increased from last month. 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.

97%

Let's Go Sing:

Mrs Williams is leading our Key Stage 2 in Let's Go Sing again. This year there are some really catchy songs with fun actions. Children can practise at home using the details below:

<https://www.whoopsadaisymusic.co.uk/songs>

Password: Sing26

Book Borrow:

If you would like a good read for the holidays (or any other time), we have our new book shed outside the school entrance. There are a range of picture books, children's books and adult books. Please feel free to borrow one or swap one for a good book of your own. Please can children only take books with an adult present so that you can check they are not taking the adult books and keep the book shed tidy.



Gardens and Flowers:

We hope that you love our new planters in the entrance, Mrs Wainright has done a fantastic job at brightening up the area. We'd also like to thank Tracy Gardner for giving a day to work on our nature garden; it is really beginning to take shape. If anyone has any bulbs or wild flower or vegetable seeds that you do not need, school would greatly appreciate them to continue to develop our outdoors.

Spooky Disco:

Our Spooky Disco was a great success! Thanks to all of the parents and staff who made it possible for the children—their costumes were brilliant!

Christmas Fair:

A note for your diaries that our Christmas Fair will be in school on 5th December 3-5pm. For safety reasons, our after school club will not be able to take children around the fair. If you would like children to join, please arrange to pick them up in time for some festive fun.





St Mary and St Andrew's Autumn Dates

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- 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)
- 28/11: St Andrew's House children dress in blue and white (blue badge team)
- 28/11: Christmas Carol Theatre show in school (Owls, Jays and Eagles)
- 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
- 12/12: Choir singing at Brainkind 2:45pm
- 18/12: KS2 Carols around the Christmas tree will be in the afternoon - time to be confirmed (families welcome)

Firework Code



Lancashire Fire
and Rescue Service

Always supervise young children

Light sparklers one at a time

Keep pets indoors

Keep them in a closed box

Follow all instructions carefully

Stand well back

DO's

&

Don'ts

Never return to a lit firework

Don't give sparklers to under 5's

Don't set fireworks off after 11pm

Never put them in your pocket

Never throw them

For more information visit:

www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/bonfires-and-fireworks.aspx





Lancashire Positive Minds Parent/Carer Support Group

Supporting a child, whatever age, with Neurodiverse and Mental Health difficulties and needs can be really challenging, isolating, emotionally, physically and mentally exhausting.

You are not alone!

Join our parent-led support group and connect with other parents and carers in similar situations, and receive peer support in a confidential, safe environment. Get advice, guidance, practical tips, and enjoy listening to guest speakers, all while having a cup of tea or coffee.

Difficulties may include Anxiety, Obsessions and Compulsions, Depression, Self Harm, Eating Disorders, Psychosis, Suicidal Thoughts, Autism. Low Mood , Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Borderline Personality Disorders, Self Esteem and confidence issues and many more.

Leyland Group meet - First Monday of the month from 6.30 –8.30pm
Preston Group Meet - Third Monday of the month from 6.30-8.30pm
Chorley Group – Second Thursday of the month from 6.30 – 8.30pm
Contact the below number or email for further details.

Email: Lancashirepositiveminds@gmail.com

Telephone– 07824 042908/07713 337182

Instagram:Lancashire_Positive_Minds

Twitter:Lancashirepositiveminds@lancashireminds

www.Lancashirepositiveminds.co.uk

Facebook Closed Group: Lancashire Positive Minds

**All Facebook requestors will receive a message in messenger prior to approval, please check your spam messages. This is a safe, confidential space purely for Parents and Carers.*