



School Newsletter

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

4th April 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the final term of the school year. It is a busy term with lots to look forward to including the Health Week in a couple of weeks' time. Information about sport days has been sent out separately.

Year 4 Sacramental Class – First Holy Communion

The children in the Y4 sacramental class will be receiving their First Holy Communion at St Mary's Church in a couple of weeks on Sunday 18th May. On the following day in school they will have a tea party to which their parents/ carers are invited where they can bring along any Communion gifts that they have received to be blessed.

Y3 Trip to Chester

Just over a week ago, Mr Hodge took the Y3 class on a trip to Deva/ Chester in support of their history studies about Ancient Rome. They had a wonderful day learning so much about life in Roman Britain. Mr Hodge said the pupils' behaviour was excellent. Thank you to all the volunteers that came along to support the visit- we are very grateful.

Y4 Trip to Brockholes

This week, Mrs Banwell took the Y4 class to Brockholes Nature Reserve. Our Y4s also did us proud on their visit with their fantastic behaviour and engagement throughout. Mrs Banwell reckons it could be the best ever educational visit she has been on! Thank you once again to the volunteers who accompanied Y4.

Chorley Schools Sports Partnership (CSSP) – Orienteering Competition

Mr Hodge took the Y6 St Mary's Orienteering squad to compete against 22 teams from schools across Chorley and the local area. It is an event that requires teamwork, leadership, athleticism and brainpower. Mr Hodge praised the team for their excellent behaviour and the way they encouraged one another. He was informed yesterday that St Mary's finished in second place just behind Eccleston St Mary's. Well done to our squad on their wonderful achievement and thanks to Mr Hodge for taking them.

Mental Health Awareness Week 12-18th May

Please see flyer from Compass Bloom sent out separately.

Online Safety Newsletter

Please see the online newsletter sent out separately. There is some very useful information for parents/ carers regarding cyberbullying, Roblox, Minecraft amongst other things.

Snapchat

I am aware that some of the older pupils in school have been using Snapchat. I would strongly advise against its use by primary age children given that the minimum age limit is 13 years of age. Our safeguarding governor sent me this useful link from **Internet Matters** for parents and carers–

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/snapchat/>

It provides a wealth of advice including what to do if you encounter harmful content on Snapchat.

Star of the Week 25.04.25

Class		Name	Star of the week for... Value of the week for showing value of faithfulness Dojo Champion
Nursery	s	Teddie	Super discussion about his holiday during little experts
	v	Millie	For being a faithful member in nursery and trying to follow class rules
	Dojo	Martha	
R	s	Avaeha	For working so hard with her writing and using finger spaces
	v	Robert	For always being faithful to our class rules
	Dojo	Darcy W & Darcy A	
Y1	s	Matilda	Being a superstar pupil this week – settling down to her work really well.
	v	Seb	Being a true and faithful member of the class.
	Dojo	Olivia	
Y2	s	Theo	For a wonderful start to Year 2
	v	Billey	For his commitment to his maths learning – completing 20 questions on his maths treasure hunt independently
	Dojo	Jesse and Alex	
Y3	s	Joseph S	Excellent behaviour on our history trip to Chester
	v	Layla	Always displaying faith in the correct way in class
Y4	s	Olivia	For her wonderful newspaper article about a girl time travelling.
	v	Thomas I	For being a faithful member of the class.
Y5	s	Emily R	For a wonderful effort throughout our unit of work on 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret.'
	v	Billy	Billy can always be relied upon and is therefore a faithful member of Year 5.
Y6	s	Heidi	Great work on division this week.

v	Addison	Showing faith in her friends
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Star of the Week w/e 02.05.25

Class		Name	Star of the week for... Value of the week for showing value of purity Dojo Champion
Nursery	s	Romee	Super work listening for sounds during her listening walk this week
	v	Lucy	Always showing her kind nature in nursery
	Dojo	Millie	
R	s	Darcy A	For working hard and answering questions very well
	v	Darcey W	For listening carefully and saying her prayers beautifully during Prayer and Liturgy
	Dojo	Colette & George B	
Y1	s	Scarlett	Being a 'Supertato' writing superstar!
	v	Marnie	Doing everything with a good heart.
	Dojo	Eleanor	
Y2	s	Evie Wo	For her quiet enthusiasm and effort in every subject
	v	James M	For demonstrating purity through his gentle and selfless nature
	Dojo	Harper	
Y3	s	Alice B	Can always be relied upon to do excellent Y3 work by trying her best
	v	Tess	Always prayers with a pure heart (with reverence, focus and attention)
	Dojo		
Y4	s	Finn H	For his impressive knowledge on our class trip to Brockholes.
	v	Jessica	For always showing good manners.
	Dojo		
Y5	s	Jacob B	For showing enthusiasm and a thorough understanding of our work with Mr Sutor on debt awareness.
	v	Hannah	Always behaving in a way that reflects honesty, integrity, and respect for others.
	Dojo		
Y6	s	Mattia	Great work in history related to the story of Robin Hood
	v	Marnie	Always being honest, truthful and demonstrates kindness through her and actions.
	Dojo		

Parent/ Carer Questionnaire

Thank you to those who responded before Easter; we had 75 responses. It is very helpful in letting us know what you think we do well and areas in which you think we could do even better. I will report on the outcomes in the weeks to come.

Tax-free childcare

One of our governors shared some information with me last year to pass on to parents and carers - here is a reminder, in case your circumstances have changed.:

You can get up to £500 every 3 months (up to £2,000 a year) for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare. This goes up to £1,000 every 3 months if a child is disabled (up to £4,000 a year). For every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay your provider.

You can get Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as 30 hours free childcare if you're eligible for both. You can use Tax-Free Childcare for: childminders, nurseries and nannies and after school clubs and play schemes. <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Attendance



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League 2024/2025 w/e 02.05.25



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 6	98.23
2nd	YEAR 3	97.70
3rd	YEAR 1	97.56
4th	YEAR 4	97.40
5th	YEAR 2	97.33
6th	YEAR 5	96.91
7th	RECEPTION	96.42

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week – fingers crossed for next week.

Our attendance data compared to other Lancashire Schools as on 01.05.25

Attendance measure	Percentage	Ranking ①
Overall attendance	97.5%	You are ranked 4th out of 481 schools
Overall absence	2.5%	You are ranked 4th out of 481 schools
Authorised absence	2.2%	You are ranked 14th out of 481 schools
Unauthorised absence	0.3%	You are ranked 12th out of 481 schools
Persistently absent	1.6%	You are ranked 8th out of 481 schools
Severely absent	0.0%	You are ranked 1st out of 481 schools

We are still in the **top 1%**, can we finish there? This is a truly fantastic effort – well done children, parents and carers!

PTFA future dates

Ladies Party Night - Friday 27th June - St Mary's Parish Centre

Patrick Smyth 02.05.25

Chorley Marlins

We have been contacted by Chorley Marlins swimming club:

Good morning

I am emailing on behalf of Chorley Marlins Amateur Swimming Club. We are currently looking for new members to join the club and I think this may be of interest to some of your pupils. Chorley Marlins has been providing learn to swim lessons, swimming coaching and opportunities to participate in competitive swimming to young people locally for over fifty years. We are a voluntary group with the aim of developing swimming locally and getting more young people active

Could you please share the attached flyers with parents by including it with your newsletter?



**We are recruiting
new members**

CHORLEY MARLINS AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB

Benefits of joining a swimming club
include:

- Learn valuable life skills
- Developing stroke technique
- A fun way to get exercise and improve fitness
- Develop confidence, team work and social skills
- Meet new people and make new friends
- Friendly competition among other members
- Opportunity to enter swimming galas
- The chance to represent the club in team competitions
- Swimming compliments a wide range of sports

Chorley Marlins ASC are looking for new members at all levels including beginners, pre-competition, training squads and Masters (18+).

Please email cmadmin@chorleymarlins.org.uk or visit our website for more information and to arrange a **free trial session**.

Mini Marlins groups are open to children aged 4+




chorleymarlins.org.uk

Chorley

a number of our girls attend this Brownies group and I have been asked to publicise the group by a parent who says, *'it is the only Brownies group around this side of Chorley and is a great group.'*

Brownies –

This is what we like about
OUR Brownie pack

Fun - Friends - Make
things - Kind leaders -
Play games - Earn badges -
Make new Friends
Come and join us - everyone
is welcome

8th Chorley Trinity

Brownies

8th Chorley Trinity Brownies
We meet at Chorley Methodist Church on a Wednesday

**Girls have nonstop fun,
learning and adventure**
for ages 7 to 10

At Brownies, we welcome all girls to explore their creative side,
get out into the great outdoors and start to learn to look after
themselves, others and the world we live in.


girlguiding

To find out more phone, text or Whatsapp Liz on 07906 467089

Compass Bloom Mental Health & Wellbeing for children – parent referral details below

PARENT/CARER CONSULTATIONS

We offer a free and confidential service supporting children and young people, aged 5-18, with mild to moderate emotional health and wellbeing needs. We work with schools and colleges throughout Chorley, South Ribble, Preston and West Lancs.

Are you the parent/carer of a young person who is experiencing mild to moderate anxiety or low mood?

This could look like:



FEELING
WORRIED



STRUGGLING
TO
SLEEP



WITHDRAWAL
FROM FAMILY,
FRIENDS
AND/OR USUAL
ACTIVITIES



STRUGGLING TO
CONCENTRATE



TEARFUL

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE YOUR CHILD/YOUNG PERSON WE CAN HELP!

If your young person attends one of our 63 schools we can offer a consultation with one of our friendly practitioners.

They can offer you advice, guidance and signposting to support you to support your child/young person.

To complete our consultation form Scan our QR Code or type in the web address below into your web browser.

<https://forms.office.com/e/x1asaVTetL>



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