St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 23rd October 2026

School details

Tel: 01772 729881
www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
E-mail head@stmaryslea.mecmat.org

Head Teacher: Mrs. A. Brogden

Our Parish Links

St. Mary's Lea Town, Darkinson Lane and St. Andrew and Blessed George Haydock,

Hoyles Lane Cottam. www.standrewscottam.org.uk

'Loved and Inspired by Mary ....

We shine and learn as a family of God'

What a wonderful final week in school. We started the week celebrating the Feast of St. Luke and we had our Open day and ended our week with our whole school visit to Blackpool Zoo I would like to thank everyone for supporting us on our Open Day and a special thanks to our wonderful Pupil Tour Guides who, as always, shone and were great ambassadors for St. Mary's School.

"I really enjoyed Open Evening. It was the first time I have toured someone around school and it made me feel really proud inside. I think as a school we all help each other as a team and St. Mary's School is a fantastic school to be part of!" Maxwell Houlding, Head boy

On behalf of all at St. Mary's School we hope you have a lovely half term break and get the opportunity to spend time together as a family. We look forward to hearing all about your adventures and experiences when you return.

Reminder - Monday 2nd of November is an INSET day for all staff and this is a shared INSET with all schools within the Multi Academy Trust.

School re opens for pupils on Tuesday 3rd November at 8.45 am.

Feast of St. Luke

On Monday all classes celebrated the Feast day of St Luke. We learnt how Luke's Gospel is the only one to tell the story of the Good Samaritan. Children were challenged, going forth, to consider how they can be a Good Samaritan to others.





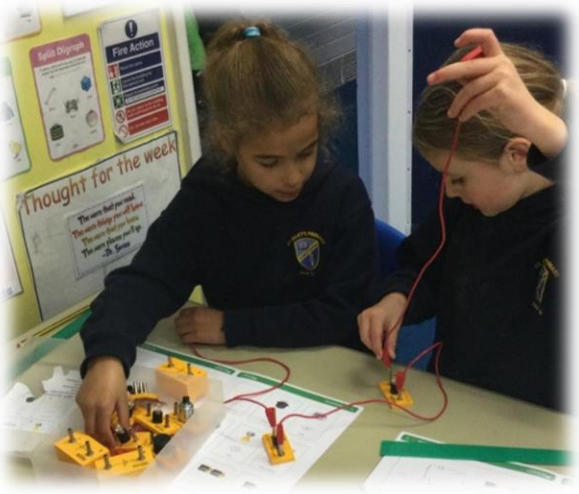


Electricity North West Workshop – Class 3 - 20.10.26



On Tuesday afternoon, Class 3 were visited by Sarah from Electricity North West, who came to help us complete our Electricity unit of work in Science.

We started off by identifying the dangers or hazards in different pictures and explaining why they were a hazard- we also told Sarah about our Electricity Hunt, taking photographs of the different objects around school that use electricity. Sarah then asked us which type of electricity they used, either mains electricity or battery power. We each completed a page or two in our booklets (which we were able to keep and take home), drawing different circuits with their symbols and then came the main event... CIRCUIT BUILDING!



Sarah had brought a variety of components including: batteries, wires, motors, buzzers, variable resistors, bulbs and much more, for us to build our own circuits. Then, she set us a challenge, creating different circuits using the equipment we had been given to solve certain challenges. In one, we had to use 2 bulbs, with 3 batteries, in another, we had to use the buzzer and in a final one, we used the motor, but then had to make the motor spin in the opposite direction.

Here are a few thoughts from Class 3:

Orlaith- I liked sharing my booklet with my partner.
Reggie- I liked making the human circuit to make the buzzer bar work.
Priya- I liked EVERYTHING!
Leo- I just enjoyed EVERYTHING, the same as Priya!
Martha- I liked completing the activities in the booklet.
Ruiairidh- I liked building the circuits with my partner.
Roman- I liked building the circuits and using the lights.
Elena- I liked when we all join hands to complete the circuit and when someone let go the circuit was broken.





Blackpool Zoo -22.10.26

What a wonderful; WHOLE school visit we had to the Zoo on Thursday. It is so lovely to be able to have experiences as a whole school family and we certainly made memories at the Zoo. Despite the changeable weather we had lots of fun taking part in taught sessions and enjoying talks and exploring the zoo in our groups.
Thank you again.











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Why is food important?
- Energy


ST. MARY'S PRIMARY
LEATON




AARDVARK

Parking, Safety and Hi visibility vests.



As we have shared previously on our newsletter when we return from half term on **Tuesday 3rd November** We expect that all pupils return wearing their Hi-Vis vests that have been provided by school. We will be relaunching our Autumn initiative " Be Safe Be Seen" and Mr C and his Junior Road Safety Ambassadors will deliver our safety assemblies soon.

If you have lost your child's Hi-vis a replacement is available from the school office and is charged at £2.00. **For safety we do ask that all pupils wear these.**

Please can I ask for your continued support.

- Do not parking by/ blocking residents drives
- Do not park in private drives (such as Old Smithy Close)
- Do not park at Church
- Do not drive down the school drive
- Report any concerns to the PCSO/ local police
- Ensure pupils wear Hi-Vis Vests as provided by school



Thank you again for helping to keep everyone safe.

Parental Questionnaire



A Huge thank you to all who completed our Parental Questionnaire. It was so lovely to read the many lovely comments and take this feedback to continue to grow in partnership.

You can read many of the comments which are on display in our entrance Foyer so do feel free to come and have a look!!

Here is a snapshot of some of your feedback…

100% of children feel happy in school
100% of families say school has high expectations and ensures pupils are well behaved
100% of families say staff are approachable and available
100% feel the Catholic Values of St. Mary's are of great importance and influence all areas of school life.

What could we improve upon and do better…

Parking came up multiple times and we respect the challenged that this brings. We will continue to work closely with our PCSO's and send regularly reminders to everyone to help keep everyone safe by parking carefully and responsibly. Sadly what we can do is limited but do report any concerns to the PCSO's. Wearing Hi Vis vests is another way that can keep us all safe and help visibility as we approach the winter months and darker nights. I will ensure this is kept as a reflection point and focus within Governor meetings too.

More Music Lessons – A few families would like some additional music lessons so Mr. C as Music Lead is looking into options for us and we shall keep you updated.

More Forest School – Many families spoke positively about Forest School and that they would love to see even more. Miss Shaw has loved undertaking this role and we shall ensure Miss Shaw works with us as a staff team to look at what provision might look like and how this can best work within curriculum time.

Sports Events – Families have asked if we can do even more Sporting events/ competitions and if we could have a school Team. Mrs. Ellis as Sports Lead is considering what this could look like going forward. As a school we do pride ourselves upon offering a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and sadly the PE grant/ Sports Funding has now been stopped which provides a challenge.
As a small school ratio and staff release for Sports events is not always easy but we will certainly will look at additional events for the year ahead!

Fundraising Events..

Save the dates for the following exciting events coming very soon……..

12.11.26 – After School Club Bingo – Details to follow
30.11.26- Christmas Light Switch on and Christmas Fayre
14.12.26- Santa Dash in school

As always we will update you and share any changes or updates via our See Saw App and Newsletter.

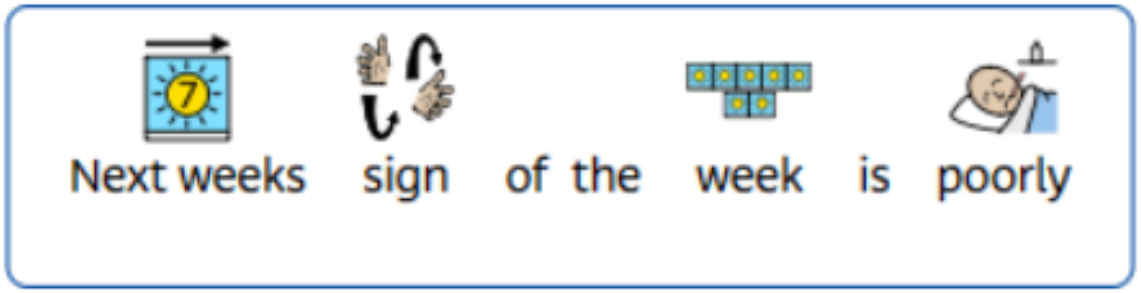
Big School Adventures

Sessions take place every Thursday from 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Places fill quickly and are limited so please contact the school office to book or catch one of us at school – Thank you

Sign of the Week.

Next week's sign of the week is ***poorly.***







Dates for your diary

23.10.26- School closes for half term at 3.15 pm

2.11.26- School closed. INSET day for staff
3.11.26 - School re opens for pupils at 8.45 am
12.11.26 – ASC Bingo
20.11.26 – Own clothes Day –Bring a Bottle for the Christmas Fayre
27.11.26 – Own clothes Day – Bring a Bottle for the Chocolate for the Christmas Fayre
30.11.26 – Christmas light switch on and Christmas Fayre
7.12.26 – Panto trip
8.12.26 – KS1 Nativity
14.12.26 – Santa Dash
18.12.26 – School Closes for Christmas.

School Times

School Start 08.45 am
School Finish time 3.15 pm

PE Days

Class 1: Tue pm and Wed pm
Class 2: Tue pm and Wed pm
Class 3: Monday pm and PE Thursday pm
Class 4: Wednesday Swimming and Thurs pm

Staffing for 2026/2027

Please see below staffing structure starting September 2026.

Office	
Miss Calvert	Bursar@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Head Teacher	
Mrs Brogden	Head@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Rainbow Room	
Mrs Moss	KMoss@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Miss Collins	HCollins@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Class One	
Mrs Ellis - Class Teacher	JEllis@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Miss Harrison	MHarrison@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Class 2	
Mrs Sullivan- Class Teacher	GSullivan@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Miss Haworth	LHowarth@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Miss Hughes	CHughes@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Class 3	
Mr Catterall – Class Teacher	JCatterall@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Miss Shaw	HShaw@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Miss Strahand	AStrahand@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Class 4	
Mr Taylor – Class Teacher	MTaylor@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Mrs Nayler	RNayler@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Miss Strahand	AStrahand@stmaryslea.mecmat.org
Breakfast / After School Club Manager	
Miss Harrison	MHarrison@stmaryslea.mecmat.org

Celebration Awards

	Faith in Action Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, Think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Martha Diamond	George Mulliner	Maggie Walmsley
Class 2	Elma Dickinson	Arthur Doherty	
Class 3	Bradley Brogden	Arlo Pennington	Louisa Nelson
Class 4	Max Tidmarsh	Jade Beresford	