



# School Newsletter

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

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28.06.24

Dear parents and carers,

## PTFA Summer Fair

Thank you all for your support of last week's summer fair. I hope you enjoyed it. Thank you for your generous donations of prizes for the tombolas and raffle. Thank you to the volunteers who helped set up, tidy up and work on the various stalls. Thank you to the PTFA committee for their hard work in planning the event. Together, you have raised a fantastic £1400 for the PTFA funds, which will go towards paying for trips and visitors and other exciting activities for the children.



## School Closure Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July

A reminder – school will be closed to children next week on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July as the school is a polling station for the General Election. The class teachers will set some work for the children to do at home on that day.

## Messages from the School Office:

**Parentpay** Please can parents settle their Parentpay accounts for all items as soon as possible.

**School Uniform** Orders for the school uniform were made to our suppliers on 14th June. We expect orders to arrive during the last week of term and these will be sent home with your child. If you did not pay for the uniform in advance, your order would not have been included (unless an arrangement was made with the office). We will be sending another order to our suppliers on 12th July, so if you settle payment by then, your order will be placed, If you wish to place a new order, please contact the school office before 12th July.

**Groupcall** Please can parents make sure that all outstanding forms are completed for trips, sporting events, permissions and giveaways.

## News from w/c 17.06.24

There was no newsletter last week due to the summer fair but I wanted to let you know about some of the things that took place in that busy week.

## High School Drop-In Sessions – Saturday afternoons

Chorley Inspire team have organised high school drop-in sessions. They are taking place on Saturdays over the next few weeks at local high schools. Please see picture to the right for details.



## Year 5 Science Day visit to Holy Cross High School

The Y5s had a great day of science and scientific exploration at Holy Cross High School a couple of Mondays ago. They got a taste of high school life and worked with high school science teachers. Miss Hesketh said the behaviour of the children was excellent and they had great fun and learned lots. A big thank you to Holy Cross High School and its staff for organising this great experience.

## World Music Day celebrated on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June – message from Mrs Cahalin

We celebrated world music day on Monday (17<sup>th</sup>) and Tuesday (18<sup>th</sup>) to emphasise the importance of music in our lives and how it helps bring people together. We had a number of children performing piano pieces for us, as well as some of our guitarists, a clarinetist and flautists who have lessons from LMS in school.

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Marsh for coming in to showcase a variety of instruments and playing the piano, clarinet, piano and double bass!

KS2 children enjoyed an African djembe drum workshop and were applauded for their behaviour and participation.

If any pupils that are currently in Y2-Y5 would like to take up music lessons from September, please apply online via Lancashire music service at:

<https://www.lancashiremusicclub.co.uk/site/parents/find-lessons/>

## Chorley Young Voices – Children’s Choir opportunity

#WhereWillMusicTakeYou

There is an opportunity to try **Chorley Young Voices** choir, free of charge. Following the incredibly successful Lancashire Sings@Chorley we are working hard to launch our new choir for primary school children in and around Chorley.

Chorley Young Voices is a vibrant, inclusive, and joyful space where primary school age children can come together and sing. Whether your child is already in a choir or wants to give it a try for the first time, everyone is welcome! Led by singer and music teacher, Gemma Hannaford, repertoire will include a wide range of songs – some you’ll know and some you won’t, and Gemma’s infectious energy will make sure everyone wants to join in.

Rehearsals are currently held on Saturdays at St Michael’s High School, from 9.45am to 11.am. The remaining date for this year is tomorrow, 29th of June. Please sign up ahead of time by completing the linked form: <https://bit.ly/ChorleyYoungVoices>

Cost: There will be no charge for the remaining sessions for this year. In September, membership of the group will be £29.00 per term.

This silver level membership allows pupils to attend any other silver level ensemble or activity, not just Chorley Young Voices. If you have any queries or would like more information, please email [play.music@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:play.music@lancashire.gov.uk)

### **Hinduism Day**

We were visited by Neetal, a Hinduism expert, to help us with our study of Hinduism as part of our Come and See 'other religion's topic. The children across school listened intently and asked super questions as Neetal talked about her faith and beliefs as she visited the different year groups.

### **Nursery Trip to Smithills Farm**

The nursery class enjoyed a wonderful day at Smithills Farm the week before last. The weather was kind as the children met lots of different animals and went on tractor and trailer tour of the park. A big thank you to all the parent and family volunteers that came along and thank you to the staff for organising such a fantastic experience.

### **Sports News**

#### ***Swimming Gala – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June***

St Mary's took a strong swimming team to All Seasons Baths on Tuesday evening to race against the best swimmers from across Chorley in the annual CSSP Swimming Gala. They competed in a variety of individual and relay events involving freestyle, back stroke, breast stroke and butterfly strokes.

The team returned with a number of first, second and third places both in individual events and team relays. The Aqua Splash squad competed in the smaller pool in a series of challenges and they finished in silver medal position.

Well done to all the swimming team members on their excellent behaviour and wonderful achievements. They had lots of fun and represented St Mary's with pride. They were able to show their medals and certificates in awards assembly this afternoon.

Thank you to Mr Hodge and Mrs Nightingale, parent and governor for looking after the team and making sure that everyone got to the right place at the right time.

### **Book Fair**

Miss Hesketh has asked me to thank you for your wonderful support for the Book Fair; it continues until next Wednesday. Thank you to the staff for their help in running the fair too.

#### **SS Peter and Paul Eucharistic Service – Wednesday 26.06.24**

Deacon Norman came to celebrate the Feast of SS Peter and Paul with us on Wednesday in school. He taught us the Latin phrase *Tu es Petrus – You are Peter*, the words Jesus said to Simon Peter. Thank you Deacon Norman and thank you Kinga Grzeczynska for facilitating the visit.

### **Youth Mass - message from Linda Walmsley, Lay Chaplain, Holy Cross Catholic High School**

We are coming to the end of the second year of the Youth Mass programme in what used to be the Chorley Pastoral Area and we are really pleased with how the community have embraced the

masses and the support we have had from all the local schools. **The final mass of the current cycle will be on Sunday 14 July at 6:30pm at St Gregory's.**

If any pupils would like to be involved with the offertory, or as a reader, please can you put them in touch with me via the school office?

Finally, advance notice that next term the youth celebration will be part of the Creation Mass which will take place on **Sunday 6 October**. Best wishes, Linda Walmsley

### **Vacancy**

We have an exciting vacancy for an apprentice to learn, develop and work in our nursery class. Ms Lang, who started as an apprentice with us a few years ago took this route with us and became a very skilled early years practitioner and is now moving on to bigger and better things. If you know of anyone who may be interested please ask to follow this link or contact Mrs Wilson at the school office for further details.

Link for Nursery Apprentice - [https://schooljobs.lancashire.gov.uk/nt\\_vacancyDetails.asp?id=63879](https://schooljobs.lancashire.gov.uk/nt_vacancyDetails.asp?id=63879)

### **School Week from 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

A reminder that from 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024 the school day will have a new start and end time. We will register children at the earlier time of **0850** and school will finish at the slightly later time of **1520**. Please note that the nursery class start and end times will be unaffected in September. The **nursery** day will remain as start at **0845 and end at 1515**.

### **Reception September 2024 places**

We still have some places for our reception class in September, so if you know of anyone moving into the area and looking for a place in a Catholic school for September, please let them know. Sometimes families move into the area and are surprised the school is here because it is tucked away.

### **Kooth Mental Health and Wellbeing support**

Kooth is an 11-18 mental health & wellbeing support service. Their age band just about catches our Y6 children. That said there are some good resources which I think would support most parents in supporting their children and these can be accessed here:

<https://cloud.brandmaster.com/shared/assets/319b4803b82fecf307bc>

From the Kooth website: *We're Kooth Digital Health: the UK's largest and longest-serving digital mental health service. We've worked with the NHS for over 20 years and are the UK's only BACP accredited digital mental health service. We currently operate one service for children and young people (Kooth) and one for adults (Qwell). Learn more about us by watching our short video or visiting [koothplc.com](http://koothplc.com).*

### **Free School Meals, Pupil Premium and School Budget**

Our school budget, like most school budgets, is becoming increasingly stretched by the rising costs of goods and services. There is a source of funding that we think our school could be possibly missing

out on. It is called **pupil premium** funding. Schools receive this money for each child that is entitled to the **free school meals** benefit (this is something different to infant free school meals).

The school may be missing out on this funding because it does not receive it automatically. It requires parents/ carers to apply for it and many of us may not even realise they we are entitled to this benefit.

To confuse matters further, all children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to universal infant free school meals but this is different to free school meals as it does not bring in pupil premium funding for school. Parents of children in the infants may be entitled to free school meals in addition to universal infant free school meals.

### **What can parents/ carers do to help?**

Therefore we would like to ask all of our parents/ carers from reception to Year 6 to consider whether they might meet the criteria for free school meals for their child(ren). This could help to ensure that the school does not miss additional pupil premium funding.

There is a simple way to check to see if your child(ren) may be entitled to free school meals. It is accessed through Lancashire County Council and it is a very quick, straightforward process. See link: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=2>

There is a very good article on the *Martin Lewis: Money Saving Expert* website which provides more information. <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/free-school-meals/>

### **Messages from the school office:**

**ParentPay** Please can we settle ParentPay accounts as soon as possible. Thank you.

**School Uniform** Please check the uniform requirements on the school website and complete the Groupcall form by 2nd June. Payments must be made in advance before 5th June. if you do not pay for your order in time, we will be unable to process your order before the deadline given by our suppliers and you will not receive your items by the end of the summer term. The school uniform order form has now been sent to parents electronically.


We can submit late orders/payments to our suppliers by 12th July, but you will not receive items until September. <https://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/school-uniform>

### **Chorley Catholic Community Annual Festival - Sunday 8th September 1pm - 5pm, St Gregory's Church, Weldbank, Chorley**

Mr Paul McBeth the organiser of the *Chorley Catholic Community Annual Festival* has written to us to give advance notice of this year's event in September on Sunday 8th September 1pm - 5pm at St Gregory's Church, Weldbank, Chorley

He asked us to let you know about and offer you an official invitation to take part this year. It would be good to know if you want to take part. If interested, could you reply to [cnocl@hotmail.com](mailto:cnocl@hotmail.com) please? It's the same format as last year - you get a double gazebo but have to supply a table(s) and chairs.

## Star of the Week 28.06.24

		
Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Hannah	always showing great enthusiasm in all she does.
YR	Archie	trying very hard in all areas this week
Y1	Jude	his lovely descriptive writing
Y2	Tess -	her perseverance in her tests this week. I am so proud of you.
Y3	Alexia	being a great role model with her handwriting.
Y4	Lucy	her amazing work in her maths assessments this week
Y5	Winter-Rose	her amazing effort revising over times tables and consistently beating her last score.
Y6	Noah	learning his lines so quickly!

## Attendance



**Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League**  
**2023/2024 w/e 28.06.24**



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 5	97.39
2nd	YEAR 3	96.94
3rd	YEAR 1	96.93
4th	YEAR 6	96.86
5th	YEAR 2	95.40
6th	RECEPTION	95.29
7th	YEAR 4	95.18

No 100% this week!

**Mental health and emotional wellbeing support for children. (Contacts right).**



P Smyth 28.06.24



**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



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