



St Mary and St Andrew's Newsletter – September 2026

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. We welcome our new Wrens and our other new families across the school.

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.

Ephesians 5:20: "Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

All children celebrated school mass together in church with the theme of Creation. We took time to wish Canon Towers a happy birthday. We also said goodbye to Sister Shienrose who has left us this week, we will all miss her and send our love and prayers with her as she moves to her new parish.

Jays launched our Harvest collection on Monday. If families would like to donate tins, dried food products or toiletries, these can be brought into school all week. We will take our collection to the church at the weekend.

On the 1st Sunday of each Month, St Mary's Newhouse church hold a children's Liturgy at the 10:30am mass followed by drinks and biscuits in the Parish Hall. We would love for families to join us in celebrating mass on these Sundays and for some children to read bidding prayers. We begin Sunday 4th October followed by 1st November and 6th December.

Snacks:

Junior children are allowed to bring a small snack for morning break; these should be a healthy snack e.g. fruit, vegetables, crackers. Could we please remind you to check what your child is bringing into school? We have noticed bars of chocolate, large packets of crisps and cakes.

We have “Treat Day” on Friday where children can bring in small snacks like crisps or chocolate biscuits. Again, could we ask that you check what your child is bringing into school? Some children are bringing bags of sweets and sharing bags of crisps.

Allergies:

As of September 2026, Benedict's law has come into force. This law highlights the importance of being ready for anyone who suffers an allergic reaction. As a school we have an allergy policy and our allergy champion is Mrs Hand. All staff have received allergy training, including the use of APIs and what we need to do in case of an anaphylactic reaction.

We have a child with a nut allergy, who has emergency medicine in school. Whilst we are trained, the best thing we can do is avoid any contact with nuts and so we must insist that children bringing in packed lunches must not have items that contain nuts. Please read labels and avoid products such as peanut butter/Nutella on sandwiches and treats such as Kinder Bueno.

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon:

Thank you to all of our families for the donations of cakes and money for our MacMillan Coffee Afternoon. It was such a success and we raised **£175.**

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.

98%

Sport:

Congratulations to our hockey team who are top of their division with 6 wins (in 6 matches). Our boys football team competed in the Kids Cup on 29th September and came in 4th place – a huge well done to them also!

Wear Yellow for Mental Health (9th 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. Each class will take time to think about the importance of looking after our mental health.

School Applications

Applications for secondary school places for September 2027 must be made before 31st October 2026. Primary places for Reception Class September 2027 must be made before 15th January 2027. 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

Open Day

Our Open Day this year is Wednesday 21st October. If you have any friends or family who are looking for a school place next September, please encourage them to come and visit us.

Uniform:

We have noticed a few children are forgetting our uniform rules, especially on PE days. Shorts/joggers should be navy blue with no logos and trainers plain white, black or blue. Coats should also be plain navy blue and hats navy blue or red. Could we also remind you to label uniform. We have already found several brand new jumpers with no names. Thank you for supporting us in keeping our uniform standards high.

Jewellery

Could we please remind you that children should not be wearing jewellery for school. Some children have begun the year wearing dangly earrings and necklaces. 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.

SMSA PTFA

Our PTFA had our first meeting this week. Thank you to all of them for giving up their time and we welcome some new members. We're always looking for extra help, so if you're interested in joining, please speak to the school office for more information. We're currently preparing for the 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.

Neon Disco 14th October

The PTFA's first fundraiser of the year is a Neon disco: Infants: 3:30pm–4:30pm and Juniors: 5:00pm–6:00pm. The cost of the disco is £6 which includes entry, a hotdog, a drink and a party bag (with glow sticks). This can be booked and paid for on Arbor. Afterschool club will remain open in the evening and juniors can go to the disco from there if required.

All children can wear their own clothes to school so that they do not need to get changed for the disco.



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 will be available on Arbor.

Infant Nativity:

We have changed the date of our infant nativity to December 8th so it no longer clashes with the Fizzy Tree's performance. The performances will still be at 2pm and 6pm. for the nativity will be given out closer to the time.





St Mary and St Andrew's Autumn 1 Term Dates

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

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| 30/9: | Jay's Mass in Church 2:15pm (families welcome) |
| 9/10: | Wear yellow for mental health awareness |
| 14/10: | Eagle's Mass in Church 2:15pm (families welcome) |
| 14/10: | PTFA Neon Disco (Infants 3:30-4:30 and Juniors 5:00-6:00) |
| 19/10: | Eagle's Assembly 9am (families welcome) |
| 21/10: | Open Day for New Families |
| 22/10: | Pumpkin Power – All children bring a pumpkin and wear PE kit |
| 23/10: | INSET Day |
| 2/11: | INSET Day |



St Mary and St Andrew's Autumn 2 Term Dates

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| 4/11: | Eagle's Visit to Lancashire Museum WW2 |
| 4/11: | Wren's and Robin's Liturgy in Church 2:15pm (families welcome) |
| 11/11: | Eagles Remembrance Service Bilsborrow 11am |
| 11/11: | Year 5 Into Film Festival at Flower Bowl |
| 11/11: | Parent's Evening 13:30-18:00 |
| 12/11: | Scholastic Book Fair (after school for a week) |
| 16/11: | Owls Assembly 9am (families welcome) |
| 17/11-18/11: | Eagles at Castlerigg |
| 23/11: | Robin's Assembly 9am (families welcome) |
| 23/11: | Tri Kidz for Juniors (children wear PE kits) |
| 25/11: | Owl's Mass in Church 2:15pm (families welcome) |
| 27/11: | Non-uniform Day (Juniors bring a bottle/infants bring chocolates) |
| 30/11: | St Andrew's Day – All children in St Andrew's House can wear blue |
| 30/11: | Wren's Assembly 9am (families welcome) |
| 8/12: | CHANGED Infant Nativity 2pm and 6pm |
| 9/12: | Whole School Advent Mass in Church 2pm (families welcome) |
| 16/12: | Carol's Around the Tree 2pm (families welcome) |
| 17/12: | Christmas Fair 15:30pm |

GLOW IN THE DARK DODGEBALL

OCTOBER SPOOKTACULAR HOLIDAY CLUBS

FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 4 - 12 YEARS



**SS Mary &
Michael Catholic
Primary**

26th Oct - 30th Oct - Mon-Fri



8:30AM - 4:00pm

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<https://www.junosport.co.uk/book>

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