

St Mary's News

St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland
Newsletter Easter 2022



A note from Mr Thompson:

Welcome to the Easter edition of our newsletter.

As we emerge from the challenges of Covid-19, we are delighted to have enjoyed another busy term, with many enriching activities for pupils in all years. Congratulations to all our pupils who have participated in, or contributed to, the ongoing success of St Mary's.

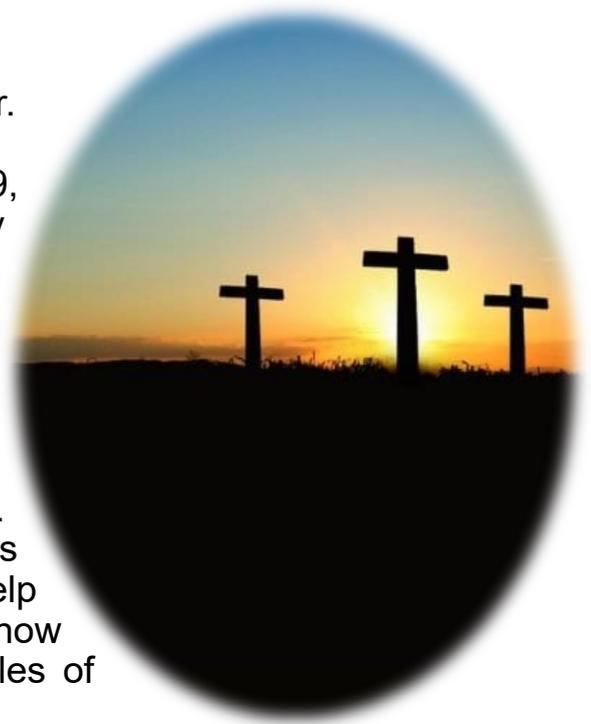
This newsletter showcases the many ways our pupils have 'Let Their Light Shine' this term. We always try our best to ensure that pupils have opportunities to develop their talents, help serve others, try new skills as well as learning how to stay safe – and here are plenty of examples of how we do this on a daily basis.

Please can I ask as we approach the Easter holidays that you keep our Year 11 pupils in your thoughts and prayers. Their GCSEs begin in May and, after the upheaval they have faced in the last two years, your support is needed now more than ever before! They are working tremendously hard to be ready for all their exams and we ask they demonstrate their true talent and receive the rewards they deserve. On that note, may I also take this opportunity to thank your child's teachers who work tirelessly to ensure their success.

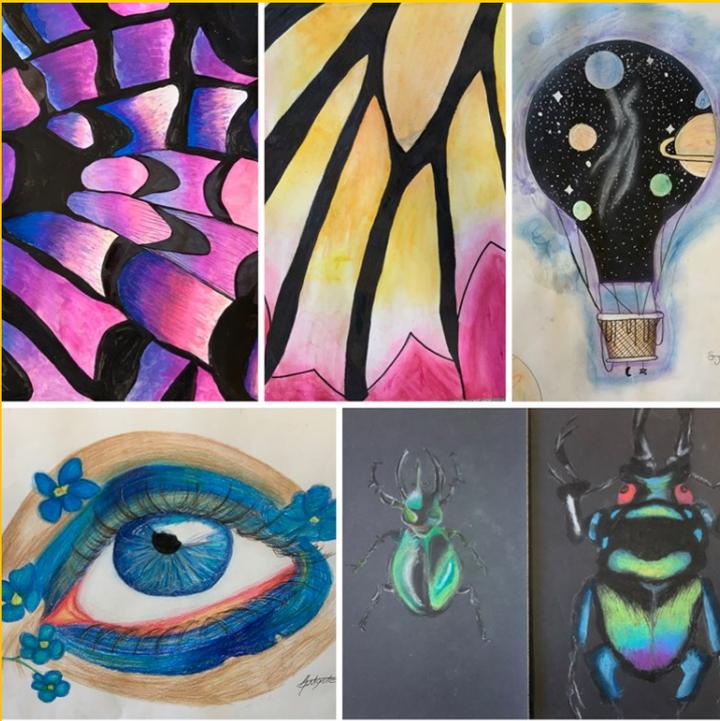
Easter is the most special time in the Church's calendar, where we take heart in the message of Christ's resurrection. We will mark the season with our end of term mass, and with assemblies upon our return after the holidays. May I wish you all a very restful Easter holiday and thank you again for your ongoing support.

Mr P Thompson
Headteacher

@LSMPEDEPT



	Website	www.lsmchs.com
	Twitter	@LeylandStMarys
	Facebook	@StMarysLeyland



The Key stage 3 Art club have been creating work for the Rehabilitation ward at the Royal Preston Hospital. They have created some stunning designs based on natural forms and included positive quotes to aid the patients' recovery. Pupils have worked in a variety of media including blending acrylic paint, coloured pencils and oil pastels. They have now started experimenting with working on different types and colours of paper to create some more unique designs.

Expressive Arts

Music

Choir

Our Choir have been using this term to develop their technique and focus on maintaining close knit harmonies. They have been working on a range of pieces, and will showcase their skills at the Easter Mass. It has been a delight to hear such improvements in voice projection, breath control and pitch consistency. Well done to all performers!

The Choir meets on Tuesday 3:00-3:40pm in room 23M. New members always welcome.

Year 9 Rock Bands

Year 9 students have been lucky enough to work with a professional musician in their music lessons. Mr Reay is supporting the students with band musicianship skills, and as a result we have 3 ensembles in the class, working on a range of repertoire. Many performers were beginners on their chosen instruments at the start of Year 9 and are now showing an excellent range of skill and technique. All performers are looking forward to the summer term when hopefully they will be able to showcase their hard work in a concert.

Well done Year 9 Music!

Additional band practice is available for all year groups who wish to set up a band or ensemble at lunchtimes:

Monday – Year 7

Tuesday – Year 10 & 11

Wednesday Year 10 & 11

Thursday Year 9

Friday Year 8

Come along and have a jam!



Nurture has been a hive of activity this term with our young people enjoying their time together at our weekly book and brew sessions, film days and catch up sessions! In addition to this Mrs Lawson and the team ran a draughts competition that brought out the competitive side of some of the children, creating a fun and exciting atmosphere! The talented winner and runner up won Easter eggs to take home and enjoy.

Easter is always a fun time in nurture with plenty of games to play and our much-anticipated game of Easter Bingo! Everyone gets involved with 'eyes down' in anticipation of winning the Easter goodies.

Looking ahead to next term, nurture will be hosting a weekly 'debate' with our young people choosing what discussions they would like to have.

We know there will be a wide choice of hot topics brought to the table and lively discussions will be had!



Cessation of CV-19 duplicates services

As you are aware there is currently an additional service operating on the route below. This was put in place during the Covid-19 pandemic to allow students to remain, as much as possible, in their school bubbles.

614B Brindle via Clayton Brook – Leyland School

In line with the governments new advice on "living with Covid", we are **not** expecting to provide the duplicate services after the Easter holidays.

This will mean that the above service will revert back to its original route & timetable and your school will share the service with the other school(s) specified in the publicity information. Please see the link below for timetable information.

[School bus timetables - Lancashire County Council](#)

From 19 April 2022 this service will revert back to its original route & timetable.

Should you require any further information I will be pleased to help.

Andrew Glover
Transportation Officer
Public & Integrated Transport
Lancashire County Council
Tel: 01772 533527

World Book Day at St Mary's was a huge success! Our wonderful pupils came to celebrate the day in the LRC and over 150 activities were completed. Pupils completed book reviews, tweet sheets, and many other related activities on their favourite books, and they also had the opportunity to sneak a peek at some of the books that staff had brought in!

A great day was had by all, and four of our lucky pupils won certificates and raffle prizes:

1st prize of a £20 shopping voucher - Natalia L-J Year 8

Runner up prizes of a BIG bar of chocolate -

Ethan H-M Year 9

Nicole A Year 10

Sophie E Year 8



- We received over 200 tweets about your favourite books, AND over 150 of you participated in our activities!

Spring in the LRC

The Spring term in the LRC has seen a number of events including World Book day, Recommended Reads and "Caught Reading."

Come and see the photographs of staff caught reading and have a look at the recommended reads which staff have enjoyed.

There are also hundreds of tweets by pupils about "Great books they have read" on display in the LRC.

Another busy half term of reading in the LRC with Year 7, 8 and 9 reading a range of titles including:

Shackelton's Journey, The Wolves of Currumpaw, Hatchet, Marcus Rashford, Live Cooke, The Fib, The Wild Robot and The Natural World.

A big thankyou also goes to our Year 9 Librarians, who are currently getting to grips with the task of sorting all of our books into correct alphabetical order.

If you would like the LRC to get a copy of a book for you, go and see Mr Murphy and he will see if he can arrange it for you.



Year 7 Faith in Action SLD

Year 7 had a wonderful day all about putting their faith into action; what better way to start their Lenten journey! The pupils had input from three separate charities: Whitechapel, Nugent and Mary's Meals; learning about their aims and how they too can help those around the world that are less fortunate than themselves.

In addition, the pupils experienced putting their faith in action through their 'God given' talents; through the mediums of Art, Music and Sport. In Art they explored the idea of temptation throughout the Bible and designed their own stained-glass windows- what amazing artists we have! In Music they learnt about the birth of 'Live Aid' and composed their own raps based on the Parable of the Good Samaritan. And, finally, they supported CAFOD's 'Walk for Hunger' by brilliantly walking or running 476.8km collectively (the same distance if they walked from here to Plymouth!) and raising over £1300 in the process. What amazing charity ambassadors we have in Year 7. Well done everyone!

Whole School Interhouse

We have made massive steps here at St Mary's towards making interhouse a whole school celebration / competition. This has allowed our pupils to display their talents and skills across a wide range of subjects. The staff that have run those competitions have bought out the best in some extremely talented pupils.

This term has bought about interhouse in Photography, Humanities, Technology and PE where houses have battled out to try and be the best they can be and bringing about a competitive, but fun feeling of trying to win the overall interhouse trophy.

The current standing are extremely close and all is still to play for moving forward...

Anselm	Benedict	John	Peter	Thomas	Jose- phine
20	38	32	28	32	18

We look forward to the next term when pupils across all year groups will go head-to-head in Geography, Maths, Engineering, English, Science, Art, Music and RE. There is still a long way to go and all to play for.

Chaplaincy News



Year 9 Relationships day.

It's fair to say that relationships of all descriptions can be joyful and lifegiving. However, there are moments in our lives that relationships can be difficult. To help our students discern what makes a good, healthy relationship, we invited all our Year 9 students to St Mary's Church for their very own 'Relationships day'.

The day itself began by gathering together as a year group in prayer. We then had a carousel of workshops that were led by professionals focusing on vocations, marriage and God, babies, peer pressure and Gender Space. A great time was had by all. Special thanks go to Sister Lynne FCJ, Debbie Reynolds, Steve McBride and Christian Owens. Special thanks to Fr Jonathan and the parish for allowing us to use the Church for our special day and also the Knights of St Columba for sponsoring the event!



Year 9 – Being of service to the Community

With the ongoing economic challenges faced by many within the UK, we are called, as Christians, and people of Good Will, to care for those most vulnerable. As part of our commitment to develop our student's involvement within the local community, a small group of students visited our local foodbank at St Mary's Community Centre, Broadfield Drive.



Students were able to learn and discover how they could further support the foodbank and possibly volunteer their spare time to help. Students were surprised at how busy the foodbank was and how important it is to donate tinned or packet food items. Special thanks go to the staff and volunteers at our local foodbank.



CAFOD Ukraine appeal

Our prayers and thoughts are united with the people of Ukraine as the war continues to unfold. At St Mary's, our natural instinct is to support our brothers and sisters who need our help. As a School community, we dedicated our CAFOD FAST DAY to raise money for the people of Ukraine. Students and many staff swapped their usual lunchtime meal for soup and a piece of bread for a donation of £1. Special thanks go to our amazing canteen team who made beautiful and healthy soup! Various other charity events have taken place, including the famous cake sales, all to raise much needed financial support for Ukraine. At the last count, we have raised so far over £550. Well done everyone that supported our charity events!



Download our Schudio app:

Schudio an app which works in conjunction with the school website. The app will allow us to communicate much more efficiently with you. Using your preferred app store, search for 'Schudio School App'. We can be found in the search bar as St Mary's Catholic High School.

Dates for Your Diary

School reopens
Wednesday, 20th April
for the Summer Term

Half Term
Monday, 30th May to Friday, 3rd June
inclusive

School closes **Wednesday, 20th July**
for the Summer Holidays

Sports News



Boys' Football

Boys' football has been up and running again after the February half term. The Year 7 and 8 teams have been particularly busy with fixtures, with the Year 8 team still dreaming of winning an historic treble and, at the time of writing, are in first position in the South Ribble League, through to the Final of the South Ribble Cup and will play Ribblesdale (Clitheroe) in the Quarter Finals of the Lancashire Cup.

The Year 7 and 10 teams are also top of their respective leagues and are also through to the Semi-Finals of the South Ribble Cup. The Year 7 team are also hoping to win the Chorley Hospital Cup however, will need to win their next two matches to make the final.

It would be amazing to report a number of successes linked to the Year 7,8 and 10 football teams, during the next St Mary's newsletter edition in July. Watch this space...



Sports Tour

Plans have been submitted to Governors, for another potential sports tour to Benfica (Lisbon-Portugal) at Easter 2024. More information to follow in the near future...

Table Tennis

Extra-curricular table tennis has been growing in popularity over recent weeks and especially at KS4, where the Sports Studies and GCSE PE pupils are also undertaking this in their core PE lessons.

Rugby League

Year 7-9 pupils have been undertaking rugby league in their PE lessons, with a fantastic attitude been shown across KS3. Although U13 extra-curricular rugby practice has not been able to take place this term (due to staff commitments with the Year 7 and 8 football teams), this will take place every Monday night after the Easter holidays.

Year 9 and 10 (U15) rugby practice has taken place after school every Thursday and there has been a good turn out from both year groups.

U13 and U15 rugby league matches will take place around May / June time; staff are extremely happy with the pool of talent to potentially choose from.

Girls' Football

Girls' Football has continued on a high this term with both the U14s and U16s teams recently taking part in a 7 a-side tournament at Balshaws against other schools in the South Ribble District. Again, the girls performed superbly throughout, demonstrating talent, teamwork and sportsmanship. A fantastic display and representation of female football.

A huge thank you and well done must also go to our superb referees, who have gone above and beyond on numerous occasions this year to ensure the football tournaments can run.

Our girls football success continues not only in school, but out of school as well. Well done to H. Rawsthorne and M. Leigh who have been successful in being selected for the U13s South Ribble District Football team. Our girls in the U15 South Ribble District Football team have continued to shine with 2 wins in 3 games. Superb performances, especially in their most recent win, beating Chorley 4-3.



Year 7 – 11 Netball

This term has seen the continuation of another round of excellent commitment and dedication to netball practice and fixtures! The Year 11 season ended with the netball team coming 2nd in their league – well played girls! The Year 10s played superbly well against tough opposition in the league and tournament, ending up placing 4th overall which is a real testament to the teamwork of the squad! The Year 9 girls have also done extremely well placing 5th in their tournament and showing a fabulous range in resilience, battling Covid induced cancellations and tough weather over the January period! Year 8s league is now complete and they have their tournament on the 28th March. Year 7 have also shown an incredible enthusiasm for the sport with try-outs for the A and B team seeing over 45 girls turn out, making life very difficult once again to try and pick just a squad of 16! The Year 7 tournament is on the 29th March so as we go to print we wish both the year 7 and 8 girls the very best of luck!

Sports Studies Update

The pupils in Year 11 are nearing the end of the Sports Studies course with all elements of the NEA close to being completed. The practical grades are looking really promising with great effort and determination being adopted at an extremely crucial time. This will stand them in fantastic position for the future.

In early January pupils from both Year 10 and 11 sat the Sport Studies exam, in what would have been the pupils first ever time of sitting an exam that will count towards their final grade. Some excellent results showed real progress towards what will be a success at the end of the two year course.

Mixed Martial Arts

Mixed Martial Arts is up and running now and the numbers are slowly growing. We have both girls and boys that attend and work on striking, kicking, taking opponents to the floor as well as grappling and submissions. The pupils have absorbed the techniques like sponges and everyone is starting to get their own little techniques, which is nice to see.

Boys' Basketball

Boys' Basketball has been growing in popularity over recent months especially at KS3. It is also great to see some Sports Studies and GCSE PE pupils participating and demonstrating leadership to the younger pupils.

Basketball practice will continue to take place after school every Tuesday after the Easter holidays. It is great to see a huge number of talented basketballers attending every week!

A year 7 Boys Basketball tournament is scheduled for Thursday, 12th May. More details to follow after Easter.

Swimming Gala

The Swimming Gala event was extremely successful and our biggest yet, with 143 pupils in KS3 participating against one another to see who can claim the Swimming Gala interhouse trophy. The format changed this year, which saw an additional team compete, meaning the PE department has introduced time trials too, some excellent performances from those pupils that represent a club outside of school. A huge 'Well Done' to all that participated.

Interhouse Competition

This March it was Year 8s turn to take part in their annual PE Inter house SLD. Again, the focus of this was for our pupils to show core values through sporting activities (respect, sportsmanship, fair play and many other core principles). Pupils took part in a variety of activities. The boys took part in football and basketball. The girls took part in dance and netball. Other roles were on offer throughout the day, including media reporting and photography. The day went superbly with all pupils taking part. We ended with a presentation, whereby our pupils received certificates and prizes for their contribution during the day. The overall winners of the day were house Peter.

Overall, this keeps the PE interhouse competition close on points with house Benedict leading the way overall on 805 points, followed closely by house John on 798 points.



Sports Hall Athletics

On Monday, 7th March, our Year 7 and 8 boys took part in an indoor athletics competition at All Hallows. The boys all performed really well against strong opposition and there were some outstanding individual performances. On Wednesday, 9th March, it was the Year 7 and 8 girls turn. Again, all performed superb, pushing themselves until the end.

All Stars Academy

Currently in PE, we have created an All-Star Academy for 20 pupils in Year 7-9, who have been selected by Mr Booth. We monitor their attendance to extra-curricular, attitude to learning, PE kit, merits in lessons.

The pupils have been split into three teams and they receive points in each category. For example; they gain points for full PE kit, attendance to extra-curricular, gaining a merit during a PE lesson etc. A points leaderboard is updated every two weeks. The team currently winning is 'TEAM 2', Well done!



EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

4th-7th and 11th-14th April, 2022

Fun activities and a healthy meal for children on free school meals, during the Easter Holidays, book your child's place now!

- FREE Activities for all children on free school meals
- FREE Meal with every session
- Activities include swimming, tennis, gymnastics, boxing, kick boxing, football, arts & crafts, climbing wall, dancing, multi-sports and much more
- PLUS our incredible 'jungle and football' inflatable play zone

For children aged 5 – 16 (from age 4 for inflatable play zone)
To book your child's place, visit southribble.gov.uk/haf2022
or contact us at haf@southribble.gov.uk



 southribbleleisure.com