



School Newsletter

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

16.09.22

Dear parents/ carers,

We say goodbye and good luck to Mrs Nicklin who begins her maternity leave today.

Mass to celebrate the start of a new school year and to visit the relics of St Bernadette

The children from Y3 - Y6 attended Mass at St Mary's this morning to celebrate the start of a new school year. It was also an opportunity to visit the relics of St Bernadette. Our children were joined by children from schools right across Chorley.

Fr Marsden spoke to us all about the life of St Bernadette, of how Our Lady appeared to the young girl and of the miracles that have been performed at Lourdes ever since. At the end of Mass, he showered the children with Holy Water from the spring at Lourdes.



Thank you to Fr Marsden for celebrating Mass for us and again to Father and Kinga for allowing us to visit the relics. Thank you also to the parent volunteers who accompanied us today and a special thank you to Mrs Mason, our former deputy headteacher, who came to Mass and helped walk the children back from Church. It was lovely to see her.

<https://stbernadette.org.uk/>

Phonics meeting for parents of children in nursery, reception and Y1 Weds 21 September

There will be a meeting for parents and carers of children in nursery, reception and Y1 next Wednesday evening. Staff will share information with parents and carers about our phonics programme and how they can help children at home. Gaining phonics knowledge and skills early is vitally important; it gives children the fundamentals in learning to read and therefore their learning overall.

Sacramental Class Meeting for parents/ carers September 12th at 6pm

Thank you to Kinga for her presentation to the families involved in this year's Sacramental programme and thank you to the families for your attendance.

Democracy in action ... the election of house captains, vice-captains, school councillors and eco-councillors

The democratic process has been in full swing at St Mary's. This week children were invited to stand for office as class representatives of the school council, of the eco-council and for the positions of House Captain, House Vice-Captain and Sports Captains. The children gave their speeches and took part in elections. In assembly today, we were notified of the results. I will share details in next week's newsletter.

As ever, I would like to applaud all the children who took the time and made the effort to prepare and deliver speeches to persuade their class mates and fellow House members to elect them. I know having spoken to many children and parents how much it means to them. Congratulations to those who were elected and commiserations to those who were not. For those who were not elected this time, I know how disappointing this might feel and I would strongly encourage you to take up similar opportunities in the future. Well done and thank you for putting yourselves forward.

Today, in assembly, we applauded everybody who put themselves forward – we are very proud of you all. A great effort!

Roald Dahl Day Tuesday 13 September

Children and teachers marked Roald Dahl Day in school earlier this week. They took part in activities and revisited some of his stories.

Thank you Mrs Morgan and daughter Frankie

Margaret and Franky Morgan laid a condolence message and some flowers in Green Park, London, on behalf of the St Mary's school (see picture right).

Please remember school and nursery are closed for the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II on Monday 19 September.



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>

Ukraine Appeal

You may remember that last term, Veronica and Sofia raised money for the *International Aid Trust's*, Ukraine appeal by selling some home-made products. Thank you to your and their generosity, they raised £70.50 which they handed over to Rev. Bernard Crocker - see photo below.



The *International Aid Trust* are now appealing for wheelchairs, crutches and other mobility aids for injured soldiers and civilians in Ukraine – especially for the hospitals in Odessa which are treating the injured from the Kherson and Mykalaiv front lines.

St Mary's school & nursery loves reading – message from Miss Hesketh

St Mary's school and nursery believe passionately in the importance of reading and in promoting a love of reading in the children. We have been working hard to develop that love of reading still further with our children and staff.

Volunteer readers wanted!

One of the things, we would like is for people in our community to come in and read to the children. We have learned over time that the children love to hear different people read to them - not just their teachers and teaching assistants. It could be a regular thing or a one-off.

Miss Hesketh - *'We want to feed that love of reading at St Mary's. We want children to hear other members of our community read to them - they are inspired when they hear others do this. Could you spare a small amount of time to become a reading volunteer at St Mary's? It could be reading to the whole class or reading to smaller groups with the teacher there. If you are someone who is passionate about helping children to develop a lifelong love of reading, then please contact Miss Hesketh for further details via the school office.'*


Books for birthdays. Rather than sweets.

Celebrating children's birthdays in class with children's books, rather than bags of sweets, is something we are giving a go this year. We thought that rather than buying sweets for the whole class to celebrate a child's birthday, children could donate a book on their birthday to the class library. Over time, this would really expand the book collection in each class with titles and authors we know the children really enjoy.

During the course of each year, we have *Ebb & Flo* bookshop deliver gift-wrapped books to each class. You would not believe the excitement that causes even in the older classes! So, it's something we know the children will enjoy.

In the coming weeks, the class teacher will provide a list of suggested suitable books for the parents and we will cross off titles from the list as the year progresses. We realise that this may present an unnecessary expense for some, or that some would simply rather not do this, so there is absolutely no obligation and it is, of course, completely voluntary.

STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 16.09.22



Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Tommy D	Tommy is always kind and caring to his friends, he's always ready learn and always shares with his friends.
YR	James R	For beautiful manners and always following the rules correctly.
Y1	Lilah	For being a superstar and just getting on with her new learning.
Y2	Thomas	For always making super contributions to our lessons
Y3	Kristian	Excellent effort in maths all week looking at place value.
Y4	Cody	Trying hard with his writing and working hard in all lessons.
Y5	Owen	For superb contributions during our coding lesson.
Y6	Emilia K	Great work researching biomes



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League 2021/ 2022 16.09.22



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	RECEPTION	99.42
2nd	YEAR 2	98.67
3rd	YEAR 5	98.17
4th	YEAR 4	96.94
5th	YEAR 6	96.67
6th	YEAR 1	96.61
7th	YEAR 3	94.33

Well done reception class and well done to both reception and Year 5 on your **100%** attendance this week!

Best wishes,
P Smyth

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