



School Newsletter

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

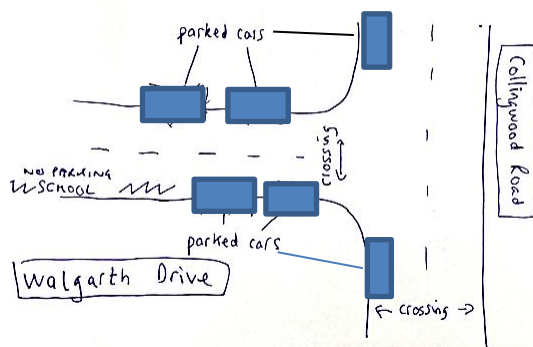
22.11.24

Dear parents and carers,

Road safety at Walgarth Drive and Collingwood Road at Drop-off and Pick-up times

A number of parents have spoken to me about their concerns about children's safety at pick-up and drop-off times. They tell me that this is being put at risk because of parking at the junction of Collingwood Rd and Walgarth Road. I went up to take a look yesterday morning and spoke with the crossing patrol warden.

She told me the issue is at its most acute when cars park on both sides of Walgarth Drive between the junction and the zigzag lines or on the corner of Collingwood. This narrows the two lanes to one on Walgarth and reduces the crossing warden's view of traffic and drivers' view of her. See image below:



She also mentioned some parents/ carers are dropping children off at the opposite side of the road to school and allowing children to run across. She has told me that there have been a number of scary near misses, in this regard.

Therefore, to keep the children as safe as possible, I am requesting two things:

1. Please do not park between the zigzag lines and the junction. If we can do this, it will improve visibility around the junction.
2. Please use the crossing to cross the children, please don't be tempted to cross further up.

Thank you

UK Parliament Week 2024

Please see the UK Parliament Week newsletter sent separately, with special thanks to design firm **Forepoint** for its publication. And please check out the **Sky News** clip of our pupil parliament and its visit from Sir Lindsay Hoyle, which is now available to watch on the link below.

<https://live.firstnews.co.uk/sky-kids-fyi/quick-news/>

Free parent/ carer sessions provided by Lancashire Educational Psychology Service

Lancashire Educational Psychology Service is hosting a range of free events for all parents/ carers living in Lancashire to support them in shaping the lives of their little ones. See leaflet attached.

First Holy Communion Badge Competition

The First Holy Communion Badge Competition is back for its second year! Children preparing to make their First Holy Communion next spring are invited to design a badge to commemorate the special day.

The badge will be round and roughly the size of a £2 coin, and participants can only use up to 5 colours, including black and white. To get the template and enter the competition, use the form and template attached to this email and email your entry to badges@rcaol.org.uk. All entries need to be in by 27 January.

PTFA Non-uniform Day for Prizes for Christmas Fayre Tombolas

Next Friday, we are having a non-uniform day in exchange for a voluntary contribution of chocolates and new toys.

Rhymicality - Free group aimed at under 5s.

One of our parents, Mrs Robinson, asked us to publicise this:

Rhymicality - Free group aimed at under 5s.

Volunteer led with a target to combat parental loneliness, The Warm Space drop in is every Thursday Term Time until February. It includes refreshments, crafts and different themed toys each week. Open to parents, grandparents and foster carers.

Just turn up or go book go to - see flyer at the end of the newsletter.

Vacancy - Breakfast Club assistant

Are there any parents, carers interested in working for an hour, 0745 – 0845, each day in the Breakfast Club? If you are interested or you know of anybody else who is, please contact Mrs Wilson at the school office. office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk or 01257 262811.

2024 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES – PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

Primary School Admissions September 2025: 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/> for a September 2025 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 2025**. 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> ****

Parentkind/ Asda Cashpot for Schools

Mrs Wilson registered the school a few weeks ago to the Parentkind/ Asda Cashpot for Schools initiative and we have so far accumulated **£188.60** in our rewards cashpot - free cash for school! (See screenshot right)

Parents can register on their app or if they haven't signed up yet - the link below gives more information:

<https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024.

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to St Mary's. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

The supermarket has joined forces with Joe Wicks to support the initiative – look out for the TV advert, radio ads and social media coverage. Asda does the rest, all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most.

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>

Star of the Week 22.11.24

Class		Name	Star of the week for... Value of the week for showing value of 'mercy' Dojo Champion
Nursery	s	Martha	A super drawing of Polly and Sukey from the Nursery Rhyme 'Polly put the kettle on'
	v	Ottilie	Looking after others when needed
R	s	Raine	Excellent work in mathematics
	v	Amaya	Being kind and nurturing activities
	Dojo	Robert	
Y1	s	Scout	Lovely artwork about The Annunciation
	v	Scarlett	helping a friend with their history
	Dojo	Annie	
Y2	s	Isaac	Super reading of his lines in the Nativity.
	v	Harper	Being caring and considerate of another child in class.
	Dojo	Ewan	
Y3	s	Joshua	For continued effort and enthusiasm in Maths.
	v	Hattie	Always looking to nurture others.
Y4	s	Thomas I	Great use of key vocabulary in geography
	v	Olivia	Always being caring towards others.
Y5	s	Jacob W	For being an excellent mathematician and challenging himself.
	v	Penny	For always being kind and nurturing towards others.
Y6	s	Alice L	Great vocabulary work working out the meaning of words from their context.
	v	Faith	For being a kind and caring friend.

An update on Penalty Charge Notices issued for unauthorised absence

These changes came into effect on 19 August 2024.

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

PTFA future dates

PTFA Non-Uniform day - Friday 29th November - Chocolates & New Toys

PTFA Non-Uniform day - Friday 6th December - bottles

Christmas Fair - Friday 6th December 5.30-7.30

PTFA Meeting - Tuesday 4th February - time to be confirmed

PTFA Meeting - Tuesday 29th April - time to be confirmed

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

Best wishes, Patrick Smyth 22.11.24

rhythmicality™

bonding families and promoting wellbeing through music, dance, crafts and play

FREE DROP IN Brew, Chat & Play

Join us every Thursday (Term Time)

From 7th November 2024

10.45am-11.45am @Tatton Gardens

Community Centre Chorley (Off Eaves Lane)

Children 0-4 Years
Parents, Grandparents &
Foster Parents Welcome

- Free Refreshments
- Stories
- Crafts
- Parenting Support



Book or just turn up



07738659598

or Email

Joanna@rhythmicality.co.uk



Chorley
Council

