



School Newsletter

With Christ, we live, love, learn and grow.

1st March 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Good Shepherd Appeal 2024

The Good Shepherd appeal got off to a great start this week. Thank you all for providing cakes for the cake sale on Monday and thanks to the children for producing some fantastic games and activities for Tuesdays. There was a very full and loud disco at Wednesday break time. Thank you all for supporting the appeal. We carry on for another three weeks – thank you again.



Day	Activity
Mondays	Cake sale – sell and buy cakes – max 1 per person – max price 50p
Tuesdays	Games and activities –guess how many sweets are in a jar/ spot the ball/ name the teddy/ lucky dip etc.
Wednesdays	Disco in the hall – 50p voluntary contribution

See web address below for further details:

<https://wearenugent.org/good-shepherd-appeal-primary-resources/>

Length of School Week Consultation

In the March 2022 Schools White Paper, it was announced that the minimum expectation of a school week is 32.5 hours. Whilst this is non-statutory, the Government expects schools to have this in place by September 2024. Most schools in England already deliver a school week of 32.5 hours or more, St Mary's currently delivers 31.67.

A core school week is the time from morning registration to the official end of the school day for all pupils (including breaks). In simple terms, to have a school week of 32.5 hours we need to have a school day of 6.5 hours. At the moment, we have a school day of 6 hours and 20 minutes (0855 – 1515). Therefore, we have to find an additional 10 minutes each day.

We want a solution that causes the minimum amount of disruption to both parents and staff and has the most positive impact on pupils. Our next step is to consult with the whole school community. Please look out for the consultation that will be sent out to you next week.

Parent Questionnaire Feedback

The feedback from the recent parental questionnaire was extremely positive; parents and carers are proud of our school. Thank you for your time and consideration in completing it. It is great to read that you overwhelmingly agree that your children enjoy coming to school and feel safe here, that the behaviour is good, that they are taught well, that they experience a wide and varied curriculum and that you are happy with the religious education and Catholic life of the school.

What you say we do well

'A wide variety of interesting subjects. Kind and friendly teaching environment...'

'Wonderful school with brilliant teaching staff and homely, welcoming feel.'

'Staff are friendly and engaging'

'Phonics'

'Children are taught to a high standard'

'Overall excellent provision – thank you'

Some areas where you think we could do even better

'Too much homework, sometimes for a week.'

'More adequate notice for events.'

'Too many forms of communication: Dojo, emails, texts, paper in bags, Seesaw, newsletter.'

We take on board your feedback and comments to help us to improve what we do. Thank you.

Year 3 Class Assembly on the subject of 'listening and sharing' Friday 8th March

It is the Year 3 class collective worship next Friday morning at 9am. Parents and family of Y3 children are warmly invited to attend. The theme is taken from what they have been learning in their RE lessons – listening and sharing.

Other Faiths – Sikhism visitor

As part of the learning about other religions, we will be visited by Hardeep from the Building Bridges organisation to teach us about the Sikh religion next Friday.

Visit from St Joseph's Chorley Y6 class CAFOD Big Walk

On Wednesday morning we welcomed Mr Broomhead and his class of Y6 children from St Joseph's, Chorley. They were taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. They walked the two miles down to St Mary's and then the two miles back again. They enjoyed meeting our Y6s and having a cup of squash

and a couple of biscuits. They also gave us some tips and advice about our upcoming trip to the Isle of Man; St Joseph's Y6 went there in October.

Two competitions

WOW Badge Design

The Walk to School organisation – WOW - are running a design-a-badge competition *WHO MIGHT YOU BE OR WHAT MIGHT YOU SEE?* For this year's WOW badge design competition, we want you to imagine a different walk to school and draw it! See information attached.

Archdiocese Holy Communion Badge – especially Year 4!

The Archdiocese of Liverpool is running a Holy Communion Badge competition. It's free for anyone to enter but Y4s might be particularly interested – see template attached.

If you want to send entries for both competitions into school, Mr Hodge is collecting and will send them off.

World Book Day Thursday, 7 March

Final reminder - World Book Day (WBD) takes place next week on **Thursday, 7 March**. It is the annual event where authors, illustrators, books and the love of reading is celebrated. It is something the children love to take part in each year.

The theme is *Bedtime Stories* this year. Children can come to school in their PJs or 'loungewear' if they feel more comfortable e.g. jogging bottoms and T-shirt; they can come in school uniform if they prefer. And, of course, they should bring their favourite book at bedtime.

Theatre visit to school, Monday 4th March – *The Railway Children*

As part of our WBD celebrations we have a visit from a theatre company on Monday morning. They are going to perform the story of *The Railway Children*. This is in place of the KS2 trip to the theatre in the autumn term and because it is in school, the lucky infants will get to watch too!

Site Supervisor

We are looking for a part-time site-supervisor (caretaker) to work 15 hours a week, 0600 - 0900 each day, with some flexibility to work additional hours, if possible. If you are interested or if you know anyone else who is, please let the office know.

Chorley Buddies – Buddies Community Café

We received the following message from Hannah Sherlock, Centre Manager for SVP Chorley Buddies

Hope you are well. SVP Chorley Buddies have opened up Buddies Cafe running out of Buttermere Community Centre every Wednesday. It is a Community Cafe that is



open to all, charging low prices to encourage all to come along. Please can you share our flyer on your newsletter/ with your friends and family? We are hoping to start a toddler group in the future during the cafe, and we also run a craft club at 12.30-2pm during the cafe.



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League
2023/2024 W/E 01.03.24



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 1	97.31
2nd	YEAR 5	96.85
3rd	YEAR 6	96.56
4th	YEAR 3	96.37
5th	YEAR 2	95.29
6th	RECEPTION	94.71
7th	YEAR 4	94.19

Congratulation to Y6 on their **100%** attendance this week!

STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 01.03.24

Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Anais	a great week sharing ideas in our group work
YR	Edie	amazing answers and role play while playing the part of Jack's mother!
Y1	Penelope	super effort in Maths and English this week. Keep it up!
Y2	Neveah	brilliant work in her spellings when joining a new group
Y3	Luke N	being so helpful in class (without being asked – it was noticed!)
Y4	Emily R	her great work in science researching the states of matter.
Y5	Max	excellent inference during our new topic in English linked to the novel 'Journey to the River Sea'.
Y6	Seb	a great entry for a history book about Viking Longships

Online Safety Newsletter

Please check out the monthly online safety newsletter that was sent out yesterday. It is a very quick and helpful read.

Mental health and emotional wellbeing support for children. (Contacts below).

YSA
Yarrow School
Alliance

New Year, new challenge
Train to teach with the best, to be the best!
Open events held on the first Tuesday of each month.
If you are interested in learning more about our School-based
Initial Teacher Training Programme, email
r.horne@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk for more information



Young People
Scan this QR
code to find
support

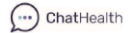
SCAN ME



Parents scan
this QR code to
find support

SCAN ME

Text a school nurse directly to talk about
health or emotional wellbeing:
If you're 11-19 text our ChatHealth line on:
07507330510
or scan the QR code



If you're a parent of 5-19 year old text our
Lancashire ParentLine for support on:
07312263554
or scan the QR code



care.think.do.
AN ONLINE WAY OF TRANSFORMING HEALTH AND CARE

P Smyth 01.03.24