



School Newsletter

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

3rd May 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Sports News

Health Week and Sports Days 2024

Please see attached Health Week and Sports Day timetable for 2024. The sports day events to which parents are invited will take place on Thursday 23rd May for KS2 (Juniors) and on Friday 24th May for EYFS and KS1 (infants). See the attached timetable for exact timings. If we have to postpone due to inclement weather, we will inform you as soon as possible and aim to rearrange, if that is possible.

Netball

Yesterday afternoon, the St Mary's Netball squad completed their series of netball tournaments. They played five games: lost four and won one (2-1). They came a very creditable fourth in their pool of teams over the three tournaments. Well done to all the players for their great teamwork and fantastic effort in all weathers!

Thank you to Miss Hesketh, Mrs Southern, Mrs Blackwell and Mrs Cassidy for looking after the children and preparing them over the last few weeks. Miss Hesketh said that the children were absolutely brilliant in their engagement and enjoyment.

The head of the Chorley Schools Sports Partnership, Gemma Stokes, came over especially to see Miss Hesketh last night, to praise the children and staff on their sporting behaviour and to say that the wonderful ethos of the school is present in all competitions we turn up to and participate in.

That was lovely feedback to receive and fits in with the principles established by Mr Hodge and the PE steering group a number of years ago (see image right).



Non-uniform day in support of Gillibrand Primary – Friday 10 May

In December 2023, the headteacher of Gillibrand Primary School, Ashley Clayton, passed away after a short illness. In her memory, her love of Gillibrand and her love of books, Gillibrand Primary are fundraising for a memorial reading garden in Ashley's memory. This will be a place where her legacy, love of books and passion for reading will continue forever. Many Chorley schools have held a non-school uniform day to raise money for a memorial, and as a school community, Gillibrand are incredibly touched by this.

The school plans to include a personalised mosaic which will include a plaque to acknowledge that local schools supported in fundraising. Community links were something Ashley was very proud of at Gillibrand and something that will continue to be at the heart of all they do.

So next Friday 10 May, we are inviting children and staff to wear bright and colourful clothing in memory of Ashley in return for a voluntary contribution.

Feast of the Ascension Eucharistic Service Wednesday 8th May

Next week we have the Feast of Ascension. Deacon Norman is coming in on Wednesday morning to celebrate a short Eucharistic service with the whole school.

Mass this Sunday is at 0930

Change of Mass time for this Sunday only at St Mary's. Mass will be at the earlier time of 0930.

Reception Trip to Blackpool Zoo

The reception class enjoyed a wonderful visit to Blackpool Zoo on Wednesday this week. They had a great day seeing all the different animals including a peacock who was happy to show off his full display of feathers as he strolled past our group. As is always the case at Blackpool Zoo, the children also enjoyed their visit to the dinosaur display where they narrowly avoided a soaking. Thank you to all the staff and volunteers for taking them along.

Monthly online safety newsletter

See attached the May edition of the excellent online safety parent/ carer newsletter. It has also been sent out separately earlier in the week.

It's Mental *Family Wellbeing Festival* Sunday the 16th of June 2024

One of our families is organising the Family Wellbeing Festival at Rivington this year; you may have seen the banners and posters dotted around Chorley. See leaflet attached to the newsletter for more details.

The Wellbeing Experience are organising the ***Family Wellbeing Festival*** which is taking over Rivington for the second year running, on Sunday the 16th of June 2024. We have a discounted family ticket for 2 adults and 2 junior tickets, and under 5s go free!

For more info and tickets please visit www.itsmental.co.uk/familywellbeingfestival

We'll have 10 zones featuring a range of activities, speakers and workshops where the whole family can take part in new activities, learn new skills, find new hobbies, learn more about volunteering and community projects, but most importantly to make sure they feel supported with their physical and mental health. We know that prevention is better than cure, meaning that helping people at the earliest opportunity means they are less likely to head for any crisis situations, even if they do not feel they need support in that moment they will have the knowledge and skills to access support if they should need it in the future.

We'll also be announcing **The Family Adventure Challenge** very soon! The challenge gives families the opportunity to work as a team and showcase their resilience whilst tackling the water, air and land activities, with 3 entry points to suit all ages. They are also able to use this challenge to raise money for a good cause, too!

Star of the Week 03.05.24

Class		Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN		Nathan	working super hard in literacy and phonics work.
YR		Katie	working very hard with Maths work.
Y1		Millie	accurate sentence punctuation in English.
Y2		Charlie A	wonderful reading at home and in school
Y3		Olivia	working exceptionally hard on her Boudicca work in English this week
Y4		Charles R	his hard work and determination in maths.
Y5		Addison	always putting 100% effort into all of her work.
Y6		Krystian	narrative writing from a different character's point of view.

We still have a vacancy for a 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.

The Live Simply Snake



Look out for the Live Simply Snake which has appeared and is growing down the path from the Walgarth Drive entrance. There's a little sign next to it with more information about it.

In January 2024, the school pupils and staff made **pledges** to try to make our world a better place to be. Ideas ranged from planting trees to recycling, visiting elderly relatives to giving up some screen time from devices. So, how are we doing?

For every time that you remember to do, your **'pledge'**, add a rock (painted or plain) to show how much our love and care grows! How long do you think that we can make this Live Simply Snake? Let's see!

Mr Hodge

Reception new-intake afternoon – Tuesday May 21st

This year we are having our new intake meeting for the parents of children joining us in the reception class in the autumn term in an afternoon session on Tuesday 21st May. This means that we are also going to be able to invite the children to attend too, and they will be able to spend the session in their new classroom.

Reception September 2024 places

We still have some places for our reception class in September, so if you know of anyone moving into the area and looking for a place in a Catholic school for September, please let them know. Sometimes families move into the area and are surprised the school is here because it is tucked away.

Lancashire Schools Music Service Special Music Events

Percussion Day 2024!- May 4th, St Christophers C of E High School, Accrington.

We are proud to be hosting **The Band of HM Royal Marines, Scotland**, who will be leading workshops, drum demonstrations and delivering a careers talk.

<https://www.lancashiremusicclub.co.uk/site/events/percussion-day/>

Messages from the school office:

Please can we settle ParentPay accounts as soon as possible. Thank you.

Chorley Catholic Community Annual Festival - Sunday 8th September 1pm - 5pm, St Gregory's Church, Weldbank, Chorley

Mr Paul McBeth the organiser of the *Chorley Catholic Community Annual Festival* has written to us to give advance notice of this year's event in September on Sunday 8th September 1pm - 5pm at St Gregory's Church, Weldbank, Chorley

He asked us to let you know about and offer you an official invitation to take part this year. It would be good to know if you want to take part. If interested, could you reply to cnocl@hotmail.com please? It's the same format as last year - you get a double gazebo but have to supply a table(s) and chairs.

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



P Smyth 03.05.24



Young People
Scan this QR
code to find
support



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



Parents scan
this QR code to
find support



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



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