



School Newsletter

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

15th November 2019

Dear parents,

General Election 12th December 2020 - Unavoidable School Closure

It has been confirmed by Chorley Borough Council that there will be polling in Chorley as there are three candidates standing for election. Therefore, the school and nursery will be **closed** to children on **Thursday 12th December** as it will be being used as a polling station.

RE monitoring Visit – Tuesday 12th November

In September 2016, we received an RE inspection which found the school to be outstanding in RE, Catholic Life and Collective Worship. Our next RE inspection will be in in the school year 2021/2022.

We received an interim visit on Tuesday by one of the education officers from the Archdiocese of Liverpool Education Department. She told us that the school was maintaining its high standards in all areas and she gave us some pointers to what we could do even better. In an email to me on Tuesday evening she ended with: *Well done – you [St Mary's] have a lovely, happy school.*

New Chair of Governors

Mrs Rogerson has stepped down from the role of Chair of the Governing Board of St Mary's and has taken up the position of Vice- Chair. Mrs Smith was appointed Chair in her place. Mrs Rogerson has been the Chair since September 1994; that represents an incredible 25 years of service to the children and families of this school and nursery. On behalf of everybody associated with St Mary's past and present, we say a big thank you to her for her time, dedication and commitment in her role. We do so in the knowledge we will not be losing her expertise as she stays on the board.

Congratulations to Mrs Smith, who has also given many years of service to the school, and we thank her for stepping up to this very important and responsible role.

Parents Evening Y3 and Y4

The Y3 and Y4 parents evening will take place on **Wednesday 20th November** after school. The online booking system is live but closes at midday, Tuesday 19th November. If you have difficulty accessing, please contact the school office.

As with the parents' evening earlier on in the term, the meetings are of five minutes duration and you can also come along and look at the work in the children's books. In the past, parents have told us that they didn't need such an early in the year parents' evening and that they are happy the way their children have settled into their new class. That is why we reduced it to five minutes per meeting. So, we don't want you to feel obliged to attend but we don't want to put you off either!

There will be a longer, more in-depth parents' evening in the spring term lasting 10 minutes, where the teachers will be able to talk in more detail about your child's progress.

Anti- Bullying Week

Next week we will be spending some time looking at the problem of bullying and what we can do to keep ourselves and other safe from it.

Parent Questionnaire

Mrs Wilson sent out a questionnaire to parents via **GroupCall** a couple of weeks ago. Please take time to have a look at and complete if you haven't done so already. It helps us as we continually try to improve what we do in giving the children the best education possible. There have been over 160 responses so far, so thank you very much. The survey will close on Monday. We'll be giving the children the chance to have their say over the next couple of weeks too.

Judaism Week

The children have been learning about Judaism this week in school. Today we welcomed a visitor from the Pendle Faith Centre, Amy Troner, who spoke with children first in assembly and then in their classes about the Jewish faith.



In Y1, she taught the children a prayer and the boys got to wear a Kippah.

A message from Mrs Wilson, School Business Manager

We've registered with **Easyfundraising** and we need your help!



Easyfundraising is a great website where you can help Chorley, St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 4,000 big name retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S.

Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say ‘thank you’ and it’s completely free too! We want to raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chorleystmaryscatholicprimaryschoolandnursery/>
Mrs Grandi’s Choir

Blackburn music outreach (Sing Together team) came to visit the choir on Thursday morning to teach us 3 new songs. We had a wonderful time and were praised for making a lovely sound! 🎵



Synod 2020 Chorley Pastoral Area

A message from Mr Hodge regarding SYNOD 2020:



Theme 1 – All Called And Gifted By God The deadline for submitting proposals based on this theme is this SUNDAY! Here is the link for anyone wishing to submit proposals - <https://synod2020.co.uk/themes/proposals/vocations#>

Theme 2 - Sharing The Mission of Jesus
[Can the Church in Chorley rise to the Challenge?](#)

3 Big Questions

What does the Church in Chorley need to do to:

1. *more effectively evangelise and lead people to a deeper relationship with Christ? Catholics, lapsed Catholics and non-Catholics*
2. *show the compassionate love of Christ in Chorley & Beyond*
3. *equip lay people to be the presence of Christ at work, at home, in the street?*

Come and Have Your Say! – You Will Be Listened To!

Themes	St Chad’s Social Club	St Mary’s Social Club	Sacred Heart Primary
Sharing The Mission of Jesus	Tuesday 19 th November Main Room 7.30pm	Wednesday 20 th November Upstairs Rooms 7.30pm	Thursday 21 st November 7.30pm

Applying for School Places September 2020

PRIMARY

Nursery/ pre-school children – due to start Reception class in primary school in September 2020. The statutory **closing date is 15 January 2020.**

The application to be made by the closing date using this direct link:

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

Should you need any help, support or guidance, the Pupil Access Office Contacts are listed below
 Preston, South Ribble, West Lancashire and Chorley
 01772-532109

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

****Please remember that admissions to St Mary's, or any Catholic primary schools, also require the completion of the separate supplementary information form (SIF).****

Blackburn Hawks Ice Hockey



A representative from Blackburn Hawks ice hockey team came in to speak to the children on Wednesday in assembly. He told them about aspects of the game, he showed them all the kit involved, including lots of padding and invited a couple of them up to have a practice at scoring a goal.

Thank you to Kian in Y6 for volunteering to dress up as mascot, Harvey the Hawk. Your child will have a leaflet with the offer of £1 a ticket to watch a match and to stay behind to skate on the ice afterwards.

Break time snacks

Children (and staff) do get a bit peckish around about break time and we are happy for them to have a snack. Our policy is for this snack to be toast or a piece of fruit on Monday to Thursday and a snack of their choice on a Friday. The school provides toast which works out at 20p a day on a pre-ordered basis. Alternatively, children may bring in a snack from home. We do ask that all pupils adhere to this rule. **Chocolate bars, sweets and crisps are not allowed on Monday to Thursday.**



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League 2019/2020



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1 st	YEAR 3	98.73
2 nd	YEAR 1	97.94
3 rd	YEAR 4	97.63
4 th	YEAR 6	97.04
5 th	RECEPTION	96.99
6 th	YEAR 5	96.58
7 th	YEAR 2	96.38

W/e 15.11.19

Little Church

Little Church is the Liturgy of the Word for children. St Mary's Church Parish welcomes families and the full participation of young children in the celebration of the Mass. Since 1987, children at St Mary's have enjoyed their own Liturgy of the Word through 'Little Church' at the 10.30am Sunday Mass.

Health and Safety notices

To prevent accidents from happening please keep children from playing on school equipment at the end and start of the school day. I will remind children in school as well. Thank you.

Parking




By way of a reminder at the start of the school year, I would appreciate your co-operation in parking safely and considerately at drop-off and pick-up times. **Please do not park on the staff carpark, the yellow zig zag lines** outside the gates and please do not park **across resident's driveways**. Thank you.

School entrance

At the start and end of the school day there are two entrances to the school in use: Walgarth Drive and Warton Place. The Warton place entrance can also be accessed from Hornchurch Drive via the alleyway that runs parallel to the staff car park. **Please do not use the path in the staff car park entrance.** This may only be used during the school day when the other entrances are locked.

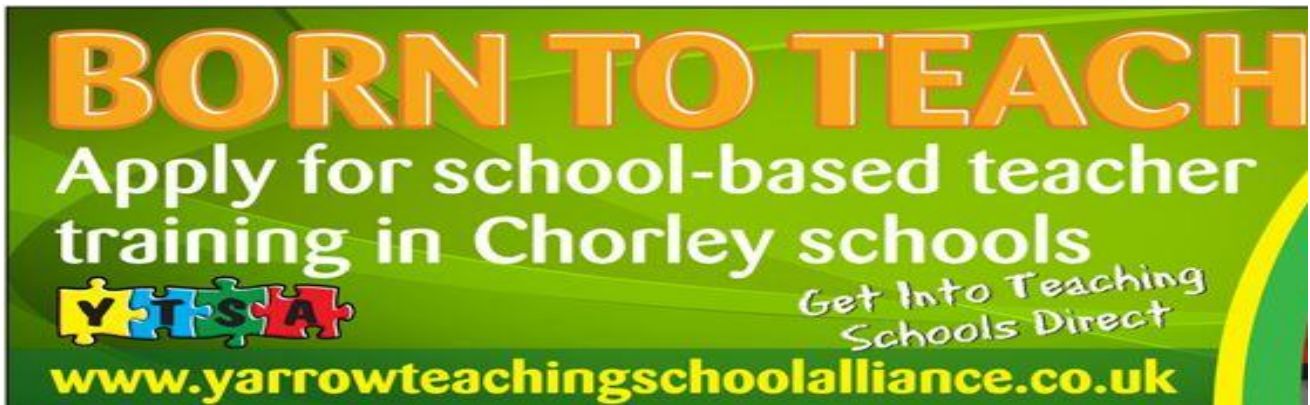
STAR OF THE WEEK w/e 15.11.19

	Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
	YN	Antoni	Trying new things and joining in with his friends.
	YR	Sam	Fantastic writing. Sam tried really hard when writing a sentence.
	Y1	Alice	Her excellent writing and her enthusiasm for work.
	Y2	Charlotte	Fabulous mathematics finding symmetry in shape.
	Y3	Amelia	Last day at St Mary's – good luck!
	Y4	William G	Excellent attitude and listening and for contributing well especially on mathematics.
	Y5	Oliver	Excellent contributions during our PE lessons with Miss Moss.
	Y6	Sophie	A great poem on the theme of cyclones.

Notable Dates –
AUTUMN TERM 2019

Autumn HT - 2		
	November	
4 HUMILITY Anti Bullying Week	19	Nasal Flu Vaccinations from 0900 - 1430
	21	World Philosophy Day
5 COMPASSION		
	December	
6 CELEBRATION	2	Sacramental Class - First Confessions School
	6	Nativity EYFS Dress Rehearsal 0915 - 1015
	6	Nativity KS1 Dress Rehearsal
7 DEMOCRACY	9	Y3-6 Attend Mass Immaculate Conception/ Advent Mass
	10	Nativity - KS1 performance to parents 0930 – 1030 TBC - Details to follow
	10	Nativity - KS1 performance to parents 1830 – 1930 - TBC - Details to follow
	11	Nativity – EYFS performance to parents 0915- 1015 - TBC - Details to follow
	11	Nativity – EYFS performance to parents 1700- 1800 - TBC - Details to follow
	12	KS2 Carol Concert Practice – Church
	13	Panto Trip - Rec - Yr 6
8 FORGIVENESS	16	Carol Concert
	19	Party Day
	20	End of term

P Smyth 15.11.19



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

Have you considered school-based training?

We have vacancies now to start training **in September 2020** and we would be very interested to hear from you if you are thinking of becoming a teacher or know someone who is. We are looking for people who have (or will have) a degree, have a passion for teaching and want to make a difference to the lives of the children of Chorley.

To help you if you're interested keep an eye out for Open Events.

The events will take place at;

St George's CE Primary School, Carr Lane, Chorley, Lancs PR7 3JU.

Please contact the Director of Teaching School, Bernard Golding,

b.golding@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk to reserve your place.

Visit our website www.yarrowteachingschoolalliance.co.uk to find out more about

what is on offer.