



School Newsletter

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

16th May 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Well done to our Y6 class who completed their SATs this week, in very warm conditions. They can look forward to an enjoyable few weeks as they come to the end of their time at St Mary's. Congratulations to them all this week on their 100% attendance too!

Year 4 Sacramental Class – First Holy Communion

The children in the Y4 sacramental class will be receiving their First Holy Communion at St Mary's this Sunday 18th May at the 0930 Mass. We wish them all the very best on this very special day in their journey of faith. On Monday in school, they will have a tea party, to which their parents and carers are invited. Here they can bring along any Communion gifts that they have received to be blessed by Deacon Norman.

Y5 and 6 trip to the Lancashire Science Festival 2025 at UCLAN

Our Y5 and Y6 classes attended the Lancashire Science Festival 2025 today at UCLAN in Preston. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience a university environment and to learn some exciting new science. The staff who attended said the children behaved very well and were highly engaged in all the activities. Thank you to our parent helpers who came along and thank you to Mrs Banwell, our science lead, for organising this visit.

UCLAN asked us to share some information about an exciting, free family event tomorrow with you — the public day at Lancashire Science Festival 2025, hosted by the University of Central Lancashire.

*The public day takes place on **Saturday 17 May, between 9am and 4pm** at our Preston Campus. As always, we have a fantastic, packed programme of jaw-dropping live shows, eye-popping demonstrations and hands-on workshops led by some of today's leading lights in the STEM fields designed to ignite curiosity and inspire all ages.*

You can find out more about the festival at: [Lancashire Science Festival - Lancashire Science Festival](#)
I have also attached a poster to this newsletter.

EYFS Stay and Play

Thank you to the staff, children and parents who made last week's outdoor *Stay and Play* session so enjoyable and fun. The children loved having their parents and carers in school, coming to see what they do when they are in their place of work!

EYFS Reception Class Induction Afternoon

Next Tuesday afternoon, we welcome parents, carers and children of the new reception intake (September 2025) to an induction afternoon. The children will spend time in their new classroom and the staff will introduce themselves to parents and share important information with them to help their children settle in quickly and happily to school life.

Y1 Trip 'Bring Yer Wellies'

Yesterday, Mrs Cahalin took her Y1 class on the 'Bring Yer Wellies' trip to Ricraft Nurseries in Hoghton. Despite not having to take their wellies due to the beautiful weather, the children had an amazing day and all had wide smiles across their faces when they got back to school. Mrs Cahalin reports, *We were all so proud of the children's behaviour and beautiful manners. They worked together on team building activities and spent the whole day learning outdoors. It was an amazing experience surrounded by open countryside. One child said 'it looks just like a painting'. Thanks to Mrs Grayken, Mrs Morgan, Mrs Houghton and Miss Keighley for giving up their time to accompany us and making it such a special day.*



PTFA Meeting Tuesday 20 May at 6pm in school – message from Mrs Wilson

We are writing to invite you all to the PTFA meeting that is to be held in school on **Tuesday, 20th May at 6pm**. Every parent and carer is automatically a member of the PTFA once your child starts school.

At the meeting, planning will be undertaken for forthcoming events e.g. Ladies Night and the Summer Fair and we would welcome your support and any ideas for other fundraising events. We often get asked why we don't do more events - it's simply because there is currently only a small team of us and we do need more people to get involved. We appreciate the support given in attending, donating and assisting at events but a bigger team involved in planning could help us achieve so much more. Can you help?

The PTFA support is invaluable in our school to assist with the subsidising of school trips, paying for visiting authors/illustrators and the purchase of books and leavers gifts etc.

Please come along and help to ensure that the PTFA will be able to continue supporting your child's education.

We look forward to welcoming you at the meeting.

Mrs Wilson

Exciting Changes in Our School Library!

We are delighted to share that our school library has recently been streamlined to make it an even more enjoyable and accessible space for all our pupils. Our aim is to foster a lifelong love of reading by offering children a wide range of engaging books in a well-organized, welcoming environment.

As part of this update, we kindly ask for your support in helping children look after their library books and return them promptly once they have finished reading. With a more focused collection, it is especially important that books are returned so others can enjoy them too. Unfortunately, we are unable to keep replacing missing books in large numbers.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope all our children continue to take pleasure in spending time in our wonderful school library and discovering the joy of reading.

Year 4s – Smartphone free childhood



Year 4 parents, keep an eye out for communications regarding Smartphone free childhood. Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots movement bringing parents together to stand up for healthier, happier childhoods. There are a couple of Y4 parents and governors giving a lead on this. For more information check out the website <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

If parents from any other year group are interested, please contact me at school.

Online Safety Webinar for Parents

Knowsley Learning Centre, who provide our monthly online safety newsletters, have produced their termly Online Safety Webinar for parents and carers. I would highly recommend it. This term's webinar covers:

- 1 current trends,
 - 2 understanding the risks,
 - 3 what can parents/ carers do?
 - 4 practical tips and advice for parents/ carers.
- Follow this link to access.

See the webinar at the link:

<https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/online-safety-parent-session-may-2025/>

Snapchat

I am aware that some of the older pupils in school have been using Snapchat. I would strongly advise against its use by primary age children given that the minimum age limit is 13 years of age. Our safeguarding governor sent me this useful link from **Internet Matters** for parents and carers–
<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/snapchat/>

It provides a wealth of advice including what to do if you encounter harmful content on Snapchat.

Health and Safety

Staff Car Park and Front entrance use

Unfortunately, some parents and carers are still using the staff car park, particularly during breakfast and after school club times. This creates a safety risk for both pedestrians and other users. Over the coming week, I will be monitoring the situation closely. If necessary, we may need to close the car park gates during these times to ensure everyone's safety. Thank you to those who are already following this policy—it is greatly appreciated.

Additionally, please remember not to use the car park footpath during drop-off and pick-up times. Instead, we kindly ask that you use the Warton Place or Walgarth Drive entrances.

If grandparents or other family members collect your child, please pass this message on to them as well. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school site safe for everyone.

Star of the Week 16.05.25

Class		Name	Star of the week for... Value of the week for showing value of sacrifice Dojo Champion
Nursery	s	Logan	Great work in nursery
	v	Joe	Demonstrating value of sacrifice
	Dojo	Martha	
R	s	Lilly	For a fantastic attitude for learning
	v	Darcy A	For sacrificing her time to practise her phonics
	Dojo	Darcy A	
Y1	s	The whole class	Excellent behaviour on the school trip.
	v	Brody	Sacrificing his time to practise his maths.
	Dojo	Maddy	
Y2	s	Keely	Being an all round superstar
	v	Billey	Sacrificing his time to help others
	Dojo	Jacob	
Y3	s	Brodie	Amazing attitude to learning all week.
	v	Teddy	Always happy to sacrifice time for others.
Y4	s	Buddy G	For his great use of scientific language when talking about the water cycle.
	v	George H	For always sacrificing his own time to help others.
Y5	s		ON VISIT TO UCLAN SCIENCE FESTIVAL
	v		
Y6	s		ON VISIT TO UCLAN SCIENCE FESTIVAL
	v		

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>

Attendance



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League

2024/2025 w/e 16.05.25



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 6	98.27
2nd	YEAR 1	97.66
3rd	YEAR 3	97.65
4th	YEAR 4	97.51
5th	YEAR 2	97.40
6th	YEAR 5	96.89
7th	RECEPTION	96.47

Two classes achieved **100%** attendance this week. Congratulations to **Year 2** and **Year 6**

Attendance measure	Percentage	Ranking ⓘ
Overall attendance	97.5%	You are ranked 4th out of 485 schools
Overall absence	2.5%	You are ranked 4th out of 485 schools
Authorised absence	2.2%	You are ranked 17th out of 485 schools
Unauthorised absence	0.3%	You are ranked 10th out of 485 schools
Persistently absent	1.6%	You are ranked 13th out of 485 schools
Severely absent	0.0%	You are ranked 1st out of 485 schools

Our attendance data compared to other Lancashire Schools as on 15.05.25

We are still in the **top 1%** - well done children, parents and carers!

PTFA future dates

PTFA meeting – Tuesday 20th May in school

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

Patrick Smyth 16.05.25

FRIENDS OF ADLINGTON LIBRARY

HALF TERM CRAFTS



ON THURSDAY 29TH MAY

9.45am to 10.45am or

11am to 12pm

**BEADS, BUTTONS, AND
BLING**

**DECORATING ITEMS AND PICTURES,
MOSAICS AND JEWELLRY,**

*****booking recommended*****

**BOOK YOUR PLACE ON LINE AT LCC OR
AT ADLINGTON LIBRARY OR RING**

07955507734

FIND US ON FACEBOOK, AND INSTAGRAM

Chorley Marlins

We have been contacted by Chorley Marlins swimming club:

Good morning

I am emailing on behalf of Chorley Marlins Amateur Swimming Club. We are currently looking for new members to join the club and I think this may be of interest to some of your pupils. Chorley Marlins has been providing learn to swim lessons, swimming coaching and opportunities to participate in competitive swimming to young people locally for over fifty years. We are a voluntary group with the aim of developing swimming locally and getting more young people active

Could you please share the attached flyers with parents by including it with your newsletter?



The flyer features a large background image of a swimmer in a pool. In the top left corner is the Chorley Marlins logo, which depicts a marlin leaping from the water. The text 'We are recruiting new members' is prominently displayed in the upper right. The club's name, 'CHORLEY MARLINS AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB', is written in large, bold, white capital letters across the middle. Below this, a list of benefits for joining a swimming club is provided. Two smaller inset photographs show children in a pool: one sitting on a blue mat and another performing a swimmer's start. At the bottom, contact information and the club's website are listed.

CHORLEY MARLINS
AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB

We are recruiting
new members

Benefits of joining a swimming club include:

- Learn valuable life skills
- Developing stroke technique
- A fun way to get exercise and improve fitness
- Develop confidence, team work and social skills
- Meet new people and make new friends
- Friendly competition among other members
- Opportunity to enter swimming galas
- The chance to represent the club in team competitions
- Swimming compliments a wide range of sports

Chorley Marlins ASC are looking for new members at all levels including beginners, pre-competition, training squads and Masters (18+).

Please email cmadmin@chorleymarlins.org.uk or visit our website for more information and to arrange a **free trial session**.

Mini Marlins groups are open to children aged 4+.

chorleymarlins.org.uk

Chorley Brownies – a number of our girls attend this Brownies group and I have been asked to publicise the group by a parent who says, *'it is the only Brownies group around this side of Chorley and is a great group.'*



This is what we like about
OUR Brownie pack

Fun - Friends - Make
things - Kind leaders -
Play games - Earn badges -
Make new Friends
Come and join us - everyone
is welcome
8th Chorley Trinity

Brownies

8th Chorley Trinity Brownies
We meet at Chorley Methodist Church on a Wednesday

**Girls have nonstop fun,
learning and adventure**
for ages 7 to 10

At Brownies, we welcome all girls to explore their creative side,
get out into the great outdoors and start to learn to look after
themselves, others and the world we live in.


girlguiding

To find out more phone, text or Whatsapp Liz on 07906 467089

Compass Bloom Mental Health & Wellbeing for children – parent referral details below



PARENT/CARER CONSULTATIONS

We offer a free and confidential service supporting children and young people, aged 5-18, with mild to moderate emotional health and wellbeing needs. We work with schools and colleges throughout Chorley, South Ribble, Preston and West Lancs.

Are you the parent/carer of a young person who is experiencing mild to moderate anxiety or low mood?

This could look like:



FEELING
WORRIED



STRUGGLING
TO
SLEEP



WITHDRAWAL
FROM FAMILY,
FRIENDS
AND/OR USUAL
ACTIVITIES



STRUGGLING TO
CONCENTRATE



TEARFUL

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE YOUR CHILD/YOUNG PERSON WE CAN HELP!

If your young person attends one of our 63 schools we can offer a consultation with one of our friendly practitioners.

They can offer you advice, guidance and signposting to support you to support your child/young person.

To complete our consultation form Scan our QR Code or type in the web address below into your web browser.

<https://forms.office.com/e/x1asaVTeTL>



COMPASSBLOOM@COMPASS-UK.ORG



COMPASSBLOOM



01772 280123

UNIT 8 BALFOUR COURT, OFF HOUGH LANE, LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE, PR25 2TF