



# School Newsletter

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

29.11.24

Dear parents and carers,

## Christmas Fayre

Thank you very much for your wonderful donations of toys and chocolates for the tombola today – we have some lovely prizes for the fayre next Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December. In preparation for next Friday, we are having another non-uniform day for voluntary donations to the bottle tombola. I have been asked to ask you to save up any coins or notes to bring along on the night - thank you! The Christmas Fayre is at the slightly earlier time of 5.30pm – 7.30pm.



## Mass to celebrate the start of Advent and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception Wednesday 4th December at 0900.

Next Wednesday morning, Year 3 to Year 6 will be going to Mass at St Mary's to celebrate the start of Advent and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Please drop the children off at the Church door from 0845 at which time a member of staff will be there to welcome them. After Mass, the children will walk back down to school. Thank you to all the adult helpers who have offered to walk the children back down.

## Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity Christmas Collection

- A message from Mrs Nicklin

*Good afternoon.*

*We are asking families, if they can spare, to donate presents for Lancashire Hospitals this Christmas - like we did last year. We understand it is a busy and expensive time so, no pressure at all. Could we please have any gifts donated into school by Friday 13th December. They will be collected on the afternoon of Monday 16th December - last year when they were collected Santa also came along to collect them!*

*Thank you, Mrs Nicklin.*

Registered Charity 1051194

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity

## Drop off your presents here

Donate a gift and help raise a smile!

Suggested gift donations:

- ★ Gift sets
- ★ Toiletries
- ★ Hats
- ★ Socks
- ★ Puzzle books/books
- ★ Stationery
- ★ Colouring books/pencils
- ★ Children's toys

Thank you for supporting Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity's Christmas Campaign. We hope that receiving a small gift will give our patients a Christmas Day boost until they can return home to their families, where they belong.

For more details call 01772 528500 or email [charity@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:charity@lthtr.nhs.uk)  
@LancHospCharity  
[www.lthcharity.org.uk](http://www.lthcharity.org.uk)

## **KS2 visit to The Jungle Book, Octagon Theatre Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

The KS2 classes are off to watch a performance of Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book* at the Bolton Octagon Theatre next Thursday. Thank you to the PTFA for funding the coach travel and thank you to Mrs Nicklin and Mrs Wilson for organising. A big thank you to all the adult volunteers accompanying us too. I am sure the children will have a wonderful live theatrical experience.

## **Road safety at Walgarth Drive and Collingwood Road at Drop-off and Pick-up times**

I spoke with the crossing patrol warden during the week and she said the parking has much improved. Thank you for your co-operation and support.

## **Christmas Performances:** EYFS, [KS1 \(Ys 1 and 2\)](#) and [KS2 \(Ys 3, 4, 5 and 6\)](#)

Tuesday 10th December:

- [0930 KS1 performance](#)
- [1800 KS1 Performance](#)

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

- [0930 EYFS performance.](#)

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December

- [1800 KS2 Christmas Performance at St Mary's Church](#)



Just advance notice of practices – KS2 children will attend 0900 Mass and stay for practice in Church on both Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December and Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December to practise for their Christmas performance.

## **Online Safety**

Please see the fantastic Knowsley Online Safety newsletter sent separately. It gives really sound, easy-to-understand online safety advice It is a quick and easy read. I highly recommend.

## **Sports News**

### ***Chorley Schools Sports Partnership (CSSP) Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics***

Mrs Hodge and I took a team of Y5 and Y6 athletes to Albany Academy on Wednesday after school to take part in a range of indoor track and field events. There were some superb performances and some victories in different events. Needless to say, the children's behaviour and attitude were brilliant and they clearly had a great time. They finished in a creditable 4<sup>th</sup> position on the night. A big thank you to the CSSP for a brilliant event and to all the parents who helped transport the children to Albany and of course to Mr Hodge and Mrs Hargreaves for organising.

### **Chorley Schools Sports Partnership CSSP Christmas Holiday Club message**

*We have a Christmas sports holiday club running in Chorley from the 23rd-24th December, the 30th-31st December & the 2nd-3rd January.*

*We also have a number of free sessions available to book for children entitled to benefit related free school meals, under the HAF programme. Please see flyer at the end of the newsletter.*

### **Free parent/ carer sessions provided by Lancashire Educational Psychology Service**

Lancashire Educational Psychology Service is hosting a range of free events for all parents/ carers living in Lancashire to support them in shaping the lives of their little ones. See leaflet attached.

### **First Holy Communion Badge Competition**

The First Holy Communion Badge Competition is back for its second year! Children preparing to make their First Holy Communion next spring are invited to design a badge to commemorate the special day.

The badge will be round and roughly the size of a £2 coin, and participants can only use up to 5 colours, including black and white. To get the template and enter the competition, use the form and template attached to this email and email your entry to [badges@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:badges@rcaol.org.uk). All entries need to be in by 27 January.

### **Rhymicality - Free group aimed at under 5s.**

One of our parents, Mrs Robinson, asked us to publicise this:

*Rhymicality - Free group aimed at under 5s.*

*Volunteer led with a target to combat parental loneliness, The Warm Space drop in is every Thursday Term Time until February. It includes refreshments, crafts and different themed toys each week. Open to parents, grandparents and foster carers.*

*Just turn up or go book go to - see flyer at the end of the newsletter.*

### **Vacancy - Breakfast Club assistant**

Are there any parents, carers interested in working for an hour, 0745 – 0845, each day in the Breakfast Club? If you are interested or you know of anybody else who is, please contact Mrs Wilson at the school office. [office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk) or 01257 262811.

### **2024 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES – PRIMARY AND SECONDARY**

**Primary School Admissions September 2025:** If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/> for a September 2025 start.

It is quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

**VERY IMPORTANT: You must apply even if you already have siblings in a school.** If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school. The national closing date for primary applications is **15 January 2025**. Between now and 15<sup>th</sup> January all applications are processed and all preferences are considered against the school's published admissions policy for school year 2024 – 2025

<https://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/admissions>

**\*\*Please remember that admissions to St Mary's, or any Catholic primary schools, also require the completion of the separate supplementary information form (SIF) - available at <https://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/admissions> \*\***

### 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>



## Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League

2024/2025 w/e 29.11.24



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1 <sup>st</sup>	YEAR 6	98.38
2 <sup>nd</sup>	YEAR 3	97.73
3 <sup>rd</sup>	YEAR 1	97.72
4 <sup>th</sup>	YEAR 4	97.16
5 <sup>th</sup>	RECEPTION	97.09
6 <sup>th</sup>	YEAR 2	97.05
7 <sup>th</sup>	YEAR 5	97.01

Well done to the Year 1 and Year 3 classes who both achieved **100%** attendance this week!

## Star of the Week 29.11.24

Class	Name	Star of the week for... Value of the week for showing value of 'mercy' Dojo Champion
Nursery	s Arthur	Increasing independence and mastering a new skill
	v Theo	Always including everyone when organising playground games outside
R	s Robert	For working hard in phonics
	v Amara	For always including everyone in her play
Y1	Dojo Maggie	
	s Mila S	For always trying her best in all that we do
Y2	v Thomas J	For recognising and understanding everyone is different
	Dojo Sophie	
Y3	s Theo	Confident reading in the Nativity.
	v Rory H	Being brave to talk to the class about diversity.
Y4	Dojo Sophia	
	s Charlie H	For a brilliant recount in English about the train passing the Barleycorn's farm.
Y5	v Joseph S	Always tries to involve others with fun and play.
	s Jessica	Her wonderful fairy tale inspired by the Pied Piper
Y6	v Luke N	For always including others.
	s Lucy K	Excellent answers all week.
Y6	v Archie H	Helping others during our art project
	s Max	Geography persuasive letter about a US state.
	v Freya	For always including others.

### An update on Penalty Charge Notices issued for unauthorised absence

These changes came into effect on 19 August 2024.

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).

- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

**PTFA future dates**

**PTFA Non-Uniform day** - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December - bottles

**Christmas Fair** - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 5.30-7.30

**PTFA Meeting** - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - time to be confirmed

**PTFA Meeting** - Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April - time to be confirmed

**Ladies Party Night** - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June - St Mary's Parish Centre

Best wishes, Patrick Smyth 29.11.24



# rhythmicality™

bonding families and promoting wellbeing through music, dance, crafts and play

## FREE DROP IN Brew, Chat & Play

Join us every Thursday (Term Time)

From 7th November 2024

10.45am-11.45am @Tatton Gardens

Community Centre Chorley (Off Eaves Lane)

Children 0-4 Years  
Parents, Grandparents &  
Foster Parents Welcome

- Free Refreshments
- Stories
- Crafts
- Parenting Support



Book or just turn up



07738659598

or Email

Joanna@rhythmicality.co.uk



Chorley  
Council





**QualitySport**  
Holiday Clubs

# CHORLEY CHRISTMAS 2024 SPORTS CAMP!

**23-24**  
**DEC**  
**2024**

**SPORTS • GAMES • FUN**

**LOCATION: ST GEORGES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARR LN, CHORLEY, PR7 3JU**



**30-31**  
**DEC**  
**2024**

**• HAF PLACES AVAILABLE! •**

**LOCATION: ST GEORGES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARR LN, CHORLEY, PR7 3JU**

**02-03**  
**JAN**  
**2025**

**• BOOK ONLINE TODAY! •**

**LOCATION: ST GEORGES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CARR LN, CHORLEY, PR7 3JU**

**Website:**  
[www.qualitysport.co.uk](http://www.qualitysport.co.uk)

**Telephone:**  
07507579852

**Email:**  
[info@qualitysport.co.uk](mailto:info@qualitysport.co.uk)

**HAF PLACES AVAILABLE AT THIS SITE!**

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT HAF BOOKINGS FOR THIS SITE ARE DONE THROUGH HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES\***

**Lancashire**  
County Council

 Department for Education



**Quality Sport Holiday Clubs** are a professional holiday club provider serving Greater Manchester and Lancashire. We have been running successful holiday clubs for over 15 years and are extremely passionate about childcare, physical education and the development of children.



Rest assured that our OFSTED registered clubs are led by fully qualified, enhanced DBS checked, paediatric first aid and safeguarding trained professionals.

## Some of Our Activities:

- ✓ Gymnastics
- ✓ Airtrack
- ✓ Football
- ✓ Rugby
- ✓ Dodgeball
- ✓ Talent Show Performances
- ✓ Tennis
- ✓ Basketball
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Baking



To secure your child's place, book online at [www.qualitysport.co.uk](http://www.qualitysport.co.uk)



## PRICES

<b>Full Day (8:30am-5:30pm)</b>	<b>£28</b>
<b>Activity Day (10am-4pm)</b>	<b>£22</b>
<b>Activity Day &amp; Breakfast Club (8:30am-4pm)</b>	<b>£26</b>
<b>Activity Day &amp; Chill Out Club (10am-5:30pm)</b>	<b>£26</b>
<b>Christmas Eve (8:30am-3pm)</b>	<b>£22</b>
<b>New Years Eve (8:30am-3pm)</b>	<b>£22</b>

We offer sibling discount which is automatically applied when booking. We accept child care vouchers & tax free childcare. Receipts can also be provided to claim fees back through universal credit too.

We have a convenient online booking system where parents can 24/7 and pay by card or childcare vouchers. To pay by childcare vouchers, simply click 'pay by childcare vouchers' on check out then a member of staff will be in touch to arrange payment with your relevant voucher company.