



# School Newsletter

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

05.06.2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

I hope you are all well and your children are getting back into the swing of things with their school work. We appreciate that it is going to become more and more difficult for many of you to support home learning in the way you have been doing up until now, as many of you begin to have greater and greater demands placed upon you in terms of your own employment.

We don't want you to become distressed by this, particularly if you see other families seemingly coping with ease. All of our families' circumstances are different; and, like we have said throughout the period of the pandemic, just do the best you can – that's more than good enough. The sooner that children can safely return to school the better. And when they do return, we will pick up with them wherever they are in their learning and tailor their education to their individual needs.

#### **Childcare for vulnerable/ critical workers' children**

Mrs Wilson has asked me to ask you if there are any changes to childcare requirements, please let the school office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

#### **Wider re-opening of St Mary's School & Nursery from June 15<sup>th</sup> at the earliest**

As you will be aware, on Wednesday we received an update from Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, Director of Public Health at Lancashire County Council informing us that he will review his advice on Monday 8 June about when it is safe for schools to reopen. If his advice changes, schools will be encouraged to open from Monday 15 June. If the advice does not change he will review the guidance again on 15 June.

You can see the update from LCC here.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/schools/>

We have planned carefully for the safe return of children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 alongside critical workers' and vulnerable children who are accessing childcare. We have carried out a thorough risk assessment and we spent time going through it as a staff on Monday this week. The Governors met last week to discuss the risk assessment measures we are taking to minimise the risks to children and staff and they continue to offer their support. We will continue to refine and adjust our risk assessment as we move forward.

## **Lancashire County Council (LCC) Online Learning Resources**

Just to let you know LCC have created a webpage where they have gathered together some resources to support home learning. See below.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/online-education/>

## **Drowning Prevention Week 12 – 19 June**

The Royal Life Saving Society are carrying out their annual **Drowning Prevention Week** from 12-19 June this year. *In a bid to support pupils and families know how to keep themselves and others safe, we are encouraging parents and guardians to take advantage of the FREE downloadable water safety resources, produced for RLSS UK's annual Drowning Prevention Week campaign. The impact of COVID-19 has already seen emergency services additionally stretched; with beach lifeguard patrols restrained, water safety skills, and a common sense approach to being around water, have never been more necessary.* Please see attached poster for more details.

## **Year 6s Hothersall Lodge Residential Visit**

Under normal circumstances, the Y6s and their teachers/ teaching assistants would have returned today, happy but exhausted, from a week-long residential visit to LCC's Hothersall Lodge Outdoor Education Centre. Not wanting them to miss out entirely on the experience, Mr Cahalin set them a virtual visit to Hothersall as their home learning this week.

At the end of the residential week, the teacher picks a pupil who exemplifies the 'spirit of Hothersall' for their participation and enthusiasm in the week's activities. Therefore, Mr Cahalin has selected Kian as the '*Virtual Spirit of Hothersall*' for his knot tying and spending 45 minutes changing his duvet.


## **First Holy Communion**

Again, under normal circumstances, the children in the Family Catechesis class, Y4, would have been making their First Holy Communion at St Mary's Church this coming Sunday morning. We know that they and their families will be bitterly disappointed that they will not be. Kinga and Fr Marsden have written a lovely message to the children in the Parish Newsletter attached.

## **Rt Rev Bishop Vincent Malone RIP**

Kinga asked me to let you know of the sad passing of the Rt Rev Bishop Vincent Malone of Liverpool Archdiocese. He died just over two weeks ago in Liverpool Royal Hospital due to COVID -19. Bishop Malone was a great supporter of St Mary's Chorley and has Confirmed hundreds of children and young people from the parish. Indeed, many of you will have received the Sacrament of Confirmation from him. He will be a great loss to the Liverpool Archdiocese. God rest his soul.

## Star of the Week 05.06.2020

	Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
	YN	Antoni	Trying really hard with his writing.
	YR	Arthur	Trying so hard with his letter and number formation this week.
	Y1	Marnie Victoria	Trying hard in everything she does. Her wonderful enthusiasm and neatly presented work.
	Y2	Harriet Mc	Spending her evenings doing some high quality learning!
	Y3	Dylan	Brilliant use of ICT as a medium through which to create his work
	Y4	Amelie	Excellent work this week.
	Y5	Jacob	Excellent participation throughout our unit of work on <i>The Titanic</i> .
	Y6	Jacob	For a poem entitled The Magic Shop

Best wishes,

Patrick Smyth

Headteacher