



School Newsletter

With Christ, we live, love, learn and grow

26.03.21

Dear parents/ carers,

On behalf of everyone at St Mary's we wish you a very happy and holy Easter.

Messages from the school office – Regarding Positive COVID tests and contact tracing

Contact tracing up until Thursday 1st April 2021

What to do if ... ?	Action needed
Child or staff member has symptoms before 3.30pm on Sunday, 28th March and then subsequently tests positive for COVID-19.	Contact school by email at office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk as soon as possible, but before 5pm, Thursday 1st April at the latest, so that school can inform contacts.
Child or staff member has symptoms after 3.30pm on Sunday, 28th March and then subsequently tests positive for COVID-19.	Do not contact school. Parents/ carers/ staff should follow contact-tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
Child or staff member is required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after Thursday, 1st April	Do not inform school about absence until Monday, 12th April

School will not be involved in contact-tracing from 5pm on **Thursday 1st April** until 8.30am on **Monday, Monday, 12th April.**

If...	School will ...
School is notified that child or staff member has symptoms before 3.30pm on Sunday, 28th March and then subsequently tests positive for COVID-19,	Inform contacts of that child or staff member up until, but not beyond Thursday 1st April.

Good Shepherd Talent Show

The children were treated to a wonderful display of talent in the annual Good Shepherd Show on Friday afternoon. There were singers, dancers, sports displays, mountain biking, impressions, you name it! We want to say a special 'well done' to all those who submitted something that wasn't shared with the whole school just because of the time constraints this year. Thank you mums and dads for videoing and submitting the entries. Thanks to the staff for organising. Your efforts raised £220 for this year's Nugent Care Good Shepherd Appeal. Well done and thank you.



Palm Crosses

Thank you Father Marsden and Kinga for supplying the children with palm crosses in time for Palm Sunday this weekend. Kinga had ordered the crosses for last year, Easter 2020. So they have been in quarantine for 12 months! The palm crosses are made in eight villages in the Masasi area of southern Tanzania. They are then transported by ship up the coast of Africa and through the Suez Canal into the Mediterranean before arriving in the UK. Father Marsden has blessed the crosses for the children.



Chorley Schools Sports Partnership (CSSP)

Gemma Stokes, the School Games Organiser and chief of the CSSP has asked us to share a survey with our pupils and parents to help the partnership in its planning for the summer term.

Pupil Questionnaire (It will take approximately 6 minutes to complete).

As we plan our return to sport and physical activity, we thought it would be best to ask young people and parents what they wanted. We are here to provide a range of opportunities to help support and improve young people's confidence and competence in leading an active and healthy lifestyle. It's clear that as a result of Covid-19, the activity levels of many children has dropped significantly. We believe the School Games is now more important than ever as a way to help children and young people socialise whilst improving their physical and emotional wellbeing. The responses we receive will help shape future deliveries will be shared with the Youth Sport Trust for research purposes (no personal details will be shared). #BacktoSchoolGames

It can be accessed via this link <https://forms.office.com/r/6YjDxJUtxx> or the QR code below.

The school with the most responses will win a prize of a colour run (to include all the powder and staffing to help deliver a day of fun) – at the moment St George's and St Gregory's are in the lead. Come on St Mary's! It closes on the 11th April.



COVID Poems

Mrs Marsh, one of the parents at St Mary's, sent me some poems that her friend has written for BBC radio. They provide a reflection on the experience we are having with COVID. Mrs Marsh was happy for me to share them with you. See attached.

Happy Retirement, Mrs Oldham!

We said farewell to Mrs Oldham on Friday. She leaves us after twenty-one years of working as a teaching assistant at St Mary's. There are not many people in school who have been here longer. She has supported many children and staff over that time and made a huge difference in many lives. We are going to greatly miss her skills and expertise when we return after Easter but we are glad she was able to contribute so much during her time here.

The children, staff and governors wish her all the very best in her retirement, looking after her grandchildren but also being very active with walking and open-water swimming. Good luck, Mrs Oldham and thanks for everything you have done for everyone at St Mary's.

Good luck, Mrs Nicklin

Mrs Nicklin leaves us for a term to take up the head teacher role at Withnell, St Joseph's. We wish her all the very best, with utmost confidence that she will do as wonderful a job there as she does here. We look forward to having her back here in September. Mrs Corry is very excited about working with our Y2s next term. Good luck Mrs Nicklin.

Easter at St Mary's Church – information from the parish newsletter attached.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Thurs 1st April
18.30

HOLY THURSDAY
Mass of the Lord's Supper
Anne Colette Bury RIP

Fri 2nd
10.30
15.00

GOOD FRIDAY
Stations of the Cross.
The Passion of the Lord



Sat 3rd

HOLY SATURDAY

16.00-16.45

Confessions in garden

Sat 17.00

Easter Vigil Mass – Fr Barry McAllister (sick)

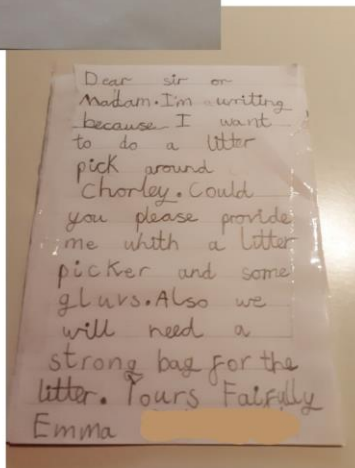
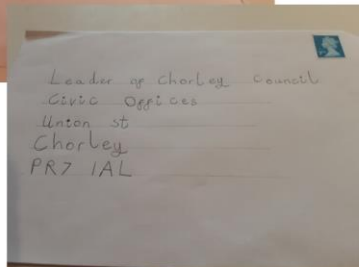
Sun 4th
09.15 – 09.45
10.00
11.30

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
Confessions in the house porch
Mass of the Resurrection – Andrew Waddington RIP
Mass at St Joseph's Anderton

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament 12.30-13.00 Tues, Wed, Thurs,

Emma, Y2, on a mission to keep Chorley tidy!

Mrs Nicklin asked me to share these letters with you. Emma in Y2, wrote a letter to Councillor Bradley, Executive Leader of Chorley Council regarding litter-picking. She was delighted to receive his response. See below.



SYNOD 2020 – A message from Mr Hodge (St. Mary's Church, Chorley – Synod Parish Member/Representative)



Synod 2020 (a journey of change within the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Liverpool). We have been 'together on the road', voicing our opinions on change and affecting the future of our Archdiocese.

In December 2020 – I shared, we looked at and you gave your opinions on 120 proposals and 45 affirmations for Synod 2020 from the Liverpool Archdiocese. The Archdiocese has now narrowed that down to '19 Recommendations' based upon the 500 Synod members feedback. These are attached to this newsletter. Mr Hodge.

Easter activities 1 Lancashire Adult Learning

We have received an email from Lancashire Adult Learning services outlining some family learning sessions over the coming weeks – see below.

Good afternoon from the Family Learning team at Lancashire Adult Learning. Just a quick email to let you know about the FREE Family Learning Events we have running over the Easter Holidays:

Please share the padlet link with your families to access information on the sessions:

https://padlet.com/Family_Learning_LAL/familycourses

- *Family Learning Spring fair (online) Sat 27th March, 10am-11:30am For primary school aged children and their parents/ carers*
- *NEW-Let's Do LEGO- Family Challenge (online) Monday 29th March, 1-2:30pm For primary school aged children and their parents/ carers*
- *Easter 'Egg'stravaganza (online) Thurs 1st April, 1pm-2:30pm For children aged 3-6 and their parents/ carers*

Laura Myers

Partnership & Recruitment Officer for Family Learning

Lancashire Adult Learning, Northlight, Glenway, Brierfield, BB9 5NH

2 Lancashire HAF Easter Offer

The Lancashire HAF Easter Offer

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, our Easter offer will be an online programme delivered between the Tuesday 6th and Friday 9th April 2021; consisting of exclusive online content supported by a digital activity pack. We at [Youth Action](#) are going to deliver the 'Discover Camp' <https://discovercamp.youthaction.org.uk>, and this will be available to **all** children and young people of primary and secondary school age, regardless of FSM status.

The Offer

- **Digital Activity Packs**
- **Exclusive live daily online workshops/ activities** with a range of fun workshops/ activities to suit all ages (6 live sessions per day!)
- **Competitions and quizzes** with some great prizes!

Sign Up Process

The sign up process is very simple:

- 1) Parents/ carers need to go online: <https://discovercamp.youthaction.org.uk>
- 2) Click on 'Sign Up'
- 3) Fill in the brief sign up form
- 4) They will receive an email confirmation, once submitted

It's really simple, and only takes a few minutes!

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact the central team on: discover@YouthAction.org.uk

Many thanks,

Lancashire HAF Team

Tel: 01254 695847

"encouraging young people to empower themselves!"

Patrons: HRH Princess Badiya bint El Hassan of Jordan, Lord Shuttleworth



**Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League
2020/2021**



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1 st	YEAR 1	99.29
2 nd	YEAR 3	99.23
3 rd	YEAR 2	98.79
4 th	RECEPTION	98.77
5 th	YEAR 4	98.27
6 th	YEAR 6	96.93
7 th	YEAR 5	96.71

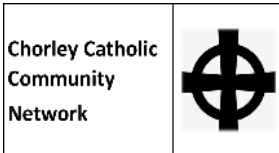
W/E 26/03/2021

Food Provision Help and Support for Families – Chorley Borough Council

I think we are all well aware of the huge pressures this pandemic has placed on many families' finances. Many Chorley families are suffering significant hardship. Bernie Heggarty, from Chorley Borough Council, has written to schools to ask us to signpost where people can access support in being able access food over the coming weeks and months. It gives details of providers in Chorley and contacts to whom referrals can be made. Please see attached.

Lenten Challenge - *To eradicate Digital Poverty in Chorley by Easter Sunday –*

A message from Paul MacBeth - Chorley Buddies



Research by Chorley Borough Council says that there are still approximately 140 children who do not have a device upon which they can complete their schoolwork.

Will you join us in accepting this Lenten Challenge?

Chorley Catholic Community Network, Chorley Buddies and the Chorley United Reformed Church, with the support of Chorley Borough Council, are working with the Chorley Repair Café to try to help eradicate Digital Poverty in Chorley.

From Ash Wednesday onwards, we need your surplus laptops or tablets so that we can give them to the children who desperately need them. All personal data will be erased and all Covid safety measures will be in place before the devices are redistributed.

Please bring your surplus tablets and laptops to

- School – we can collect and quarantine at St Mary’s school.
- Massa’s Café Dessert Bar, 3 Cunliffe St, Chorley PR7 2BA
- Frederick’s Ice Cream Parlour, Bolton Road, Chorley PR7 4AL
- Inspire The Youth Zone
- Or email chorleybuddies@hotmail.com to arrange pick up.

Together We Can Eradicate Digital Poverty By Easter Sunday!

Mental health and wellbeing

If you have concerns about your child’s mental health or wellbeing during this period, please do not hesitate to contact us at school. Please contact me or your child’s class teacher, or any trusted adult within school.

Here are a couple of websites you may find useful in the meantime:


A comprehensive guide from the Government/ Public Health England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

NSPCC

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/april/supporting-children-young-people-mental-health>

Stars of the week - w/e 26.03.21

	Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
	YN	Lucas	Wonderful reading and writing this week. Well done, Lucas!
	YR	George	For his amazing independent writing! What a superstar!
	Y1	Erin	For her sensible answers, participation and trying her best this week with her written work.
	Y2	Harrison	Fantastic work across all subjects all week!
	Y3	Brooke	Excellent reading skills shown in guided reading this week.
	Y4	Izzy	For her amazing progress with her writing. Not only has she worked hard on her handwriting and presentation, but she confidently uses fronted adverbials.
	Y5	Charlie E	For his enthusiasm and participation during all lessons.
	Y6	Diana	Great work on place value and rounding this week.

Free School Meals – Are you missing out?

Free School Meal Eligibility and Pupil Premium Funding

Because all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal, many parents do not realise that they might be entitled to something called **free school meal eligibility**. And we understand why this might be the case because the system is confusing! At St Mary's, we have noticed a fall in the number of infant children whose parents have claimed eligibility since the introduction of free school meals for all infants –other schools have noticed the same.

This free school meal eligibility can be applied for in Reception, Year 1 and in Year 2 even though children are receiving a school meal anyway. And parents in Y3, 4, 5 and 6 can also apply.

Why bother applying if your child is receiving a free meal anyway?

If you think you might be eligible it is very much worth applying for two reasons:

1. Your child will continue to receive free school meals on leaving the infants in Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 and beyond
2. The school receives additional money (pupil premium) for children eligible for free school meals (over £1 300 per pupil).

If you receive any of the benefits below, St Mary's School can access this extra funding, called pupil premium.

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

How can you find out if you are eligible?

Apply by phone – and you can find out in a matter of minutes!

You can ring the local **Free School Meals and Pupil Premium team on 01772 531809**

It must be the person claiming the benefit that rings.

You will need to provide your:

- Name
- Date of birth
- National insurance number

They will confirm whether you are entitled over the telephone.

Apply by post

Download the application form from <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals.aspx> and return it to your local area education office.

South Area Education Office

Level 1 Christ Church Precinct

County Hall

Preston

PR1 8RJ

Free milk If you receive benefits, your child could also get free milk. Contact us to find out what arrangements we make for school milk.

With open events not possible in person, we have decided to publish a video which offers an insight into the training course and our offer to Associate Teachers. We will put this all over our social media platforms and advertise on Facebook shortly.



This Autumn, with face to face open evenings not possible, the Yarrow Teaching School Alliance invite you to a zoom open event. Have questions about our Initial Teacher Training Course answered, meet the team and see an Alliance school. email a.hitchen@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk to RSVP and receive log in details

<http://www.yarrowteachingschoolalliance.co.uk> @YarrowTSA

St Mary's is part of the Yarrow Teaching School Alliance. If you have a degree and interested in becoming a primary school teacher, visit the website above. **P Smyth 26.03.21**