



School Newsletter

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

13th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school for the new term. I hope you all had a happy, holy and restful Christmas break. The children returned refreshed, looking very smart and ready to go. They have settled down quickly to hard work since their return. On behalf of all the staff, thank you very much for all the Christmas cards from the children and families and for all the gifts received.

Unavoidable School Closures

We are about midway through the winter months and have escaped heavy snow so far, but in the event of a very heavy snowfall and the need to close the school, we will inform you via the *GroupCall* text, announcements on the local radio and via the school website.

Parents' Evenings – spring term

The spring term parents' evenings have been planned for the evenings of **Tuesday 7th February and Thursday 9th February**. These meetings will be up to ten minutes in duration and will be face-to-face. You will also have the opportunity to come in and look at the children's work too. Details on how to book will be released in the next week or so.

Primary School Admissions September 2023 Final Reminder

Final Reminder - applications for children to start reception class in September 2023 must be submitted by 11:59pm this Sunday, 15th January 2023.

If not done so already, the application can be made using this direct link:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/>

VERY IMPORTANT: If you require a place, you must still apply even if your child has already have siblings in school.

Please remember that admissions to St Mary's, or any Catholic primary schools, also require the completion of the separate supplementary information form (SIF). You can access this from the following link: <https://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/admissions>

St Mary's Little Church – a message from Mrs Wilson

A reminder that Little Church has restarted at the 10am Family Mass on Sundays for children from 3 to 11 years old. The children enjoy discussing the Gospel of the day, relating it to life now and they always amaze me with their knowledge and understanding. There is a fun colouring activity for them to undertake and they love to take turns each week in carrying the display board into church to present to Father Marsden.

For children younger than 3, you will find a crèche area set up at the back of church. If it isn't set up already, toys and mats can be found behind the last pew in church (go through single door on your left and the boxes are behind the pew to your right).

If any parent would like to think about volunteering as a leader or helper at Little Church, please contact Alison O'Keefe via the Parish office for further information

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2023 *from Parish Newsletter*

The Service of Remembrance will be led by Fr Marsden and members of the Clergy in Chorley, on **Saturday 21st January at 11.00 am**, in Astley Park. Everybody welcome. Lest we forget.

Memorial Oak Tree

St Mary's school has a living memorial to the victims and survivors of the Nazi persecution of Jews in the young oak tree gifted to us by the Association of Jewish Refugees last year. It was one of 80 planted nationally to mark the 80th anniversary of the formation of that organisation. If you get the opportunity, you might like to stop and maybe reflect by the tree. It is part way up the footpath on the school grounds up to Walgarth Drive. It is on the right hand side.

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>

Health and Safety Reminder – sickness and/ or diarrhoea

This is the time of year when there are more bugs and germs around than usual. If your child does become ill with **sickness or diarrhoea**, the guidance for schools from Public Health England gives a minimum recommended absence from school of **48 hours**. This is to limit the spread of the bug around school. Thank you.



Strep A/ Scarlet Fever

What are the symptoms of Strep A/scarlet fever?

Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents should be aware of, including:

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- A fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel
- On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel

If a child becomes unwell with these symptoms, please advise parents to contact their GP practice or contact NHS 111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice.

If a child has scarlet fever, advise they stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

Parents/ Carers should trust their own judgement and if their child seems seriously unwell call 999 or go to A&E if:

- a child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when a child breathes
- a child's [skin, tongue or lips are blue](#)
- a child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.


How to help prevent Strep A? To prevent the spread of Strep A, UKHSA advises children, young people and staff to implement good [hand and respiratory hygiene](#) practices.

Health and Safety Reminder – Care at drop-off and pick-up times

A parent reported to the school yesterday that there was a near miss at drop-off time. Please could I remind all those who drop-off or pick-up to take additional care when manoeuvring their cars in the roads around school.

This additional care is especially important given that it is very difficult to see many of our smaller children when reversing or turning cars near pavements. And this task is made all the more hazardous when visibility is affected by poor light or bad weather. Thank you for your understanding.

STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 13.01.23

			
Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...	
YN	Rory D	For some excellent progress in writing his name. Well Done Rory!	
YR	Isaac	For being very polite and using good manners	
Y1	Joshua	excellent written work and drawing in art.	
Y2	Antoni	an excellent character description of Samson the main character in our topic story book	
Y3	Alfie	excellent concentration and focus on his work all week.	
Y4	Michael	producing excellent work in all areas. Super handwriting and spelling.	
Y5	Teddy	having an excellent attitude to his work all week. Teddy worked extremely hard during his Come and See lessons.	
Y6	Joel	great fact finding about William Shakespeare and for earning his fountain pen.	

P Smyth 13.01.23



YSA
Yarrow School
Alliance

New Year, new challenge
Train to teach with the best, to be the best!
Open events held on the first Tuesday of each month.
If you are interested in learning more about our School-based
Initial Teacher Training Programme, email
r.horne@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk for more information

Are you interested in training to become a primary school teacher?

Visit the YSA website www.yarrowteachingschoolalliance.co.uk to find out more about what is on offer.

