



# School Newsletter

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

18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear parents and carers,

We are nearly at the end of term, and indeed the school year, and we have enjoyed a busy couple of weeks.

## **Leavers Performance *I'm a Celebrity – An Eleven-Year-Old, Get Me Out of Here!***

Last week the Y6s treated us to their end of year performance. The pupils took to the stage for their end-of-year performance, "*I'm a Celebrity – An Eleven-Year-Old, Get Me Out of Here!*" — a light-hearted and funny look back at their time in primary school.

The children performed with great enthusiasm, delivering their lines with confidence and singing beautifully. It was clear they were enjoying themselves, and their energy and humour brought plenty of smiles and laughter to the audience. One of the lines from the play was about how much the children had blossomed and grown: to all of us in the audience, that was plain to see.

They entertained both the school and their families, and it was lovely to see them finish their time at primary school on such a positive note. They should be very proud of what they achieved.

A big thank you to: Thomas Garrett for his technical support, Mrs Blackwell and Mrs Canavan for their help as assistant directors and Mr Cahalin, who directed the play and also took on the roles of set designer and prop maker. Well done, the whole Year 6 team - children and staff !

## **Year 6 Leavers' Mass and Party**

On Monday evening, we gathered in front of the woods and behind the Y5 classroom, for the Year 6 Leavers' Mass, celebrated by Father Marsden. It was a special occasion for the children and their families, marking the end of their time at primary school.

Thank you to the children for reading, for the offertory and for singing so well. We had a few sound problems with the speaker but the children overcame them without fuss.

We are very grateful to Father Marsden for leading the Mass, for his thoughtful homily, and for presenting the children with their Records of Achievement. Thank you to the parents, carers and family members who came along to support.

After the Mass, the children enjoyed their leavers' party, with plenty of pizza, chips, ice cream and music. It was a fun and relaxed way to celebrate together. Thank you to the PTFA for providing the food and drink!

Finally, thank you to all the staff who helped make the evening so enjoyable for the children.

## Y2 Stay and Pray

Thank you to Mrs Nicklin, Mrs Garrett and Mrs Ash for preparing the Y2 children so well for their Stay and Pray session earlier this week. Thank you to the parents and carers who came along to support. It was a lovely prayerful session; so well done and thanks to the Y2 children.

## PTFA Fundraising Update



*Project Playground*, is the big PTFA effort to improve the play equipment and outdoor spaces for the children. We're pleased to share a positive update on our fundraising efforts to improve both of our playground areas. Thanks to the generosity and support of our school community, we've already raised **£4,623.92** towards our target of **£20,000**.

Although the planned Ladies' Night had to be cancelled, a group of mums kindly organised their own informal "Mums' Night Out", which raised a fantastic **£253.92**. In addition, a further **£30** was donated from deposits originally made for the cancelled event.

We're really grateful to everyone who has contributed so far. The PTFA are working hard to make these improvements a reality, and every bit of support helps us get closer to our goal. Thank you once again for your continued kindness and involvement.

– The PTFA Team

## PTFA Summer Fair

We would like to extend a big thank you to our fantastic PTFA for organising this year's Summer Fair. It promises to be a fantastic event, full of fun and community spirit.

We are very grateful to all the helpers who have given up their time to set up, run stalls, and support the event in so many ways. And a big thank you to all of our families for their kind donations of toys, chocolates and bottles

A special thank you goes to Mrs Root for the many hours of hard work she put in behind the scenes to bring everything together. Her dedication and effort helps make the fair such a success each year.

Thank you again to everyone involved — your support helps make events like this possible and so enjoyable for our school community.

## THE ARCHDIOCESE BUILDING FUND & MONTHLY LOTTERY – message from the school office

### School Development Fund Draw

Congratulations to the winners for 2024/2025

- Mrs C Quin
- Mrs C Corris
- Mrs S Canavan
- Mrs K Kos
- Mrs A Brown
- Mrs R Hodge
- Mrs R Marsh
- Mrs N Chester
- Mrs D Balch
- Mr M Cahalin

Special congratulations go to Mrs S Biddulph who wins the bumper summer draw of £25!

If you would like to take part in the School Development Fund Draw for 2025/2026, please watch out for the Groupcall form which will be sent to you at the end of term. This explains how the draw works, how much it costs to join per month/year and how you can pay. It will give you the bank details to set up a standing order mandate to start in September, or you can send cash to school when we return in September.

Thank you for your continued support.

### Why we do it

As a Catholic Voluntary Aided School we are required to make a 10% contribution towards funding the major repairs to our school building. This amount is collected by means of a levy paid to the Archdiocese Schools Building Fund. Currently the cost of this is approximately £1,560 per year.

St Mary's school levy has always been a voluntary contribution from parents in the form of the School Development Draw - **a monthly lottery**.

There are approximately 160 families at St Mary's. A voluntary contribution from families of £1.00 a month (£12.00 per year) would help cover the cost of the levy and the lottery prize fund. All contributors participate in the monthly draw and we award prizes of £10 per month, with a special draw in July for a prize of £25. Contributors can be from parents, carers, aunties, uncles, grandparents - all we ask is that they are over 18 years of age.

### PAYMENT

Paying into the fund is easy; most conveniently by a Standing Order set up with your bank from **September** for either £1.00 per month or £12.00 per year. All you need to do is give your bank the details of who and where to pay and we can provide that on request.

Alternatively, we can accept an annual payment of £12.00 by cash; please **send to the office in September (not your child's classroom!)** in a sealed envelope marked with your child's name and "School Development Fund" on the front. This payment method will mean you have one entry for one academic year and **this amount should be paid each September so that your membership doesn't lapse**.

Once payment is received, we will allocate you with a number and this will remain yours until you decide to cancel your membership permanently. However, we do have many parents who are still members long after their children have left St Mary's!

## UNDECIDED?

You may decide not to enter the draw this time, but you can join at any time in the future (just contact the school office) and we will also send out invitations each September. THANK YOU!

## Reading Challenge for the Summer Holidays

This year's theme is *Reading Heroes*, and the challenge is simple – can the children read five books (or more!) over the summer holidays? There are also some extra mini-challenges to complete along the way, with prizes and rewards available for those who take part.

It's a great way to keep up reading habits over the break – we're looking forward to hearing how everyone gets on. Ten children did it last year – I think far more might have a go this year!

## St Mary's Beavers/ Cubs

St Mary's Beavers/Cubs are still running at the Hodder Avenue Scout Hut every Friday during term time 5.30pm - 6.30pm. Please contact [jacqueline.malone@chorleyscouts.org.uk](mailto:jacqueline.malone@chorleyscouts.org.uk) for more information

## Smartphone free childhood



Keep an eye out for information via the parents's Whatsapp groups about Smartphone Free Childhood. It is a grassroots movement bringing parents together to stand up for healthier, happier childhoods. There are a couple of our governors doing a great job 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.

## 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>

## Books for Birthdays – Thank You!

Back in November 2022, we decided to try something a little different when it came to celebrating birthdays in school. Instead of bringing in sweets to share, we invited families to donate a book to the class library – and the response has been fantastic.

Thank you for all your support over the past few years. Your generosity has helped us to build up our class libraries with a wide range of modern, engaging, and much-loved children's books. The idea was always to grow each class's collection with titles we know the children really enjoy, and that's exactly what has happened.

Throughout the year, Ebb & Flo bookshop deliver gift-wrapped birthday books to classrooms – and the excitement this causes, even in the older year groups, is brilliant to see!

Don't forget to check out your child's Class Dojo page, where we've posted or are posting the updated *Birthday Book* lists full of fantastic reading suggestions.

## Star of the Week – w/e 11.07.25

Class		Name	Star of the week for... self-esteem Value of the week for showing value of <b>fairness</b> Dojo Champion
Nursery	s	All Nursery	For a fabulous year in nursery
	v	Harry	Always sharing and playing with everyone
	Dojo	Gabriel and Hallie	
R	s	Gloria	super work in Mathematics
	v	Hannah	sharing with her friends
	Dojo	Darcy A	
Y1	s	Wolf	Always trying his best, especially in his writing.
	v	Mila	Always taking turns with her friends
	Dojo	Tommy, Olivia and Eden	
Y2	s	Jesse	always doing everything right! (see certificate)
	v	Ralphie	Always being a fair friend
	Dojo	Evie and Evie	
Y3	s	Hattie	demonstrating all the attributes of being ready for Year 4.
	v	Zendaya	always showing fairness in all situations.
Y4	s	Jessica R	always putting 100% into everything that she does.
	v	Luke S	always being fair to others
Y5	s	Joshua	a super start to St Mary's during this summer term.
	v	William and Joshua	showing fairness during group work.
Y6	s	Freya	Excellent answering of questions in class.
	v	Poppy	Always demonstrating fairness in the way she conducts herself

## Star of the Week – w/e 18.07.25

Class		Name	Star of the week for... self-esteem Value of the week for showing value of <b>faithfulness</b> Dojo Champion
Nursery	s	Beck	Fabulous work blending in phonics
	v	Indie	Always joining in with prayers
	Dojo	Lucia	
R	s	Amara	For trying hard all week and recalling double facts.
	v	Joey	For being a lovely faithful friend
	Dojo	Darcey W	
Y1	s	Marnie	Her lovely storytelling and reading fluency.
	v	Archie A	A beautiful prayerful attitude when joinign in with prayers.
	Dojo	Tommy	
Y2	s	Theo H	A fantastic term in Y2 at St Marys
	v	James R	Taking a faithfulness to his work.
	Dojo	Theo H	
Y3	s	Willow	For an amazing story about the Spider and the Fly.
	v	Ruby C	Always demonstrates her faith in God in class (when doing Prayer and Liturgy).
Y4	s	George H	For his great work in music, he led his group to combine their motifs and compose his own piece of music.
	v	Violet	Always showing her faith in God in class.
Y5	s	Princess	For working hard throughout our art unit of work on 3D installations.
	v	Thea	For staying positive and living out our catholic values.
Y6	s	Addison	For her great commitment to her part in our production.
	v	Winter and Marnie	For volunteering to read and sing at Mass on our retreat day at St. Joseph's last Friday

## Attendance



### Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League 2024/2025 w/e 18.07.25



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 6	98.29
2nd	YEAR 4	97.68
3rd	YEAR 1	97.64
4th	YEAR 2	97.43
5th	YEAR 3	97.38
6th	YEAR 5	96.68
7th	RECEPTION	95.62

## Summer Holiday Activities

### CSSP Learn to Ride Schemes

**SUMMER  
LEARN  
TO RIDE**

**CHORLEY ST PETER'S  
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Eaves Lane PR6 0DX

**MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST** **2:30PM - 4:00PM**

**WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST** **2:30PM - 4:00PM**

**MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST** **2:30PM - 4:00PM**

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST** **2:30PM - 4:00PM**

**ONLY ONE BOOKABLE SESSION REQUIRED**  
**BOOK ONLINE AT:**  
[www.chorleyssp.co.uk](http://www.chorleyssp.co.uk)

**£25  
A  
SESSION**

**Ages  
4-12**

**CHORLEY**  
SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

**01257 824798**  
 **j.milner@chorleyssp.co.uk**





# SUMMER

## ON THE ROAD

### 28TH JULY-21ST AUGUST

**HEYSHAM ATOMS MONDAYS** - 28 JUL, 4 AUG, 11 AUG, 18 AUG  
**CHORLEY PANTHERS TUESDAYS** - 29 JUL, 5 AUG, 12 AUG, 19 AUG  
**BLACKPOOL SCORPIONS WEDNESDAYS** - 30 JUL, 6 AUG, 13 AUG, 20 AUG  
**EGREMONT THURSDAYS** - 31 JUL, 7 AUG, 14 AUG, 21 AUG

**BOOK NOW**  
[WWRL.NET/SUMOTR](http://WWRL.NET/SUMOTR)



## 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 is a vertical rectangular poster with a blue background. At the top left is the Chorley Marlins logo, featuring a stylized marlin leaping out of the water with the text 'CHORLEY MARLINS' in a curved banner above it. To the right of the logo, the text 'We are recruiting new members' is written in white. Below this, the club's name 'CHORLEY MARLINS AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB' is prominently displayed in large, bold, white capital letters. A large, semi-transparent image of a swimmer's face wearing goggles and a white swim cap is positioned behind the club name. Below the club name, the text 'Benefits of joining a swimming club include:' is followed by a bulleted list of ten benefits. To the right of the list are two small inset photographs: the top one shows a group of children and an adult on a pool deck, and the bottom one shows a swimmer in action in a pool. Below the list, a paragraph states the club is looking for new members at all levels. This is followed by contact information: an email address and a website URL. At the bottom, it mentions 'Mini Marlins groups' and the website 'chorleymarlins.org.uk' is printed in a large, white, sans-serif font.

**CHORLEY MARLINS**  
**AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB**

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](mailto: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](http://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>



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