



School Newsletter

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

20th October 2023

Dear parents and carers,

We have come to the end of the very first half-term of the academic year. The past seven weeks have flown by and we have packed a lot in. Well done boys and girls on your hard work in your new classes. I hope everyone has an enjoyable break and we look forward to seeing you all back safe and sound on **Tuesday 31st October**. (Monday 30th October is an INSET day).

Catholic Schools Inspection 27th and 28th September

We have received our inspection report from the Catholic Inspection Service following the recent inspection on the 27th and 28th of September. I have attached it to the newsletter. It is an incredibly positive read and finds the school to be outstanding in all elements of the Catholic school inspection. Well done everyone! I would just like to say a huge thank you to:

- the children; you were excellent and did us proud. You are great ambassadors for school and your families
- the parents and carers for your ongoing support and positive responses to the inspection team
- the staff for your outstanding contribution to ensuring the very highest standards are maintained
- the governors for your work and support in helping the school do its best
- Mr Hodge for his excellent leadership in RE.

The inspectors could clearly see that we live out our mission - *With Christ, we live, love, learn and grow*.

All Saint Mass at St Mary's Church on Wednesday 1st November

Bishop Tom Neylon promised the children back in June that he would come and celebrate Mass with us on All Saints Day and he is keeping his promise. So, the children will be attending the 9am Mass at St Mary's on Wednesday 1st November. Kinga Grzeczynska asked me to invite any parents or

grandparents who would like to come along too. The teachers may also have contacted you asking for volunteers to help in walking the children back to school – that would be a great help if you could.

Therefore, please can you drop children off at the Church from 0845 when staff will arrive to let the children in. The children will walk back to school after Mass at about 0945 -1000.

Parents' Evening

Thank you for meeting with the teachers for the online parents' evenings this week; I hope you found them both useful and informative in supporting your children in their learning and in school. Thank you to the teachers, too, for your time and effort.

Year 6 Pupils moving to Year 7 * 31 OCTOBER DEADLINE APPROACHING *****

Year parents/ carers, please be aware the secondary school application deadline is rapidly approaching. Please check and make sure you have filled in your applications for high school. Information on application process is further down the newsletter.

Tax-free childcare

In case you missed this last week ... one of our governors shared some information with me to pass on:

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.*

Many of our parents and carers may not know about this or may not be accessing this. We will write to you in more detail about in the near future but if you would like to find out more now, click on the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

PTFA Spooktacular Dress Up Day – First day back!

Advance notice that on the first day back after half-term, Tuesday 31st October, children are invited to come to school in their spooky costumes (or own clothes/dress up clothes, if they would rather) in return for a suggested voluntary donation to the PTFA of £1.

A reminder that either trainers/sensible or school shoes must be worn - suitable for the weather and being outside at lunchtime/breaktimes. No face paints please. Hair colour can be used as long as it can be washed out and be back to normal for school on Wednesday. Please ensure that any dress

up outfit is comfortable and warm enough to sit in for the day and that they are able to wear a coat over the top.

Chorley Schools Sports Partnership CSSP– half term holiday activities

- October half term sports camp – see leaflet at the end of newsletter
- October half-term Bikeability ‘Learn to ride’ sessions

CSSP Bikeability Sessions Y6

Year 6 did their Bikeability road safety sessions today and yesterday in and around school. They had to contend with some challenging weather conditions today but did very well. The CSSP Bikeability are planning to return in February to finish the programme with Y6.

Archdiocese of Liverpool School Christmas Card competition – open now - deadline November 1st

As the autumn term is in full swing and the nights draw closer, we are looking forward to some of the biggest highlights in our calendar – Advent and Christmas. This year, the Archdiocese of Liverpool would like to send out a digital Christmas card to all our parishes, clergy, schools, staff and stakeholders and we need your help... We want our children to put their creativity to the test and design a front cover for the Christmas card in our new competition. See leaflet attached.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We did not receive any nominations for the role of parent governor this time around. If you were interested, but did not want to commit at this stage because you are not fully sure what the role entails, I am more than happy to have an informal chat with you and tell you more. I can also put you in touch with one of our governors to tell you first-hand what the role involves in a more informal way. School number is 01257 262811 or email office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk. Pop in the subject line ‘*Governor enquiry.*’

Below is the link to LCC’s website which provides some very good information about the role.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/become-a-school-governor/>

Volunteers



We really appreciate the help we receive from parents and grandparents who come in to help with reading, supporting children’s learning, clubs etc. We have had a couple of parents in recent years who started off volunteering and then have decided to pursue a career in teaching! A big thank you to all our returning volunteers this year – you make a massive difference!

If you feel you can spare half an hour or more a week please get in touch with the school office. Many thanks.

2024 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES – PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

Primary School Admissions September 2024: If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children->

[education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/) for a September 2024 start.

It is quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

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

School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school. The national closing date for primary applications is **15 January 2024**. Between now and 15th January all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the school's published admissions policy for school year 2024 – 2025

<https://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/admissions>

****Please remember that admissions to St Mary's, or any Catholic primary schools, also require the completion of the separate supplementary information form (SIF) - available at <https://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/admissions> ****

Year 6 Pupils moving to Year 7 * 31 OCTOBER DEADLINE APPROACHING *****

Secondary school admissions: If your child is in Year 6 you can now apply for their secondary school place at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-secondary-school/> for a start in Year 7, in September 2024.

It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

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.


The arrangements for the transfer of pupils to secondary schools in September 2024 will, as far as possible, conform to the following timetable.

1 September 2023 - Apply from this date

School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

31 October 2023 - National closing date for secondary applications (statutory).

STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 20.10.23



Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Oscar	Taking pride in his own achievements
YR	Ella	being a superstar all week
Y1	Alex	his perseverance with and his enthusiasm in learning new vocabulary every da
Y2	Brodie	wonderful work all week
Y3	CiCi	Answering lots of questions in class and moving up with her Learn Its.
Y4	Sam R	his wonderful work during our electricity topic in science
Y5	Rory	working extremely hard on his story linked to 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.
Y6	Emily	A fantastic biography about Mary Anning

P Smyth 20.10.23



YSA
Yarrow School
Alliance

New Year, new challenge
Train to teach with the best, to be the best!
Open events held on the first Tuesday of each month.
If you are interested in learning more about our School-based
Initial Teacher Training Programme, email
r.horne@st-georges.lanacs.sch.uk for more information



OCTOBER SPORTS CAMP

Ages 5 - 11 years

Chorley
SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

£70 THREE DAYS
£25 SINGLE DAY

From Tuesday to Thursday, with lots of fun games, sports, arts and crafts, and a Halloween Party (26th).

A packed lunch with lots of water will be needed.



TUESDAY 24TH
WEDNESDAY 25TH
& THURSDAY 26TH

CHORLEY ST PETERS
EAVES LANE, PR6 ODX

9AM-4.00PM

CONTACT US

camp@chorleyssp.co.uk
07306403255 / 01257449278

www.chorleyssp.co.uk/holiday-events

Chorley
SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP



**BACK BY
POPULAR
DEMAND**

BIKEABILITY LEARN TO RIDE



Ages 4 - 12 years



www.chorleyssp.co.uk/holiday-events

These sessions are for children of primary school age who cannot yet ride a bike without stabilisers.

Participants should bring their own bike and helmet, dress for the weather and bring a drink.

Chorley
SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP



£25
per session

**Tuesday 24th
or
Wednesday 25th**

OCTOBER

Chorley St Peters

Eaves Lane, PR6 0DX

**10 - 11:30 OR
12.30-2PM**

CONTACT US

camp@chorleyssp.co.uk
**07306403255 /
01257449278**



Young People
Scan this QR
code to find
support

SCAN ME

Text a school nurse directly to talk about
health or emotional wellbeing:
If you're 11-19 text our ChatHealth line on:

07507330510

or scan the QR code



Parents scan
this QR code to
find support

SCAN ME

If you're a parent of 5-19 year old text our
Lancashire ParentLine for support on:

07312263554

or scan the QR code

