



School Newsletter

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

4th July 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Y1 Stay and Pray

This week Mrs Ainscough, Mrs Swarbrick, Miss Frankel and the reception children welcomed parents and carers into school for a special *Stay and Pray* session. Their parents and grandparents joined the children for a time of collective worship and quiet reflection. They thought about the work of St Peter and St Paul and also shared some of the learning they have been doing in class before singing a beautiful version of Louis Armstrong's *What a Wonderful World*.

Thank you to all those who were able to attend and helped make the occasion so special for the children and thank you to the teachers for preparing the children so well.

Y2 and Y4 Visit Rock and River



Today, our Year 2 and Year 4 classes visited Rock and River in Mawdesley, for a day of outdoor and adventurous activities. The children took part in a variety of challenges and worked really well together throughout the day.

They were accompanied by Mrs Banwell, Mrs Nicklin, Mr McVittie and Mr Hodge, and returned to school around 3:50pm—tired but having clearly enjoyed the experience.

Thank you to Mrs Root, Mrs Garret, Mrs Ash, and all the volunteer helpers who supported the trip. It was a great opportunity for the children to try something new, and we're sure they'll all sleep well tonight!

Retreat Day at St Joseph's, Chorley

Our Year 6 children had a lovely day at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Chorley, where they joined other Year 6 pupils from local Catholic schools for a special retreat.

The day included a talk from Chris Lubbe, who used to be Nelson Mandela's bodyguard. He shared his experiences and gave the children a lot to think about. The pupils also took part in activities like orienteering, which gave them a chance to work together and meet new friends—some of whom they'll see again in high school.

The day ended with a Mass at St Joseph's Church, bringing everyone together in a calm and reflective way.

We'd like to say a big thank you to Mrs Douglas and all the staff at St Joseph's for organising such a thoughtful and enjoyable day.

SS Peter & Paul Mass

On the Monday 30 June, children from Y2-Y6 attended Mass for the Feast of St Peter and Paul. It was the first visit of the Y2 class to a school Mass at St Mary's Church. The children behaved beautifully.

'Moving up' morning

Over the last couple of weeks, most of our Y6 children have had the opportunity to visit their new high schools. Holy Cross had their induction day on Wednesday; that is where the majority of our Y6 are moving up to. So with most of the Y6s gone, we had a moving up morning. Children moved up to the new year group and had a taste of what it is going to be like in September. We also welcomed children who will be joining us new in September.

Year 5 at Holy Cross Science & Maths Day Monday 7th July

Miss Hesketh, Mrs Southern, and Mrs Holt are taking our Year 5 pupils to Holy Cross for a special day focused on science and mathematics activities.

The visit will give the children a chance to explore these subjects in the high school environment and take part in a variety of hands-on learning experiences. It is a great opportunity to build on what they have been learning in school and to enjoy working together in a different setting.

PTFA Fundraising Update

Thank you everybody for your support for the *Break the Rules day* – you have raised an amazing **£340** and we estimate we might have made about **£70** from the Bags 2 School Collection

Funds raised from both events will go towards *Project Playground*, which aims to improve the play equipment and outdoor spaces for the children. Thank you again for your support.

Scholastic Book Fair

Thanks for your fantastic support for the popular *Scholastic* Book Fair in school.

Every purchase you made at the fair helps the school as Scholastic give a percentage of sales as commission, which we can use to buy books for the school library. It really does make a difference. Thank you.

Reading Challenge for the Summer Holidays

This year's theme is *Reading Heroes*, and the challenge is simple – can the children read five books (or more!) over the summer holidays? There are also some extra mini-challenges to complete along the way, with prizes and rewards available for those who take part.

It's a great way to keep up reading habits over the break – we're looking forward to hearing how everyone gets on. Ten children did it last year – I think far more might have a go this year!

PTFS Summer Fair July 18th

Just a reminder that next **Friday, 11th July**, we are having a non-uniform day for voluntary contributions of chocolates and toys for the tombola.

Compass Bloom - the mental health support team at St Mary's

Some of you got to meet and chat Mia and Louise from Compass Bloom - the mental health support team at St Mary's - who were holding a drop-in session in the KS2 playground after school yesterday. Louise will be in next week doing some work with the Y6s helping them with the process of change from primary to secondary school.

Y6 End of Year Play

The Y6s, Mr Cahalin, Mrs Blackwell and Mrs Canavan have been working very hard on this year's end of year production, *'I'm an Eleven-Year-Old, Get Me Out of Here!'* They are performing for the children on Wednesday and for their families on Thursday after school. We cannot wait!

National Youth Choir Workshop

Lancashire Music Service are welcoming the National Youth Choir to provide a Lancashire Sings with the National Youth Choir workshop on Sunday 13th July between 10.00am and 3.30pm. See advert at the end of the newsletter for details.

St Mary's Beavers/ Cubs

St Mary's Beavers/Cubs are still running at the Hodder Avenue Scout Hut every Friday during term time 5.30pm - 6.30pm. Please contact jacqueline.malone@chorleyscouts.org.uk for more information

Smartphone free childhood



Keep an eye out for information via the parents's Whatsapp groups about Smartphone Free Childhood. It is a grassroots movement bringing parents together to stand up for healthier, happier childhoods. There are a couple of our governors doing a great job giving a lead on this. For more information check out the website <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/> If parents from any other year group are interested, please contact me at school.

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>

Books for Birthdays – Thank You!

Back in November 2022, we decided to try something a little different when it came to celebrating birthdays in school. Instead of bringing in sweets to share, we invited families to donate a book to the class library – and the response has been fantastic.

Thank you for all your support over the past few years. Your generosity has helped us to build up our class libraries with a wide range of modern, engaging, and much-loved children's books. The idea was always to grow each class's collection with titles we know the children really enjoy, and that's exactly what has happened.

Throughout the year, Ebb & Flo bookshop deliver gift-wrapped birthday books to classrooms – and the excitement this causes, even in the older year groups, is brilliant to see!

Don't forget to check out your child's Class Dojo page, where we've posted or are posting the updated *Birthday Book* lists full of fantastic reading suggestions.

Water bottle/ spray fan things!

A teacher has told me that some battery-operated drinks bottles with mist spray device attached have found their way into the classrooms. They sound brilliant but please do not send these in with the children; they are obviously too much of a distraction from learning. Thank you!

Online Safety Newsletter, July edition

Please see this month's online safety newsletter sent out separately.

Star of the Week – w/e 04.07.25

Class	Name	Star of the week for... self-esteem Value of the week for showing value of celebrate Dojo Champion
Nursery	s Hallie	Fantastic maths work and enthusiastic approach to learning.
	v Theo	Celebrating the success of his peers
	Dojo Ozias	
R	s Maggie	For her enthusiams in all areas of learning
	v Lilly	For always celebrating other people's successes
	Dojo Darcey W	
Y1	s Brody	Kindness to others when supporting them with their Lowry art.
	v Scarlett	Celebrating when others get it right.
	Dojo Sophie	
Y2	s	ON TRIP
	v	
	Dojo	
Y3	s Harmony O	for making a great transition to our school
	v Josh A	always happy to celebrate with others
Y4	s	ON TRIP
	v	
Y5	s Archie H	For showing a good attitude towards some challenging problem-solving questions in mathematics.
	v Patch	For always celebrating the achievements of others.
Y6	s	ON RETREAT
	v	

Attendance



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League 2024/2025 w/e 04.07.25



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 6	98.22
2nd	YEAR 1	97.68
3rd	YEAR 4	97.59
4th	YEAR 3	97.55
5th	YEAR 2	97.51
6th	YEAR 5	96.69
7th	RECEPTION	95.63

Three classes achieved **100%** attendance this week. Big congratulations go to Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4!

PTFA future dates

Summer Fair – Friday 18th July 5pm – 7pm

Patrick Smyth 26.06.25

Eqwise
Learning With Horses

FAMILY FUN OPEN DAY 2025

**SUNDAY 13TH JULY
12PM - 4PM**

**FREE ENTRY
DONATIONS
welcome**

**PONY FANCY DRESS
PONY RIDES
PETS CORNER
LUCKY DIP
RAFFLE**

**FOOD & DRINK
AVAILABLE
ALL DAY**

**WEIGH
THE CAKE
BIG BUZZER
CRAZY GOLF
TOMBOLA**

**BEAT
THE GOALIE
HORSE SHOE TOSS
COCONUT SHY
SWEET HUNT**

EQWISE LTD BEHIND THE YARROW BRIDGE PUB
BOLTON ROAD, CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE PR7 4AB
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www.eqwise.co.uk

LANCASHIRE MUSIC SERVICE

LANCASHIRE SINGS WITH THE NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIR

A DAY'S WORKSHOP
AGE 8+

SIGN UP!



**NATIONAL
YOUTH CHOIR**



AKS LYTHAM

SUNDAY 13TH JULY 10-3.30

SIGN UP TODAY

WWW.LANCASHIREMUSICHUB.CO.UK



Lancashire
County Council



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?



The flyer features a large background image of a swimmer in a pool. In the top left corner is the Chorley Marlins logo, which depicts a marlin leaping from the water. The text 'We are recruiting new members' is prominently displayed in the upper right. The club's name, 'CHORLEY MARLINS AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB', is written in large, bold, white capital letters across the middle. Below this, a list of benefits for joining a swimming club is provided. Two smaller inset photographs show children in a pool: one sitting on a blue mat and another performing a swimmer's start. The flyer concludes with contact information, including an email address and website, and mentions that mini marlin groups are open to children aged 4 and over.

CHORLEY MARLINS
AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB

We are recruiting
new members

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 Brownies – 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.'*



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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