



# School Newsletter

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

**31<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Dear parents and carers,**

We have come to the end of the spring term and we now break up for the Easter holidays. The children have all worked hard, learned lots and, hopefully, have had a lot of fun along the way. They and the staff are entitled to a good break. We return to school on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April** to start the final term of the school year and the final term at St Mary's for our Y6s. On behalf of all the staff and governors at St Mary's, we wish you a happy and holy Easter.

## **End of Term Easter Liturgy**

The school gathered in the hall to celebrate an Easter liturgy together this afternoon. There were readings and hymns to celebrate the events of Holy Week and the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. Ms Malone played the piano for us in a prayerful worship in which the children's participation and engagement was beautiful. Thanks to Mr Hodge for organising the worship and to Ms Malone, the staff and the children for their part in making such a special start to this year's Easter celebrations

**Easter Services at St Mary's Church (see parish newsletter attached for more details)**

### **SACRED TRIDUUM**

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup>**

**19.30**

**Chrism Mass at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral**

**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup>**

**19.30**

**HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper (p.192)- Holy Souls - followed by watching at the Altar of Repose 20.30 and Night Prayer 21.30.**

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup>**

**10.30**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

*Stations of the Cross*

**15.00**

**Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (p. 197)**

**Sat. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**12.00**

**HOLY SATURDAY**

*Blessing of the Paschal Food (Polish.)*

**20.15**

**EASTER VIGIL** (p. 216)

Dr Wladyslaw and Leokadia (A) Gray-Grzeczynski

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup>**

**EASTER SUNDAY** (p.251)

**10.00**

**MASS – Parishioners**

## St Mary's Loves Reading – Big Book Swap – 29.03.23

Thank you to all the children (and families) who brought in books for this week's *Big Book Swap*. Thank you to Evie in Y3 (and her dad) whose great idea it was and thank you to Miss Hesketh for organising it all in school. It was a great success! One boy in Y2 said it was his *best day in school ever!* Hopefully, all the children were able to walk away with a book they were happy with. It was an exciting, novel and interesting way to share some great books and in recycling, it helps us to live up to our *Eco School Green Flag* principles. Well done, everyone!



## Learn with the Dogs Trust – visit to school Tuesday and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>/ 29<sup>th</sup> March



A big thank you to Andrew Larrington of the Dogs Trust. He visited Yrs 1-6 this week speaking with the children on how to keep safe around dogs. He commented on the excellent attention and behaviour of the children. It was a very worthwhile visit.

[https://www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/workshops/?utm\\_source=email&utm\\_medium=footer&utm\\_campaign=schoolworkshop\\_2022](https://www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/workshops/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=footer&utm_campaign=schoolworkshop_2022)

## Y2 and Y6 Assessments (SATs) Meetings

Thank you to our Y2 and Y6 parents for coming along to these meetings on Monday and thank you to Mrs Ayres and Mr Cahalin for your time and effort in preparing and delivering those sessions.

## Sacramental Class Meeting

Thank you to the Y4 parents and carers who attended Tuesday's Sacramental Class Meeting. Thank you also to Kinga Grzeczynska, parish lead catechist, for sharing details of this year's arrangements for the Sacraments of Reconciliation (First Confession) and Eucharist (First Holy Communion) and for her report back parents/ carers on the preparation carried out so far by their children.

## **Nursery Open Day 22<sup>nd</sup> April 10am – 12pm**

We are having a nursery open day on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April between 10 am and 12pm. The nursery class and outdoors will be opened up for prospective parents to take a look around and chat to members of staff. If you know anyone who may be interested please point them in this direction. (see flyer at the end of newsletter)

## **Good Shepherd Talent Show**

The children celebrated the end of the Good Shepherd appeal with the return of the much-loved *Good Shepherd Talent Show*. Well done to all the children for putting on their various performances and entertaining us so royally. It was a fitting reward to the weeks of fund raising for an excellent cause.



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

## **Pokémon/Football Cards not allowed in school after Easter**

I have ‘ummed and ahed’ about Pokémon cards and football cards being brought into school over recent weeks and months. I recognise that they are an interesting hobby for some children, and indeed, it’s a time-honoured tradition in school playgrounds across the country. Children like talking about them and they keep themselves entertained with them during break times. That said, we have a general rule that children do not bring in toys or games from home. And that’s for good reason.

Whilst I have turned a blind eye to them over recent months for the positive reasons outlined above, I have decided that from the start of the summer term children are not to bring Pokémon cards, football cards or the like into school.

Unfortunately, they are causing problems, and increasingly so, with disputes about who owns what card, who swapped what card with who, or even cards that are going missing (some of these cards have eye-wateringly high value) etc. Resolving such disputes can then eat into valuable teaching time and this has become problematic. I know this will disappoint some children but will probably please some parents! Thank you for your support.

## **Coronation Day - Friday 5th May 2023**

To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III on 6<sup>th</sup> May, school will be holding our very own **Coronation Day on Friday 5th May**. Children can wear their own clothes with the colours red, white and/or blue in mind. Throughout the day the children will complete various activities in their class, and we will be having a whole school crown parade.

### ***Design a crown competition:***

We are asking all classes if they would like to design and make at home their own crown to wear on the day (this is optional). As it is a competition, you should try to be as creative and imaginative as possible. A prize will be awarded to the winning crown entry in each class from Nursery through to Year 6. Please bring your crown to wear on our Coronation Themed Day Friday 5th May. The winner will be announced in awards assembly at the end of the day. *We look forward to seeing your entries. Good luck!*



## Sports News

### Netball



It was the last tournament this week and the children's behaviour was once again exemplary. They worked hard to secure two wins, one draw and only one defeat. Great teamwork all round! That brings the St Mary's Netball Tournaments to an end and over the three competitions we have finished third overall - a great achievement. The St Mary's netball squad consists of 19 Year 6 children and every single child who wanted to play in the tournament did so.

Well done to all of the children for their hard work in training on a Monday night. Training will continue after half term on Monday's until 4.30pm. Thank you to Mrs Blackwell for training the team this

year and to both Mrs Blackwell and Miss Hesketh for accompanying the children to the tournaments.



### Cross Country



On a grey, chilly morning, last Saturday, hundreds of children from across Chorley descended upon Astley Park to take part in the annual CSSP Chorley Cross Country Championships. The athletes from St Mary's in the Y3/4 and Y5/6 girls and boys teams did remarkably well. There were some fantastic individual performances with some great finishes in each race.

**The Y5/6 boys' team** finished in **second place** overall and the **Y5/6 girls** in **fifth place** out of the twenty-five teams entered. In the **Y3/4** races the **boys finished in fourth** (originally we thought they had also finished second!) and the **girls finished in eleventh place** out of twenty-eight teams entered. When all the scores were combined, **St Mary's** finished in **fourth place overall**. St Mary's did finish top in one of the events though – apparently, we brought more children for the **fun run** at the end than anyone else!



A big thank you to our staff, to Mrs Blackwell for her time and effort in training the squad over lunchtimes and for coming down on Saturday with Mr Hodge and Mrs Southern to help organise the teams getting to where they need to be at the time they need to be there and to encourage and support them. Thanks also to the CSSP for their wonderful organisation as ever. The children had a great time and each brought home a magnificent medal!

### PE Kit reminder - IMPORTANT

A reminder for the start of the summer term – the PE kit is white t-shirt, black or blue shorts and trainers for outdoors or black pumps/ bare foot for indoors. Children should not be wearing any other kit apart from that. They can wear their school jumper or cardigan if the weather is a little chilly. Thank you.

## The 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](https://www.stmarys.lancs.sch.uk/wednesday-word)

## It's Mental - Family Wellbeing Festival - 24th June 2023

A letter from Tom Halstead, Community Engagement Officer, Chorley Borough Council

Good Afternoon,



### **Huge Family Wellbeing Event at Rivington this summer!**

“The Family Wellbeing Festival is a large-scale event, targeting families of all ages. The aim is to get families spending time together outdoors, taking part in activities and workshops to help them understand how they can better manage their wellbeing, to prevent them needing intervention from health services in the future. We hope to bring together a range of businesses, organisations, clubs and charities to provide information to attendees and to host tasks and activities for the families to take part in as taster sessions, whilst promoting their services and sessions and any volunteering opportunities they may have.”

Early bird tickets currently available - <https://www.itsmental.co.uk/familywellbeingfestival>

Kind Regards, Tom Halstead, Community Engagement Officer

## Free School Meals – Are you missing out?

Find out if you are eligible and find out how to apply – follow this link.

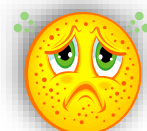
<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=2>

### Message from the school office

Mrs Wilson and Miss Hargreaves have asked that Parent Pay accounts are settled as soon as possible. Many thanks.

### Health & Safety Notices **Sickness and/ or diarrhoea**

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.



Chorley Schools Sports Partnership CSSP – Easter Sports Camp April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>

**Chorley**  
SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

# EASTER SPORTS CAMP

Ages 5 - 11 years

**£70 FOUR DAYS**  
**£20 SINGLE DAY**

**APRIL**  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

**SACRED HEART**  
Brooke Street, PR6 0LB

**CLAYTON LE WOODS**  
Back Lane, PR6 7EU

**9.30AM-3.00PM**

**CONTACT US**  
camp@chorleyssp.co.uk  
07306403255 /  
01257449278

Four days of sports, fun & games with a themed party day on the Thursday!  
A packed lunch with lots of water will be needed.  
[www.chorleyssp.co.uk/holiday-events](http://www.chorleyssp.co.uk/holiday-events)

**Chorley**  
SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP



**Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League**  
**2022/2023 w/E 31/03/2023**



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	RECEPTION	96.97
2nd	YEAR 4	96.82
3rd	YEAR 6	96.57
4th	YEAR 3	96.55
5th	YEAR 5	96.14
6th	YEAR 2	95.94
7th	YEAR 1	95.67

**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.home@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:r.home@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.

P Smyth 31.03.23

Chorley, St Mary's Primary School and Nursery  
Nursery Open Morning - Saturday 22nd April  
10 am - 12 noon



**Play Learn Grow**



St. Mary's nursery is a vibrant, happy, friendly pre-school class catering for children from the age of 3. We have highly qualified early years staff in a classroom environment. The Nursery has a separate quiet/reading room and free flow access to the outdoor areas and garden

Come along and speak to the staff, look around the classroom and learn about the sessions on offer and how you can access free government funding for your child.

**Craft activities on the day led by our new holiday cover providers Lancashire Ice Queen Parties**

**CALL FOR MORE INFO:  
01257 262811**

**Hornchurch Drive, Chorley, PR7 2RJ**

**[www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.chorleystmarys.lancs.sch.uk)**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



**Leyland  
Nearly New Sale  
Sunday 16th  
April  
14:00 - 15:30**



**THE LITTLE**  
*Children's Market*

NEARLY NEW TOYS, CLOTHES AND EQUIPMENT

**£2 entry**

**Kids go free!**

  
**Bishop Rawstone  
Academy  
Highfield Road  
Croston, Leyland  
PR26 9HH**



**Want to  
sell?**

**£16 per table**

**Book now!**



**Scan me!**

<https://www.thelittlechildrensmarket.com/lancashire>