



School Newsletter

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

18.11.22

Dear parents/ carers,

School Council - Crazy Hair/ Blue & Yellow Day

The boys, girls and staff sported crazy hairstyles or combinations of blue and yellow clothing to raise money for the *International Aid Trust* who are doing such important work in Ukraine. Since February, the charity has driven trucks and vans out there and has been supplying boxes upon boxes of food, medicines, nappies, water and so much more. Today, your donations amounted to £237. We will pass a cheque on as soon as possible to help them in their vital work. Thank you parents and children so much for your support.

With the recent devastating attacks on the Ukrainian power infrastructure, the charity has recently sent out an urgent plea for generators. They are also looking for donations of solar power banks, and small camping type stoves – if anyone is able to help.

Nativity Performances/ KS2 Christmas Concert

It is that time of year when teachers reach for play scripts and classes gather together for practices. I have put together a table below of what is happening and when, for your reference. Once again, we thank for Fr Marsden for allowing us to use the St Mary's Church for the KS2 performance.

Who?	Where?	When?	
		Date	Time
EYFS – Nursery and Reception	School hall	Weds 14.12.22	0930 - 1030
		Weds 14.12.22	1400 - 1500
KS1 – Year 1 and Year 2	School hall	Tues 13.12.22	0930 - 1030
		Weds 14.12.22	1800 - 1900
KS2 – Y3,4,5 and 6	St Mary's Church, Chorley	Mon 19.12.22	1800

Year 5 Come and See Assembly

Well done to the Year 5 class for their super assembly on Wednesday where they told us of how we can be good friends to others and of the choices we make in our lives, with God's help. Thank you to

family members for coming to school to support and thanks to Miss Hesketh and Mrs Southern for preparing the children so well.

Sports News

Dodgeball Festival

Mr Hodge took the St Mary's dodgeball team to the CSSP dodgeball festival last night. With balls flying everywhere, we think St Mary's won two and drew one although it was hard to tell! St Mary's were given a special sticker to reward them for their honesty and fairness. Well done to the team and thanks once again to Mr Hodge for organising and taking the team to the event.

Governor's Strategic Vision Consultation - Autumn 2022 – message from Kath Smith, Chair of Governors

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Governor's Strategic Vision Consultation - Autumn 2022. We had an excellent response (51%) and overall stakeholders felt that Governors have identified the right objectives (97%). The next step is for us to develop a draft plan and share it with you when it is ready.

Cost of Living Support

St Mary's Governors met this week and, amongst other things, they discussed the impact of the cost of living crisis on our families. St Mary's Church has a small fund to provide some vouchers for some families over Christmas. Governors sent me some information that they wanted me to share with you on places to go for support. I have attached a *Cost of Living* fact sheet to the newsletter. And, please see link below for local authority support:



[Cost of living support
lancashire.gov.uk](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support)

Cost of Living Support – Guidance for parents and carers

Find out what help is available for households and businesses in Lancashire. There is lots of useful information from Lancashire County Council on the [website](#) which you can share with parents and carers.

The site also promotes Libraries as warm spaces which also fits with our Reading priority:

Warm spaces

Our libraries are warm and welcome spaces, where you can find:

- a warm drink
- a space to sit
- free computers and Wi-Fi
- charging points for your phone or laptop
- events and activities
- help from staff to find information

[Find a library](#) to view facilities, what's on and opening times. All our libraries are accessible.

You can also [download a printable list of the libraries which are warm and welcome places](#) (PDF 263KB), but please check the individual library web pages for up to date opening times.

Youth Mass at St Gregory's Sunday 20 November at 6.30pm

Holy Cross are leading the Youth Mass this Sunday evening at St Gregory's. Pupils and parents from St Mary's are very welcome to attend.

Christmas Joy New Toy Appeal



As part of The Christmas Joy Project, co-ordinated by SVP Chorley Buddies and St Laurence's, the Catholic Community in Chorley, has in the past years been extremely generous in donating new toys for distribution to families in Chorley. Last year we collected over £4,000 of new toys!

If you want to donate new toys, then please just bring them into school, **unwrapped.**

From w/c Monday 5th December, SVP Chorley Buddies will collect the toys from school, take them to St Laurence's for storage and distribution by Chorley Council to families who might need some help this Christmas. The last collection will be on Monday 12th December.

And thank you for bringing some Joy into people's lives this Christmas!

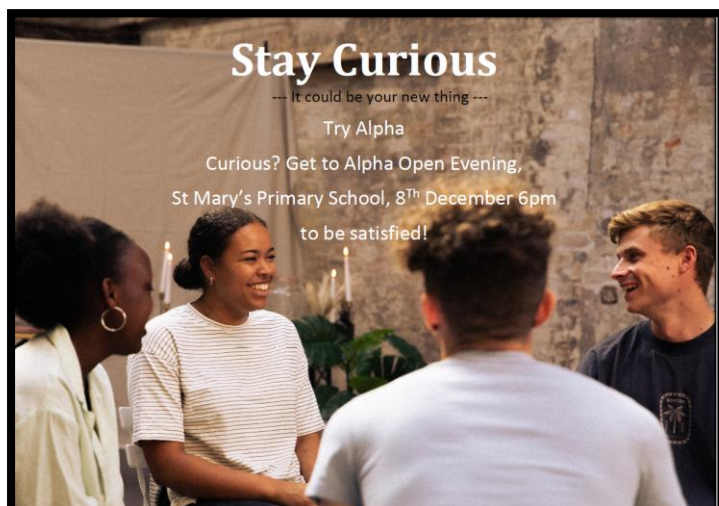
Alpha Series

Paul J McBeth has shared details of the new Alpha Series in the New Year. It will take place at St Joseph's Parish Centre Harpers Lane Chorley PR6 0HR Thursday 19th January 2023 7:00pm - 9:00pm Join Up @ Eventbrite (search Chorley Catholic Community Alpha Series 2).

Visit the link below for more information or see attached leaflet.

<https://1drv.ms/u/s!AtbNHwPWZaEvgch0QiYlh7N9H5mcSw?e=yZX65e>

There will also be an information evening at St Mary's school hall on Wednesday 8th December at 6pm.



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>



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League

2022/ 2023 18.11.22



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1 st	Year 6	97.05
2 nd	Year 4	96.91
3 rd	Year 5	96.67
4 th	Year 2	96.15
5 th	Reception	95.88
6 th	Year 3	95.59
7 th	Year 1	95.03

There were no classes with 100% attendance this week.

STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 18.11.22

Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Matilda	growing in confidence and building super friendships with her peers.
YR	Zara	always trying hard in all areas particularly number work
Y1	Teddy	super phonics work!
Y2	Mickey	a super attitude towards his work, showing great effort and enjoyment in all his topics
Y3	Lydia	being a person who can always be relied upon to be doing the right thing.
Y4	Felix	effort and enthusiasm in all subjects.
Y5	Tilly	using various persuasive features in her writing.
Y6	Millie	great effort in mathematics with a focus on fractions.



Best wishes,

P Smyth

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