



School Newsletter

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

23rd May 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Health Week 2025

What a fun-filled week we've had!

This week, the children have taken part in a *fantastic* Health Week – and some of them even said it was “the best ever!” From exciting sports to outdoor adventures, it's been a week packed with fun, fitness and smiles!

We've had so many brilliant activities:

- Forest School fun with Mrs Rodgers
- Disco Dodgeball and Footdarts
- Gymnastics galore with Mr Hodge with ALL the apparatus out!
- Skiing and tubing adventures at Rossendale Dry Ski Slope
- Fruity fun with our fruit tasting sessions
- Super sports days with amazing effort from everyone!

And today, we ended Health Week with a burst of colour in our fabulous *Colour Run* – what a way to finish!

We'd like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who helped make this week so special:

- Our amazing staff and volunteers for keeping everything running smoothly – thank you to the helpers who came on the trips!
- The Chorley Schools Partnership team for helping to run the sports days
- Our incredible Year 6 Sports Leaders – one parent said they were “kind, attentive and energetic – a real credit to the school and their families.”

And of course, THANK YOU to all the family members who came along to cheer and support – you were brilliant!

A special mention to Mr Hodge for preparing the field over the last couple of mornings and for his time and effort in organising such a memorable week for all the children.

We think it's safe to say... this Health Week will be one the children remember for a long, long time!

Year 4 Sacramental Class – First Holy Communion

The children in the Y4 sacramental class made their First Holy Communion at St Mary's last Sunday morning at the 0930 Mass. They all did very well and looked very smart in their Communion attire. Thank you to all the staff that came along to help the children be in the right place at the right time. Thank you to Mrs Wilson for tying nearly thirty red ribbons for their special badges.

On Monday afternoon in school, they enjoyed a tea party with their parents and carers. Deacon Norman blessed the Communion gifts that they brought along. Thank you to the Y4 parents for your support this year. Thank you to Fr Marsden for celebrating the Mass and finally a big thank you Kinga for your hard work in preparing the children for this very special occasion on their journey of faith.

PTFA meeting Tuesday 20 May

Thank you to Mrs Wilson and Mrs Root for organising this term's PTFA meeting, which was held on Tuesday this week. It was a very positive meeting with some great suggestions put forward for future activities including:

- Frozen Fridays (ice lollies to be sold at the end of the school day)
- Toy Library
- Colour Hampers
- Dads Football/ Cricket comp.
- Bags Collection Scheme
- Uniform Sale
- Bingo Night at Buckshaw Hub
- Old coats rail
- Old costumes rail

Thanks to all who attended – keep an eye out for future events.

New Reception Intake Meeting

We welcomed our new reception children in to the reception class for just over an hour on Tuesday afternoon this week, while Mrs Ainscough shared information with the parents and carers about how we will aim to make their children's start at school as happy and settled as possible.

Exciting Changes in Our School Library!

We are delighted to share that our school library has recently been streamlined to make it an even more enjoyable and accessible space for all our pupils. Our aim is to foster a lifelong love of reading by offering children a wide range of engaging books in a well-organized, welcoming environment.

As part of this update, we kindly ask for your support in helping children look after their library books and return them promptly once they have finished reading. With a more focused collection, it is especially important that books are returned so others can enjoy them too. Unfortunately, we are unable to keep replacing missing books in large numbers.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope all our children continue to take pleasure in spending time in our wonderful school library and discovering the joy of reading.

Compass Bloom Mental Health and Wellbeing Support

I have attached a pen picture of Louise Powers, who is the mental health and wellbeing support worker who works in our school every Tuesday morning. Keep an eye out for Louise. We are planning a stall at pick up one evening after school where she can introduce herself to you and talk about the services Compass Bloom can offer.

Year 4s – Smartphone free childhood



Year 4 parents, keep an eye out for communications regarding Smartphone free childhood. Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots movement bringing parents together to stand up for healthier, happier childhoods. There are a couple of Y4 parents and governors 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.

Online Safety Newsletter

Please see the June edition of the online safety newsletter sent out separately.

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>

Attendance



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League 2024/2025 w/e 23.05.25



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 6	98.23
2nd	YEAR 1	97.65
3rd	YEAR 3	97.50
4th	YEAR 2	97.46
5th	YEAR 4	97.41
6th	YEAR 5	96.75
7th	RECEPTION	96.37

No class achieved **100%** attendance this week.

PTFA future dates

Summer Fair – Friday 18th July 5pm – 7pm

Patrick Smyth 23.05.25

Half-term holiday activities



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✓ Boys and Girls aged 5-12 years

✓ Qualified & DBS checked Coaches

✓ All Skill Levels welcome

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11am to 12pm

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK, AND INSTAGRAM

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 features a large background image of a swimmer in a pool. In the top left corner is the Chorley Marlins logo, which depicts a marlin leaping from the water. The text 'We are recruiting new members' is prominently displayed in the upper right. The club's name, 'CHORLEY MARLINS AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB', is written in large, bold, white capital letters across the middle. Below this, a list of benefits for joining a swimming club is provided. Two smaller inset photographs show children in a pool: one sitting on a blue mat and another performing a backstroke. At the bottom, contact information and details about mini-marlins groups are included, along with the club's website URL.

CHORLEY MARLINS
AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB

We are recruiting
new members

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 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

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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