



School Newsletter

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

05.07.24

Dear parents and carers,

Retreat Day at St Joseph's Chorley

Our Y6 children spent a wonderful day with Y6 children from the other local Catholic primary schools at St Joseph's Catholic primary school in Chorley, today. They were treated to an inspirational talk from Chris Lubbe, the former bodyguard of Nelson Mandela. They took part in activities such as orienteering and they were able to mix with the other children many of whom they will meet again in September at high school. The day finished with a special Mass in St Joseph's Church. Many thanks to Mrs Douglas, the head, and all the staff at St Joseph's for organising and hosting such a super and memorable event.

Y6 Leavers Service and Disco

Deacon Norman will be leading a Eucharistic service for our Y6 Leavers a week at 6pm on Monday (15th July). Y6 parents and family members are warmly invited to attend. As has been the tradition for many years now, the service will be followed by a Leavers' Disco.

Sports News

There have been a lot of sporting activities over the last few days with lots of children having the opportunity to represent the school.

Girls Football

Mr Hodge took a squad of thirty plus girls from across KS2 – that is a quarter of all the junior girls – to the Euxton Girls football tournament yesterday afternoon. We managed to kit them all out in one kit or another. Mr Hodge said that they were all 'amazing' and had a great time.

Euros Football festival

This afternoon after school, Mr Hodge organised a huge festival of football to coincide with the Euros with girls and boys teams from St Mary's playing against boys and girls teams from St Joseph's, Anderton. There were flags flying and music playing. The main aim was fun and the children had certainly enjoyed themselves; they had a fantastic time.

Quad Kids

On Wednesday this week, Mr Hodge took a team of Y2s and then a team of Y4s to Westway Sports Hub to compete in the annual Quad Kids athletics competition. As the name suggests there are four events and long run, a sprint, a long jump and a throw. Mr Hodge said that the children were brilliant. They tried their very best and a teacher came over from another school to congratulate Jacob W (Y4) on his wonderful sporting behaviour. Well done athletes!

A big thank you to Mr Hodge for providing all these sporting opportunities this week!

Messages from Miss Hesketh

Library Books and School books back in by next Friday

We request that all library books and home reading books are returned to school by next Friday, 12th July – many thanks!

Young Writers

A couple of months ago, Miss Hesketh asked if any of her Y5 class would like to write a poem to submit to a poetry competition run by the *Young Writers* organisation. Some of them took up the offer. In the last week, Miss Hesketh received a letter from the group. It reads:

Hi Miss Hesketh,

We've got some fantastic news for you, we'd love to publish your pupils in "Once Upon A Dream - Words Of Wisdom"!

We've posted a package out to you today, which contains awesome bookmarks & certificates to be handed out to your pupils ...

I read the children's entries and I thought they were all excellent. So, it comes as no surprise that every single poem sent in is going to be published in the anthology, *"Once Upon A Dream - Words Of Wisdom"*. Well done to our Y5 poets.

Book Fair

Thank you so much for your support of the book fair - we made a great profit and in turn, a good commission to buy more books for the school. Thank you!

CSSP summer camp

CSSP summer camp bookings have just gone live, see leaflet attached.

Messages from the School Office:

Parentpay Please can parents settle their Parentpay accounts for all items as soon as possible.

School Uniform - The uniforms have now arrived in school and will be distributed next week.

Youth Mass - message from Linda Walmsley, Lay Chaplain, Holy Cross Catholic High School

We are coming to the end of the second year of the Youth Mass programme in what used to be the Chorley Pastoral Area and we are really pleased with how the community have embraced the masses and the support we have had from all the local schools. **The final mass of the current cycle will be on Sunday 14 July at 6:30pm at St Gregory's.**

If any pupils would like to be involved with the offertory, or as a reader, please can you put them in touch with me via the school office?

Finally, advance notice that next term the youth celebration will be part of the Creation Mass which will take place on **Sunday 6 October**. Best wishes, Linda Walmsley

Vacancy

We have an exciting vacancy for an apprentice to learn, develop and work in our nursery class. Ms Lang, who started as an apprentice with us a few years ago took this route with us and became a very skilled early years practitioner and is now moving on to bigger and better things. If you know of anyone who may be interested please ask to follow this link or contact Mrs Wilson at the school office for further details.

Link for Nursery Apprentice - https://schooljobs.lancashire.gov.uk/nt_vacancyDetails.asp?id=63879

School Week from 4th September 2024

A reminder that from 4th September 2024 the school day will have a new start and end time. We will register children at the earlier time of **0850** and school will finish at the slightly later time of **1520**. Please note that the nursery class start and end times will be unaffected in September. The **nursery** day will remain as start at **0845 and end at 1515**.

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.

Kooth Mental Health and Wellbeing support

Kooth is an 11-18 mental health & wellbeing support service. Their age band just about catches our Y6 children. That said there are some good resources which I think would support most parents in supporting their children and these can be accessed here:

<https://cloud.brandmaster.com/shared/assets/319b4803b82fecf307bc>

From the Kooth website: *We're Kooth Digital Health: the UK's largest and longest-serving digital mental health service. We've worked with the NHS for over 20 years and are the UK's only BACP accredited digital mental health service. We currently operate one service for children and young people (Kooth) and one for adults (Qwell). Learn more about us by watching our short video or visiting koothplc.com.*

Free School Meals, Pupil Premium and School Budget

Our school budget, like most school budgets, is becoming increasingly stretched by the rising costs of goods and services. There is a source of funding that we think our school could be possibly missing out on. It is called **pupil premium** funding. Schools receive this money for each child that is entitled to the **free school meals** benefit (this is something different to infant free school meals).

The school may be missing out on this funding because it does not receive it automatically. It requires parents/ carers to apply for it and many of us may not even realise they we are entitled to this benefit.

To confuse matters further, all children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to universal infant free school meals but this is different to free school meals as it does not bring in pupil premium funding for school. Parents of children in the infants may be entitled to free school meals in addition to universal infant free school meals.

What can parents/ carers do to help?

Therefore we would like to ask all of our parents/ carers from reception to Year 6 to consider whether they might meet the criteria for free school meals for their child(ren). This could help to ensure that the school does not miss additional pupil premium funding.

There is a simple way to check to see if your child(ren) may be entitled to free school meals. It is accessed through Lancashire County Council and it is a very quick, straightforward process. See link: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=2>


There is a very good article on the *Martin Lewis: Money Saving Expert* website which provides more information. <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/free-school-meals/>

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.

Star of the Week 05.07.24

		
Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Joey	a fantastic attitude to learning
YR	Jemima	her fantastic maths work
Y1	Sophia	always doing her work to the best of her ability
Y2	Zendaya	improving her stamina in her writing.
Y3	Niam	her all round excellent attitude and behaviour!
Y4	Lydia	her hard work in Come and See this week. Not only did she complete her own work to a high standard but she helped others too.
Y5	Eliza	her enthusiasm and passion throughout our topic on Ancient Greece.
Y6		RETREAT DAY AT ST JOSEPH'S

Attendance



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League

2023/2024 w/e 05.07.24



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 5	97.36
2nd	YEAR 1	96.98
3rd	YEAR 3	96.97
4th	YEAR 6	96.88
5th	YEAR 2	95.39
6th	RECEPTION	95.38
7th	YEAR 4	95.27

No 100% this week!**Mental health and emotional wellbeing support for children.** (Contacts right).



P Smyth 05.07.24



Young People
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



Parents scan
this QR code to
find support

SCAN ME

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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