



# School Newsletter

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

09.12.22

Dear parents/ carers,

## PTFA CHRISTMAS FAIR

Once again, many thanks to you all for your kind donations for the Christmas Fair and for supporting it in such great number; it was great to see so many people enjoying the Christmas Fair once more. Your efforts and generosity have raised over **£ 2050** for the PTFA funds - which is a record amount – which is incredible in the current climate. This will be spent on enhancing the children's learning and experience in school.

A big thank you to the PTFA and all the helpers who planned and organised the event, set up the hall and rooms, took a stint on the various stalls and tidied up afterwards – a brilliant team effort – well done and thank you! I would like to say a special thank you, too, to Fr Christmas who worked so hard last Friday in meeting all the children.

## Nativity Performances/ KS2 Christmas Concert

The nursery, reception, year 1 and year 2 performances take place next week. It is going to be very busy! They start with a dress rehearsal watched by the juniors on Monday morning. Good luck, everyone!

Who?	Where?	When?	
		Date	Time
EYFS – Nursery and Reception	School hall	Weds 14.12.22	0930 - 1030
		Weds 14.12.22	1400 - 1500
KS1 – Year 1 and Year 2	School hall	Tues 13.12.22	0930 - 1030
		Weds 14.12.22	1800 - 1900
KS2 – Y3,4,5 and 6	St Mary’s Church, Chorley	Mon 19.12.22	1800

## **KS2 Practice at Church Thursday 15 December from 0845**

Next Thursday morning, the juniors (KS2) will be going to church to practise for their performance taking place in the following week.

Therefore, please could I ask parents of children in years 3 to 6 to drop their children off at St Mary's Church from 0845, where they will be met by staff and registered. Children at Breakfast Club will walk up as usual. Children will need to wrap up warm as it looks like the cooler temperatures are here for a while longer yet. There is no Mass but the children will spend the time practising their performance. We thank Fr. Marsden for kindly allowing us to use the Church. After practice, they will walk back to school.

## **Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and to mark the season of Advent - 8<sup>th</sup> December**

The KS2 classes attended Mass yesterday to celebrate Feast of the Immaculate Conception and to mark the season of Advent. A special thank you must go to Fr Marsden who was not very well at all, but celebrated Mass with us, nonetheless.

## **School Trips 8th December**

I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all the volunteers who accompanied us on our trips yesterday. We literally could not have done it without you. Thank you so much!

## **KS2 visit to Reel Cinema to watch the new film version of Roald Dahl's Matilda**

The KS2 classes enjoyed watching the musical film version of Roald Dahl's *Matilda* yesterday morning. The head teacher, Mrs Trunchbull, was quite a terrifying character but I think we were all pleased to see Matilda win the day in the end.

## **EYFS/ KS1 Trip to the Lowry Theatre in Salford – Julia Donaldson's Room on the Broom**

The infants loved their visit to watch the performance of *Room on the Broom*. A problem with the coaches meant that they arrived late at the theatre so thank you very much to the Lowry for holding back the start of the performance for us. The children had a wonderful time.

## **Chorley Schools Sports Partnership (CSSP) Christmas Sports Camp – Clayton Green Sports Centre/ St Peter's Primary School**

The CSSP are running holiday clubs over the Christmas break see picture opposite for further information and contact details.

## **APPEAL FOR GENERATORS: [ From Parish Newsletter 11.12.22 ]**

*We have received an urgent appeal for generators for the Ukraine. Electricity is in very short supply throughout Ukraine. Essential buildings are struggling to meet the electricity demands. If you know someone who would like to be very generous and donate a generator to a hospital, please contact the parish office.*



### **Author Visit – Mrs Heenan – message from Miss Hesketh**

Thank you to Mrs Heenan who came in to visit Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to talk about what makes a good writer. Mrs Heenan has had some of her short stories published so the children were very excited to meet an author who also happens to be one of our parents.

### **Advent Video – message from Mr Hodge, RE leader**

Hello all,

Our 'Advent Video' will be shared via the Archdiocese on Sat 10<sup>th</sup> December using the links below.

The links to our channels are:

[\(15\) Archdiocese of Liverpool \(@lpoolcatholic\) / Twitter](#)

[\(5\) The Archdiocese of Liverpool | Liverpool | Facebook](#)

[Archdiocese of Liverpool \(@liverpoolarchdiocese\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

### **Christmas Joy Project**

Thank you for all the donations so far!

### **Christmas Joy New Toy Appeal – Last Collection Monday 12 December**

As part of The Christmas Joy Project, co-ordinated by SVP Chorley Buddies and St Laurence's, the Catholic Community in Chorley, has in the past years been extremely generous in donating new toys for distribution to families in Chorley. Last year we collected over £4,000 of new toys! If you want to donate new toys, then please just bring them into school on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, unwrapped.**

The toys will be taken from school, to St Laurence's for storage and distribution by Chorley Council to families who might need some help this Christmas. The last collection will be on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December.**

**And thank you for bringing some Joy into people's lives this Christmas!**



**Christmas message from Bishop Marcus Stock, Chair of the Catholic Education Service at the end of newsletter**

## Cost of Living Support

I have attached a *Cost of Living* fact sheet to the newsletter. And, please see link below for local authority support:



[Cost of living support  
lancashire.gov.uk](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk)

## Cost of Living Support – Guidance for parents and carers

Find out what help is available for households and businesses in Lancashire. There is lots of useful information from Lancashire County Council on the [website](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk) which you can share with parents and carers.

The site also promotes Libraries as warm spaces which also fits with our Reading priority:

Warm spaces

Our libraries are warm and welcome spaces, where you can find:

- a warm drink
- a space to sit
- free computers and Wi-Fi
- charging points for your phone or laptop
- events and activities
- help from staff to find information

[Find a library](#) to view facilities, what's on and opening times. All our libraries are accessible.

You can also [download a printable list of the libraries which are warm and welcome places](#) (PDF 263KB), but please check the individual library web pages for up to date opening times.

## Free School Meals – Are you missing out?

Find out if you are eligible and find out how to apply – follow this link.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=2>



**Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League**  
**2022/ 2023**




W/E 09.12.22

CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4	97.11
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 5	96.77

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 6	96.59
4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2	96.43
5 <sup>th</sup>	Reception	95.99
6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3	95.63
7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1	94.96

No 100% attendance this week.

### STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 09.12.22

	Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
	YR	Coby	coming into school with a smiley face each morning and trying hard
	Y1	Reuben	his excellent work in maths
	Y2	Luke N	always being so helpful in class
	Y3	Arthur	an excellent start to his 'Green Children' story
	Y4	Emma	excellent work in history sharing her knowledge of Queen Elizabeth I
	Y5	Alex	excellent responses during Come and See thinking in role
	Y6	Jensen	great description of Oz in new chapter.



Best wishes,

P Smyth

09.12.22

5th December 2022

## **Advent Message from Bishop Marcus**

### **Chair of the Catholic Education Service and Bishop of Leeds**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At this time of year, both the liturgy of Advent and the winter season bring thoughts and feelings of anticipation and longing. These changes in mood are beautifully brought to life in song both sacred and secular, and in celebration when families, friends, schools and parishes come together in preparation for the celebration of the birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ at Christmas and the beginning of a new year.

As this school term draws to its close, I would like to offer my thanks to leaders, teachers, learning assistants, chaplains and all staff who work in our diocesan schools and colleges. It is the love and commitment lived out in your vocation as educators that makes a Catholic school a place where children and young people can learn and flourish, be formed in Gospel values and grow in Christian virtues.

I wish to thank governors and trust boards, for their dedication in providing the stewardship and care of our school and college communities. Without your diligent assistance and the precious gift of your time, our schools and colleges would not have proved so resilient during the adversities of these past few years, nor be as well placed to meet the challenges which confront us now and lay ahead.

My heart feels a deep gratitude also to parents, guardians and families for all the support which you give to the schools and colleges entrusted with the education, welfare and spiritual development of your children. Schools can only build on what children learn in their homes. It is the love, reassurance and encouragement that you give to your children which makes you their first and best teachers, and it is the personal example of goodness that you give to them daily in their life at home which provides them with their first and best school. During these joyous Advent and Christmas seasons, may Almighty God bless you, your families and loved ones, and keep you safe throughout the Year of Our Lord 2023.

With the assurance of my prayers for you all, I remain,

Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Rt Rev Marcus Stock**

