



School Newsletter

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

28.02.20


Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second spring half-term. The children and staff returned to school rested and refreshed and it was a good job too, given how busy the week was.

Shrove Tuesday

Father Marsden came into school to speak to the KS2 classes about Blessed Roger Wrenno, one of the English Martyrs, who lived in Chorley in the 16th Century. We thank Fr Marsden for his time and coming to speak with the children.

Ash Wednesday and Lent

 The junior classes attended Mass on Ash Wednesday this week. They received the ashes on their foreheads. Father Marsden explained that Ash Wednesday marked the start of Lent, the season of preparation for Easter. He suggested three ways that we can help to prepare: give something up (fasting), donating to charity (almsgiving) and prayer.

Later in the afternoon, Kinga and Father Serghej, came into school to administer the ashes to the children and staff in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Good Shepherd Appeal 2020

We are having a change to the Good Shepherd Appeal this year (see separate email from Mrs Wilson). This year we are not asking for cakes to be baked or sold, and we are only having games and activities on one day a week.

So the new format for the next 4 weeks (there are no activities in the last week of term) is:

- Tuesday – Games and Activities
- Wednesday - Disco

EVERYTHING 25p A GO!

The Good Shepherd Talent Show takes place on Thursday 2nd April, the penultimate day of term.

A message from the Nugent Care Charity Good Shepherd Team:

Good Afternoon Friend

I hope this finds you well?

As today is the start of Lent, here at Nugent charity we have officially launched our annual Good Shepherd Appeal. You will see a familiar face, that is Woolly our Good Shepherd Mascot who this year is joined by a new four legged friend! Thank you in advance for your generous fundraising efforts for Nugent over the coming weeks. Your support is very much appreciated by everyone at the charity and has a positive impact on the lives of the local people we help.

Please see link below to our website where you will be able to see and download any appeal resources you might need for your school:

<https://www.wearenuigent.org/fundraising/good-shepherd-appeal-2020/>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything else, or if you would like us to visit your school to delivery an assembly or a workshop. Please see my contact details at the end of this e-mail.

In addition to our appeal for schools and new for 2020, we have also launched The Good Shepherd Appeal for people who may remember it from their school days. Please see links below for more details and please get in touch if you or anyone in your school's community remembers The Good Shepherd Appeal from school days gone by as we would love to capture any of these Good Shepherd Appeal memories. We also have a number of resources available about this appeal. Please get in touch if you would like any for your school:

<https://www.wearenuigent.org/all/goodshepherdappeal/>

<https://www.wearenuigent.org/fundraising/oldestcharity/>

Finally, Nugent will be holding a doggy day out in St Helens on Sunday 22 March 2020. Please see attached details and link below with details of how you can take part:

<https://www.wearenuigent.org/fundraising-events/wag-this-way/>

Thank you as always for your time, consideration and continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.

Kind regards

Fran

Francesca D'Arcy

Community Fundraiser

Nugent

francesca.darcy@wearenuigent.org

Direct Line: 0151 261 2023

Coronavirus and good hygiene practice

I would like to congratulate the children on how well they have responded to the messages we have been giving them about the importance of good **hand hygiene** and the importance of **wiping their noses or coughing into tissues**. While we do not know yet whether or not the coronavirus will hit us, these good hygiene practices will help prevent the spread of other nasty bugs in any case. I have attached a recent piece of advice from Public Health England to headteachers to the end of this newsletter.

Thursday 27th February Chester Zoo Trip

Yesterday the whole school visited Chester Zoo. What a fantastic trip! The weather forecast did not look great but as it turned out, it stayed mostly dry in Chester for the duration of the visit.

210 + St Mary's children and 30+ adults arrived together, but then each class set off in different directions to find animals and discover facts to help in their learning. E.g. Y2 have been studying Kenya and were able to find and learn about animals native to that country. And in addition to supporting their science work on 'adaption,' Y6s will soon be writing arguments and the zoo provided lots of inspiration for preparing for arguments on topics such as conservation and keeping animals in captivity. Each class gained so much from the visit.

Many children were also able to see the brand new baby elephant born just the night before the visit – this was reported in the national news. Well done to the children on their fantastic behaviour and the way they engaged so enthusiastically in the visit.

I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to our parent and grandparent volunteers, without whom these valuable trips would not be possible. Thank you to all the staff for looking after all the children so well and to Mrs Nicklin for organising the visit and getting the tickets for free!

Bus visit to Nursery

While the school children were at the zoo, the nursery class were visited by a huge *Stagecoach* double decker bus. The children got to sit on the upper deck, eat their packed lunches on board and to print tickets from the ticket machine. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience! Thank you to all the nursery staff for providing the opportunity and to Mrs Owsianska for arranging this special visit.

Parents' Evenings - Next Week

We are looking forward to meeting you next week for parents' evening consultations. Just a note to say that Miss Hesketh's Tuesday evening appointments have had to be postponed and Mrs Wilson will give you details of the changed arrangements.

World Book Day March 5th 2020

Next Thursday March 5th, is World Book Day (WBD) and as part of our **vocabulary** push we would like children to dress up as '**advanced words**.'

This year's theme has worried one or two people but it need not. What we mean by 'advanced words' is really just 'interesting vocabulary' as part of an effort to promote development and use of a wider vocabulary across school.

And children can still dress up as book characters if they wish e.g. Harry Potter could be used for the word 'magical.' Or Gangster Granny could be 'adventurous' etc. A sports kit could be used for the word 'athletic.' Children do not even need to dress up at all but simply bring in a prop with an interesting piece of vocabulary attached to it.

Check out this web address for some other ideas:

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/mbeam9/word-parade/>

WBD Theatre Production

Miss Hesketh has arranged for the Footlights Theatre company to come into school during the morning to perform to EYFS, KS1 and KS2. We hope the children have a great day and enjoy celebrating all of the amazing vocabulary we access through the wondrous world of books.

An invite to parents from Miss Hesketh to Strictly Come Dancing Y5-style

Miss Moss, Mr Smyth and myself would like to showcase the year 5's dancing to their parents. It will be on World Book Day (WBD) Thursday 5th March 2.25 - 2.55pm (roughly). Miss Moss told the children before half term so they have probably mentioned to parents/grandparents already.

We have emphasised that there is no pressure on the children to perform on the day if they are too nervous, so perhaps parents you will need to be aware of this. The children will be in their WBD outfits (they can either wear these or their PE kit – we will leave it up to the children).

More kind words from parents

I just want to say thanks to parents on behalf of all the staff for some of the messages and feedback we receive from you on a regular basis. Mrs Cassidy received some lovely feedback

about her 'Story –telling' club and how much the children have been enjoying dance in Nursery.

Thank you and it's much appreciated!

Emile –New Online Learning Resource

We have signed up for a free trial with a highly regarded online learning resource called Emile.

<https://www.emile-education.com/>

From the website: The Emile range of resources has been developed by a group of teachers, academics and game developers. Together we have developed and supplied games-based learning resources to over 15% of the primary schools in the UK & Ireland.

Our range of resources are all underpinned by robust pedagogical research and are tested rigorously with teachers in real classrooms before launch.

PARISH NEWS

The Deanery's Pastoral Team have got together to organise 1st Annual Chorley Pastoral Area Mass to celebrate **Blessed Roger Wrenno's Feast Day with Mass at St Mary's at 6.30pm on Wednesday 18th March 2020** – see poster at the end of the newsletter for details.

Grounds and building updates

We are still waiting for a bit of drier weather to allow for the installation of our running track on the field so we can get up and running with our 'daily miles.' There was some good news and progress today as engineers came in to install our super fast broadband internet fibre up to the school building. They will complete their work on Monday.

Health and Safety

Reminder – 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.

Parking

I would appreciate your co-operation in parking safely and considerately at drop-off and pick-up times. **Please do not park on the staff carpark**, the **yellow zig zag lines** outside the gates and please do not park **across resident's driveways**. Thank you.

School entrance

At the start and end of the school day there are two entrances to the school in use: Walgarth Drive and Warton Place. The Warton place entrance can also be accessed from Hornchurch Drive via the alleyway that runs parallel to the staff car park. For the safety of the children **please do not use the path in the staff car park entrance**. This may only be used during the school day when the other entrances are locked.



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League 2019/2020 W/E 28/02/2020



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1 st	YEAR 3	97.71
2 nd	YEAR 4	96.82
3 rd	YEAR 2	96.35
4 th	YEAR 1	96.08
5 th	YEAR 5	95.71
6 th	YEAR 6	95.36
7 th	RECEPTION	95.08

Star of the Week 28.02.2020

	Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
	YN	Joshua	Being kind to his friends and following nursery rules.
	YR	Charles R	Trying lot of new food in his school dinners this week!
	Y1	Johnathan	Excellent use of interesting vocabulary this week when answering questions.
	Y2	Viktoria D	Always having a positive attitude to all of school life.
	Y3	Oliver H	Great maths using reasoning and problem solving.
	Y4	Iris	A big effort with presentation, especially in maths.
	Y5	Grace O	An outstanding plan for her science fiction story.
	Y6	All Stars!	Fantastic behaviour at Chester Zoo and for looking after their Reception buddies so well on the outward and return journeys.

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.

Are you interested in training to become a primary school teacher? Have you considered school-based training?

Our school is part of the **Yarrow Teaching School Alliance** and is one of a growing number of schools that is leading the way for more school-led, school-based teacher training. As an alliance, we are committed to selecting the very best talent and developing that talent to produce outstanding teachers – teachers who will improve outcomes for our children in our local schools. For further details please contact the Director of Teaching Schools, Bernard Golding, b.golding@st-georgs.lancs.sch.uk In addition, visit the website www.yarrowteachingschoolalliance.co.uk to find out more about what is on offer while for more general information on becoming a teacher, visit <http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching> Twitter @YarrowTSA

28.02.20

COME CELEBRATE!

BLESSED ROGER WRENNO'S

Feast Day

Born 1576 - Died March 18th 1616



Roger Wrenno was a 'poor weaver' from Chorley. Along with Fr John Thules, he managed to escape from Lancaster Castle, but after walking all night they found that they had been going in circles and were still within sight of their prison. Recaptured and condemned, they were offered their lives if they would recant their faith. Both refused. The first attempt to hang Wrenno failed when the rope broke. Seeing this as divine intervention, the Sheriff said to him 'It is God's will thou shouldst not die; take the oath therefore and be a good subject and the King will show mercy'. Wrenno replied, 'If you had seen that which I have just now seen, you would be as much in haste to die as I now am'. He quickly mounted the scaffold again and was hanged.

1st Annual Chorley Pastoral Area Mass

6.30pm

Wednesday 18th March 2020

St Mary's Church

Chorley