



School Newsletter

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

13.12.24

Dear parents and carers,

Junior Christmas Concert Monday 16th December at 6.00pm

The children in the juniors (Y3 to Y6) will be performing their Christmas concert and tableau in Church on the evening of **Monday 16th December at 6.00pm.**



Prior to that, they will have one final practice at Church **on Monday morning.** Please could you drop the children off from 0845 at Church. They will walk back to school after the practice, which will finish just after 11am. If any parents or carers are available at 11am to accompany us on our walk back from Church, we would be extremely grateful. If you are able to help, please let your child's class teacher know.

On Monday evening, we would like all the children to meet in the Church. We would ask children to arrive no earlier than **5.45pm** and no later than **5.55pm.** We would like the Y4s to arrive wearing their costumes to save time on getting changed in Church and to allow for a prompt start at 6pm.

Parents/ carers can come into Church with their children when they arrive; they do not need to wait outside.

Children must wear full uniform and look smart please - and can coats and other belongings to be left with parents, please.

The performance will start at 6.00pm and will last between 40 minutes and an hour at the most. There will be a collection at the end for: St Catherine's Hospice, Derian House and Meningitis Now and to contribute towards the Church's heating costs for the evening. Father Marsden estimates the cost of heating the Church is about £10 an hour and to get it warmed up for 6pm, the heating has to be switched on at 1pm!

Father Marsden asks that whilst you are waiting in church for the concert to begin, that noise/conversations be kept down to a minimum in respect of the location and for any members of the congregation who may be in church to say prayers.

Christmas Fayre

Thank you all for your terrific support of the Christmas Fair, last week. The money has been counted and the total raised is near enough **£1500**. That is a fantastic amount and will be put to good use throughout the year, to enhance the children's learning and experiences at school. Thank you very much!



And a big thank you to all the helpers on the night – much appreciated. And another big thank you to Mrs Root and the PTFA team for your time and effort to bring about the event and making it run so smoothly.

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity Christmas Collection

Thank you so much for your generous donations to this charity. The items will be collected on Monday afternoon.

KS2 visit to The Jungle Book, Octagon Theatre Thursday 5th December

The KS2 classes went to watch a performance of Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book* at the Bolton Octagon Theatre on Thursday, last week. Thank you to the PTFA for funding the coach travel and thank you to Mrs Nicklin and Mrs Wilson for organising. A big thank you to all the adult volunteers who accompanied too. The children enjoyed the wonderful live theatrical experience.

EYFS and KS1 visit to the Lowry – *The Stick Man* – Monday 16th December

The nursery and infant classes are off the Lowry in Manchester on Monday morning to watch a live performance of *The Stick Man*, based on the children's book by Julia Donaldson and Alex Sheffler.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Party Days next week

Wednesday, 18th December - Whole school Christmas lunch day, children can wear either a Christmas T-shirt in replacement of their school shirt or a Christmas jumper in replacement of their school jumper/cardigan. The remainder of their uniform must be worn as normal - this is not a non-uniform day! Thank you.

Thursday, 19th December - Christmas party day, children can come in party clothes but sensible shoes must be worn and coats suitable for the weather.

Christmas Performances:

Well done to all the children in the nursery and the infant classes for their wonderful Nativity performances during this week.

The **Nursery** and **Reception** children were fantastic in their acting, singing and in remembering their lines for their Nativity performance of **Wriggly Nativity**. It was a brilliant performance and made parents and school staff, alike, very proud. Well done!



Well done to **Year 1 and Year 2** for their Nativity, **The Nativity Story**. The two classes combined extremely well to tell the story of the birth of Jesus two thousand years ago. They spoke very clearly, sang beautifully and acted their parts very well. Many family members commented on how nice it was to see a traditional Nativity with hymns and songs that they had learned when they were young.

As I said at the end of all the performances, these productions serve as one of the ways in which the children learn the story of the first coming of Christ and they help them prepare for Christmas Day which is now only a few days away.

Thank you to all the staff and volunteers for their hard work in preparing the children so well and for their work on the set design this year. Thank you, parents, for supporting all our performances in great number and for contributing to our collections.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES at St Mary's Church, Chorley

CHRISTMAS EVE (24th)

16.00 Carols.

16.30 Mass

After the Christmas Eve Mass, everyone is invited to the parish centre for some free hot food.

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS: 09.30

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays 16.15 – 16.45

Advent Service of Reconciliation

at St Gregory's, Sunday 15th at 15.00



Chorley Schools Sports Partnership CSSP Christmas Holiday Club message

We have a Christmas sports holiday club running in Chorley from the 23rd-24th December, the 30th-31st December & the 2nd-3rd January.

We also have a number of free sessions available to book for children entitled to benefit related free school meals, under the HAF programme. Please see flyer at the end of the newsletter.

CSSP Christmas Competition – message from the CSSP

Hi all,

I appreciate there is a lot going on at the moment but we are holding a competition on the CSSP Facebook and Instagram called "Team Blues 12 Moves" where we are asking children to learn a Christmas dance that we have filmed and send video entries of them recreating it to win a large goodie bag.

We are aiming to select one boy and one girl. I have attached a photo of the prizes and the dance video itself.

Video entries should be submitted to me via this email address a.brown@chorleyssp.co.uk with the child's name, year group and school name by 6pm Tuesday 17th December where the winners will be announced shortly after.

Take a look at our social media pages on Instagram and Facebook - that would be fantastic. Everyone loves winning prizes!

First Holy Communion Badge Competition

The First Holy Communion Badge Competition is back for its second year! Children preparing to make their First Holy Communion next spring are invited to design a badge to commemorate the special day.

The badge will be round and roughly the size of a £2 coin, and participants can only use up to 5 colours, including black and white. To get the template and enter the competition, use the form and template attached to this email and email your entry to badges@rcaol.org.uk

All entries need to be in by 27 January.

Vacancy - Breakfast Club assistant

Are there any parents, carers interested in working for an hour, 0745 – 0845, each day in the Breakfast Club? If you are interested or you know of anybody else who is, please contact Mrs Wilson at the school office. office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk or 01257 262811.

2024 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES – PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

Primary School Admissions September 2025: If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/> for a September 2025 start.

It is quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

VERY IMPORTANT: You must apply even if you already have siblings in a school. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school. The national closing date for primary applications is **15 January 2025**. Between now and 15th January all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the school's published admissions policy for school year 2024 – 2025
<https://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/admissions>

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

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>



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League

2024/2025 w/e 13.12.24.



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 6	98.34
2nd	YEAR 3	97.45
3rd	YEAR 1	97.26
4th	YEAR 4	97.26
5th	YEAR 5	97.18
6th	YEAR 2	97.16
7th	RECEPTION	96.73

No 100% attendance this week.

Star of the Week 13.12.24

Class	Name	Star of the week for... Value of the week for showing value of 'compassion' Dojo Champion
Nursery	S All Children	For a fabulous Nativity performance
	V Martha	Being compassionate to her friends.
	S Avaeha	For trying hard and having a positive attitude all week
	V Lily Anais	For being so kind towards their friends
Y1	Dojo Mila	
	S Scarlett	Trying her best with her independent writing this week.
	V Tommy D	For being kind and caring towards his friends.
Y2	Dojo Hallie	
	S Noah	Super ideas for an innovated Mog story.
	V Alex	Being a compassionate member of the class.
Y3	Dojo Keeley and James R	
	S Leo	For BOTH working hard in lessons and being exceptionally polite in class
	V Sienna	Always shows compassion for others
Y4	S Sebastian P	For his wonderful artwork.
	V Agustina	For always showing compassion to others.
Y5	S William W	Being ready to learn and having a positive attitude all week
	V Charles	Helping a friend when they were upset
Y6	S Freddie	New chapter for the Wizard of Oz written in the style of L Frank Baum.
	V Sofia S	For seeing that someone needed help and just helping.

An update on Penalty Charge Notices issued for unauthorised absence

These changes came into effect on 19 August 2024.

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.

- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

PTFA future dates

PTFA Meeting - Tuesday 4th February - time to be confirmed

PTFA Meeting - Tuesday 29th April - time to be confirmed

Ladies Party Night - Friday 27th June - St Mary's Parish Centre

Best wishes, Patrick Smyth 13.12.24

rhythmicality™

bonding families and promoting wellbeing through music, dance, crafts and play

FREE DROP IN Brew, Chat & Play

Join us every Thursday (Term Time)

From 7th November 2024

10.45am-11.45am @Tatton Gardens

Community Centre Chorley (Off Eaves Lane)

Children 0-4 Years
Parents, Grandparents &
Foster Parents Welcome

- Free Refreshments
- Stories
- Crafts
- Parenting Support



Book or just turn up



07738659598

or Email

Joanna@rhythmicality.co.uk



Chorley
Council





QualitySport
Holiday Clubs

CHORLEY CHRISTMAS 2024 SPORTS CAMP!

23-24
DEC
2024

SPORTS • GAMES • FUN

LOCATION: ST GEORGES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARR LN, CHORLEY, PR7 3JU



30-31
DEC
2024

• HAF PLACES AVAILABLE! •

LOCATION: ST GEORGES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARR LN, CHORLEY, PR7 3JU

02-03
JAN
2025

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LOCATION: ST GEORGES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARR LN, CHORLEY, PR7 3JU

Website:
www.qualitysport.co.uk

Telephone:
07507579852

Email:
info@qualitysport.co.uk

HAF PLACES AVAILABLE AT THIS SITE!

PLEASE NOTE THAT HAF BOOKINGS FOR THIS SITE ARE DONE THROUGH HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Lancashire
County Council

 Department for Education

Quality Sport Holiday Clubs are a professional holiday club provider serving Greater Manchester and Lancashire. We have been running successful holiday clubs for over 15 years and are extremely passionate about childcare, physical education and the development of children.



Rest assured that our OFSTED registered clubs are led by fully qualified, enhanced DBS checked, paediatric first aid and safeguarding trained professionals.

Some of Our Activities:

- ✓ Gymnastics
- ✓ Airtrack
- ✓ Football
- ✓ Rugby
- ✓ Dodgeball
- ✓ Talent Show Performances
- ✓ Tennis
- ✓ Basketball
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Baking



To secure your child's place, book online at www.qualitysport.co.uk



PRICES

Full Day (8:30am-5:30pm)	£28
Activity Day (10am-4pm)	£22
Activity Day & Breakfast Club (8:30am-4pm)	£26
Activity Day & Chill Out Club (10am-5:30pm)	£26
Christmas Eve (8:30am-3pm)	£22
New Years Eve (8:30am-3pm)	£22

We offer sibling discount which is automatically applied when booking. We accept child care vouchers & tax free childcare. Receipts can also be provided to claim fees back through universal credit too.

We have a convenient online booking system where parents can 24/7 and pay by card or childcare vouchers. To pay by childcare vouchers, simply click 'pay by childcare vouchers' on check out then a member of staff will be in touch to arrange payment with your relevant voucher company.