



# School Newsletter

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

24<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## NEU Industrial Action 28.02.23

School will not be affected by the NEU teachers union strike on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February. All classes will be open to all children as usual on that day.

## Ash Wednesday

Children from Years 3 to 6 attended Mass at St Mary's Church on Ash Wednesday morning to celebrate the start of Lent. Once again, they behaved beautifully. Fr Marsden spoke to them about the seven deadly sins – in child-friendly language of course – and virtues that are their opposites. Later in the afternoon, Kinga visited school to distribute ashes to the children and adults from nursery to year 2.

## Good Shepherd Appeal 2023

We are getting up and running with the Nugent Care Good Shepherd Appeal 2023 games and activities after a couple of years without doing. This is one of the children's favourite fundraisers as it is largely run by them and for them. We will be carrying out games and activities over the next four weeks.

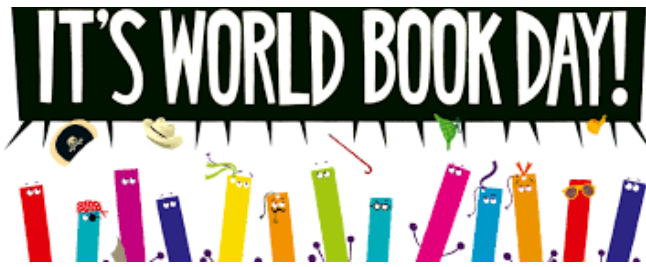
Mr Hodge writes, *'We do the appeal as part of Lent preparation, to give the children the responsibility of 'running' their own game, selling their own cakes etc, to enjoy a disco (different to the normal playtime) and manage their money in the process (this being needed now more than ever with most payments via Cards and or phones).'*



Day	Activity
Mondays	Cake sale – sell and buy cakes – max 1 per person – max price 50p
Tuesdays	Games and activities –guess how many sweets are in a jar/ spot the ball/ name the teddy/ lucky dip etc.
Wednesdays	Disco in the hall – 50p admission

See web address below for further details:

<https://wearenugent.org/fundraising/good-shepherd-appeal-2023/>



World Book Day falls on Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.

The theme for World Book Day is '**St Mary's Loves Reading!**' So you could dress up as a character from one of your favourite books or bring in a prop linked to this book, should you choose not to dress up. If you have a copy of the book, please bring that to school too so you can share this with the rest of your class.

As children are in the costumes all day we would ask that they are not in full-face paint but small decorative touches can be added e.g. Harry Potter's scar. As per school safety guidelines please can hair be up and sensible shoes worn e.g. school/trainers.

The children will take part in some exciting activities during the school day in their class. We hope the children have a great day and enjoy celebrating their favourite books and authors.

Thanks for your continued support, Miss Hesketh (English Lead).

#### **Year 5 Trip to Holy Cross to watch Grease the Musical**

Holy Cross High School have invited our Y5s along to watch their production of *Grease the Musical* on Monday. I think many staff at school are very jealous of the Y5s.

#### **Holy Cross Youth Mass - Sunday 12.03.23**

On Sunday 12 March, the 6:30 evening Mass at St Gregory's will be a Youth Mass. Pupils from Holy Cross will be helping with the readings and music and we would like to invite families from the Chorley primary schools to join us for the celebration. All pupils, families, staff and governors are very welcome!

#### **Wednesday Word**



The Primary School *Wednesday Word* is an outreach which shares Sunday's Gospel with **all school families**, in a unique way.

- This is a weekly Gospel 'gift' from the school to the child to take home, which then

becomes a 'gift' from the child to the whole family. It is downloadable from the school website here.

[Wednesday Word | St. Mary's Catholic Primary School & Nursery  
chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk](http://chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk)

## St Mary's Nursery Places

If you are interested in a place for your child at nursery or if you know someone else who is, please direct them to Mrs Wilson in the school office via email: [office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk) or call 01257 262811. Thank you.



## Parents' Evenings – spring term

Thank you to parents/ carers for attending the parents' evening events before half term. I hope you found them useful in supporting your child(ren)'s learning journey. Thank you also to the teachers for staying behind for two long evenings and, of course, to our governors who attended to meet and speak with parents/ carers.

## 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>

## Unavoidable School Closures

In the event of a very heavy snowfall and the need to close the school, we will inform you via the *GroupCall* text, announcements on the local radio and via the school website.

## Health & Safety Notices

### Road Safety

#### 1. A plea

A couple of parents came to see before half term to complain about dangerous practice at drop-off time. One parent told me of a car driving half-on and half-off the pavement, which caused a great scare as it approached the children. Please take the utmost care at drop-off and pick-up times.

#### 2. Two thank yous!



Thank you to Paul Richmond for his service as Lollipop Man at the corner of Collingwood Road and Walgarth Drive over the last few years. His friendly presence and warm interaction with the children made him a very popular figure with children and families. We wish him well in his retirement and we will miss him.

A very special thank you too, to Mrs Nelson and Mr Farnworth who have volunteered to do the lollipop role in the mornings and afternoon while we await the start of the new crossing patrol man in the coming weeks.

## Introduction to becoming a Foundation Governor

Although we have no foundation governor vacancies at present, we will do over years to come.

Find out more about the role of a foundation governor at a church school and how you can apply with Governors for Schools.

Governing boards at faith schools across the country need skilled and committed individuals to help drive strategic change. The role of a foundation governor is to preserve the schools religious character, support and challenge senior leadership, ensuring accountability and overseeing how money is spent.

In this webinar you will hear from foundation governors to learn about their motivations for volunteering, the impact they make on young people's lives, and how they've developed skills through the role.

We are delighted to be joined by 2 speakers who are both Foundation Governors to share their experience of the role;

Reverend Dawn Stokes, Foundation & SEN Governor at Monksmoor Park C of E (VA) Primary School in Northamptonshire.

Vicente Reyes, who is an Associate Professor in Educational Leadership & Management and a Foundation Governor at St Nicholas of Toletine Catholic Primary School in Bristol

This webinar will also cover the core responsibilities of a foundation governor, the benefits of undertaking the role, and the time commitment required. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions at the end of the webinar.

Click on the link below to register for the seminar on Zoom which takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> March at 12:30 PM.

Zoom link

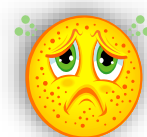
[Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: Introduction to becoming a Foundation Governor. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9101234567)  
[us06web.zoom.us](https://us06web.zoom.us)

## Governors and School Finances

Governors meet regularly to consider the schools finances and how they are spent. They do this in more detail in the Resources Committee which meets once every term. Following the spring term meeting at the end of last month, Governors asked me if I would let parents/ carers know that they have studied and interrogated the schools finances and that while the budget remain very tight, St Mary's finances are in line with those of similar schools.

## Sickness and/ or diarrhoea

This is the time of year when there are more bugs and germs around than usual. If your child does become ill with **sickness or diarrhoea**, the guidance for schools from Public Health England gives a minimum recommended absence from school of 48 **hours**. This is to limit the spread of the bug around school. Thank you.



## Strep A/ Scarlet Fever

What are the symptoms of Strep A/scarlet fever?

Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents should be aware of, including:

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- A fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel
- On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel

If a child becomes unwell with these symptoms, please advise parents to contact their GP practice or contact NHS 111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice.


If a child has scarlet fever, advise they stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

Parents/ Carers should trust their own judgement and if their child seems seriously unwell call 999 or go to A&E if:


- a child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when a child breathes
- a child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- a child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

**How to help prevent Strep A?** To prevent the spread of Strep A, UKHSA advises children, young people and staff to implement good hand and respiratory hygiene practices.

## STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 10.02.23

	Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
	YN	Edie	having a fantastic week and adjusting to the wonderful change of having a new baby at home.
	YR	Billey	always trying his best and always doing his home learning
	Y1	George	working with focus and determination in phonics and reading.
	Y2	Jake	incredible work on his multiplication and division this week
	Y3	James	much improved focus and attention on the presentation of his writing.
	Y4	Oscar	excellent scientific knowledge of the digestive system
	Y5	Jimmy	working hard to solve problems involving multiplication.
	Y6	Scarlett	a wonderful retelling of Macbeth blending action, description and dialogue.

w/e 24.02.23



Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Joey G	excellent effort in all his phonics sessions
YR	Theo	trying really hard in phonics and writing
Y1	Holly	her excellent attitude towards her learning
Y2	Seb	putting so much effort into his reading sessions (and every lesson!) and making such good progress
Y3	Joseph Mc	demonstrating true friendship by giving up a classroom job that he wanted to do for someone else (who was disappointed).
Y4	Hendrix	consistently working hard in all areas of the curriculum
Y5	Charlotte	superb understanding and effort during our division work.
Y6	Jamie	A great debate text discussing Macbeth: Hero or villain?

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**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.lancs.sch.uk for more information

**Are you interested in training to become a primary school teacher?**

Visit the YSA website [www.yarrowteachingschoolalliance.co.uk](http://www.yarrowteachingschoolalliance.co.uk) to find out more about what is on offer.