



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 12th December 2025

School details

Tel: 01772 729881

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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'

In our Celebrations Assembly today, we lit the third candle, the **Pink** candle, which symbolizes **JOY**. This candle is sometimes called 'Gaudete Sunday' or the 'Shepherds candle' and symbolises the Joy the Shepherds felt when they heard the good news from the Angels. It represents our joy and rejoicing that Christmas is near.



Alongside our Advent Wreath is our Prayer Tree. The candles list those special to us. It may be someone you know who is unwell or someone in Heaven. As we light the Advent candles, we will remember these special people.

Whole School Trip to the Pantomime - 8.12.25

What a wonderful way to start the week with a whole school visit to the Pantomime! We really enjoyed our visit to Lowther Pavilion for a showing of Peter Pan. Once more, huge thanks to the FOSM who kindly covered all transport costs and provided the crisps for the snack!

I loved everything – Sandra

My favourite part was when the indoor fireworks went off. It was really good! – Violet

I liked it when they sprayed water at us – I got really wet! – Jude

The costumes were beautiful - Mollie



Baaa-rmy Bethlehem – Key stage one Nativity -9.12.25

Classes one and two WOWed us this week with their amazing performance of Baarmy Bethlehem. This was such a special retelling of the Christmas Story with lots of fantastic singing dancing and sign language!! A huge thank you to everyone involved and thanks to all our families for your generous support!

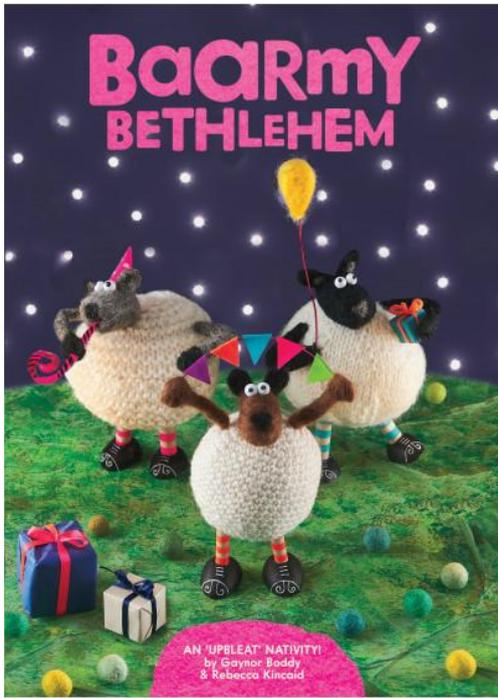
I liked the sign language - Joey

I liked how we told the story of Jesus - Orla

I like Bethlehem, it's bonkers! - Dora







Breakfast with Santa 1 - 1.12.25



I liked breakfast with Santa - Chimdi
My favourite part was taking a picture with Santa - Freya





Breakfast
with
Santa!





History Experience “The Plague” – Class 3 – 12.12.25

To help with their learning and complete their History topic on The Great Plague, Class 3 were visited by Professor Tuesday, who helped them complete their learning journey.

Florrie- I enjoyed it because I liked holding Rattus Rattus.

Charlie- I really liked it; it was SUPER amazing and it helps us to remember lots of things from

Imaan- My favourite part was when Rattus Rattus came out and waved at me.

Yahya- My favourite part was wearing the mask because I could feel like what it was like to be a Plague Doctor and I also liked choosing a coin out of the bag at the end.

Klara- I liked it because Rattus Rattus came out and it was really funny when he didn't put his tail back in the bag.

Edward- It was really EXCITING but also a little bit scary at the same time, but I enjoyed it and it was AMAZING!

Matilda- I liked learning the actions for the symptoms of the Plague and when people thought about why the Plague had come to Britain.







Class 3 would like to say a **HUGE** thank you to Professor Tuesday for an **AMAZING** time learning about The Great Plague of 1665!



Christmas Balance Bike Bonanza!

To celebrate the festive season, and to help with their skills, Class 1 and Year 1 were invited to take part in a Festive Balance Bike session.





Holy Communion – Sacramental preparation

Thanks from me to all the parents who have put their children forward for Sacramental Preparation and for completing all the paperwork. It's greatly appreciated.

The first session will be on 27th January. Myself and Angela Pye will collect the children from school at 3.15 and pick up after the session is from the annex behind church is at 4.15pm. Each session starts with a diluted juice drink and a biscuit- we will take into account dietary requirements, so thank you for making us aware of these on the forms. Should you require any additional information please feel to contact school and they will pass queries to me.



Mrs Fitzpatrick



Arbor

As you know, as we are now within Mater Ecclesiae Multi Academy Trust, we will migrate to a system called Arbor. Initially, we will take registers on the system and as we progress, Arbor will be our cashless payment methods and will be used for booking After School/ Breakfast clubs etc.

We will, as ever, keep you updated.



Parking – Important plea for support!

We continue to ask families to park at Westinghouse and walk down to school for the safety of all.

Whole Year of Catholicity Events



Whole years list of Catholicity events- 2025-2026

Loved and inspired by Mary... We shine and learn as a family of God.

Celebration	Date
Welcome Mass	9.10.25 at 11.00 AM St Mary's Church.
Feast day of St Matthew	26.9.25 All children to wear yellow for Matthew house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of Matthew and learn about him.
Praying the Rosary- <i>A million children to say the Rosary at the same time</i>	7.10.25 – 9:30 AM
Feast day of St Luke	17.10.25 All children to wear blue for Luke house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of Luke and learn about him.
Harvest/ SVP/Helping hands assembly	10.10.25 at 2.45PM.
Catholicity/ Remembrance Week	10.11.25 - 15.11.25
Remembrance Service	11.11.25 – 9.00am
Christmas tree light switch on and Fayre	1.12.25
KS1 Nativity	9.12.25
Ash Wednesday	Falls during half term. 18.2.26
Lenten Breakfasts- Mass at 8.15AM	19.2.26 (1) Crazy hair day 26.2.26 (2) Reverse Day (children to dress as teachers and teachers to dress as children). 5.3.26 (3) World book day 12.3.26 (4) Colour stalls 19.3.26 (5) Tuck shop stall 26.3.26 (6) Design an Easter Cross
Year 3 & 4 Easter Production	18.3.26
Stations of the Cross in the Hall.	1.4.26
Feast day of St Mark	24.4.26 All children wear red for Mark house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of Mark and learn about him.
Marian week	WB 18.5.26
Crown Mary	21.5.26
KS2 Pilgrimage to Ladyewell	18.5.26 Within this week KS1 to have an experience too (Possibly Metanoia)
World Faith Week	WB 22.6.26
Feast day of St John	24.6.26 All children wear green for John house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of John and learn about him.
Leavers awards and Mass	16.7.25 Mass at 11.00AM

Consultation Admissions Policy 27/28

As we have joined a Multi Academy Trust – Mater Ecclesiae we are required to consult on our Admission policy. Full details can be found on our school website.

Big School Adventures

Big School Adventures runs every Thursday from 1.15 – 3.00 pm.

For more information or to book on please ask in the School Office or as a member of the Class 1 team.

Christmas Events

15.12.25 – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day (Meals must be pre ordered)

- Maybe a 'Special visitor could arrive'

17.12.25 – School Closes for Christmas at 3.15 pm

Christmas JUMPER DAY



Dates for your diary

17.12.25- School closes for Christmas at 3.15 pm



School Times

School Start 08.45 am

School Finish time 15.15 pm

PE Days

Class 1: Tue pm and Wed pm

Class 2: Tue pm and Wed pm

Class 3: Monday pm and Thursday pm

Class 4: Swimming Tuesday pm (commencing 9/9/25) and Thurs pm



Staff Contact details

Office	
Miss Calvert	Bursar@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Head Teacher	
Mrs Brogden	Head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class One	
Mrs Ellis- Class Teacher	Ellis@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Harrison	Harrison@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Mrs Moss	Moss@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Haworth	Howarth@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 2	
Mrs Sullivan- Class Teacher	Sullivan@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Collins	Collins@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Strahand	Strahand@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Mrs Gibson	Gibson@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 3	
Mr Catterall - Class Teacher	Catterall@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Hughes	Hughes@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Shaw	Shaw@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 4	
Mr Taylor - Class Teacher	Taylor@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Mrs Nayler	Nayler@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Breakfast / After School Club Manager	
Miss Harrison	Harrison@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

Helping Hands

With the support of St. Mary's Parish, we have created a '*Helping Hands Fund*' - This means we have a stock of tinned food / non-perishable items and toiletries ..So, if you ever need a little '*Helping Hand*' please just ask and we can gladly put a pack together.

Celebration Awards

	Faith in Action Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, Think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	All of Class 1	Ivory Phoenix	Nova Hellawell
Class 2	Ava Capper	Matthew Williams	
Class 3	William McMillian	Ria Swali-Kur	Jade Beresford
Class 4	Darcey Chambers	Jessica Moore	

