



School Newsletter

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

21.10.22

Dear parents/ carers,

We have come to the end of the first half term of the school year. The children have worked hard and learned lots of new things over the last few weeks and they have shown great attitude and behaviour. Our new members of staff have settled into St Mary's very well and it feels like they have been here forever! Well done to all our children and staff, and I hope they all have a good and well deserved rest.

Parents' Evening

I would like to say a big thank you to all of our teachers and parents/carers for taking part in our parents' evenings this week. I hope you found them useful and informative.

All Saints Mass – Tuesday 1 November

On the first morning back to school, children from Y3 to Y6 will be attending 9.00am Mass at St Mary's Church, to celebrate the Feast of All Saints, a Holyday of Obligation. Parents, carers and other family members may also attend. As always, we would ask parents of children in Y3 to Y6 to drop their children off at Church from 8.45am. Members of staff will walk children from the Breakfast Club up to Church. At the end of Mass, children will walk back to school. As it's likely to be cold, wet or both, children will need to wear coats.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2022

We will support the Poppy Appeal in the same way as the last couple of years where families can send in envelopes with their request for items with the monies, rather than have the children going to class to class. We will send a message with this information and the recommended donation amounts to arrive with families in the week we return to school.



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Spooktacular Dress Up Day – Friday 21st October

Thank you for supporting the PTFA's *Spooktacular* dress up day on Friday. As I am sure you will know, many of the children were very excited about it – it is all many of them could talk about all week!

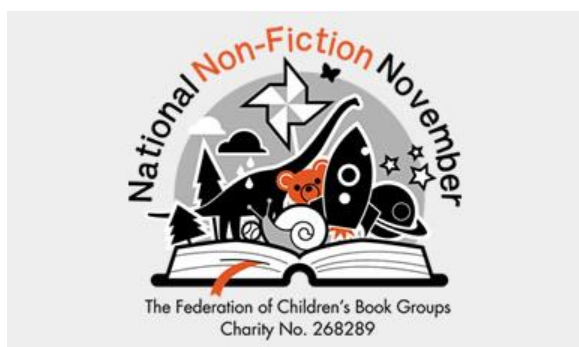
St Mary's loves reading!

Sean Perkins

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 really enjoyed their time with local author Sean Perkins. They enjoyed listening to his new story, *Oscar and Ben - The Birthday Party*, asking questions. Sean brought his guitar along and got them singing too. He will be dropping off any books ordered during the first week back.



Did you know...? November is National Non-Fiction Month



National Non-Fiction November was set up by the Federation of Children's Book Groups as a way to highlight the importance of information books and to promote reading non-fiction for pleasure.

Each year, National Non-Fiction November has a different theme. The theme for 2022 is *Communication*.

Maybe your child will pick up one of our many non-fiction books from the school library on their next visit. And, of course, we will be celebrating non-fiction in class across school too.

Lancashire SEND partnership - SEND Information Events for Parents and Carers

Does your family include a child or young person with SEND?

- ✓ Find out what's on offer in your local area
- ✓ Understand what services are available
- ✓ Discover local support groups
- ✓ Refreshments will be provided

(see LCC SEND leaflet attached for details of events).

Little Church

I have been asked to give a plug for Little Church at St Mary's Church, which is very much back up and running again. At Mass last Sunday, there were ten children in attendance.

What is Little Church?

"Little Church" is the "Liturgy of the Word for Children". Our Parish welcomes families and the full participation of young children in the celebration of the Mass. Since 1987, children at St Mary's have enjoyed their own Liturgy of the Word through 'Little Church' at the 10.00am Sunday Mass. There are two groups: 3-6 and 7-10 year olds.

We try to ensure that Children's Liturgy is an enjoyable experience for the children which helps develop their relationship with God. We discuss the Gospel of the day at a level the children can understand and enjoy. We enrich this with discussion, prayers, songs, and readings. We also try to

raise awareness of God's love, the humanity of Jesus, the Seasons of the Church, the understanding of symbols in the Mass and the context of the Bible.

The children gather in Church for the beginning of the Mass with their families and after a blessing from Father they go out to the activity rooms with the leaders and helpers.

We return to lead the offertory procession and join our families for the rest of Holy Mass

Messages from the school office:

Secondary School Applications - Deadline for applications 31st October 2022

The deadline for high school applications is fast approaching and according to our records there are a number of families who have not yet submitted an online application. A reminder that if Holy Cross is one of your chosen options - they must have received a completed Supplementary Faith Form/ Supplementary Information Form by 31.10.22. You can download this from their website:

<https://www.holycross.lancs.sch.uk/hcs/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Supplementary-Faith-Information-Form-2023.pdf>

As with all faith schools - this is a vital part of the application and without it, your child's application will be ranked at a lower criteria level.

Message from Micaela from the Chorley Schools Sports Partnership CSSP

Hello,

We are running our October holiday camp during half term. I have attached the flyer if you could send out to your parents and share our social media across your channels that would be amazing. If you as a school would like to book anyone on just reply to this email and I can get that sorted for you.

Thank you ☺

Micaela Brindle



Messages from Tom Halstead, Community Engagement Officer, Chorley Borough Council.

Cricket Holiday Camps

Tom has informed us that Chorley and West Lancs Cricket Academy are running some sessions over the half term break. Please see attached leaflet.

Messages from Mrs Grzeczynska, Parish Administrator at St Mary's

1. We are looking for volunteer church cleaners on Thursdays at 09.30 -10.45. We really need some extra help and we would appreciate it if any parents could help us out.
2. Each Christmas Day, St Laurence's puts on a Christmas Lunch for those who need it. St Laurence's are having a volunteers meeting in their church, on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 19.00. The meeting will discuss how to manage the food service and how many sittings there will be and the duty rota. Perhaps you could encourage your older teenagers and undergraduates to help out in this very worthy cause. Thank you.

Alpha Series

Paul J McBeth has shared details of the new Alpha Series in the New Year. It will take place at St Joseph's Parish Centre Harpers Lane Chorley PR6 0HR Thursday 19th January 2023 7:00pm - 9:00pm Join Up @ Eventbrite (search Chorley Catholic Community Alpha Series 2).

Visit the link below for more information or see attached leaflet.

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!AtbNHwPWZaEvgb9ealGbTkP18nx-Vg>

The Children's Commissioner for England launches The Big Summer Survey

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, wants to hear more from children about their summer holidays to create a unique picture of children's lives over the summer. There is very little currently known at the national level about how children spend their time over the summer break and this new research will really add to that picture. You can access the survey at the link below.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-summer-survey/#msdyntrid=c0yXTRDwKe2fKUu2qgOOLjWjW2dNP64Toi2-09CKqWM>

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>



Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League


2022/ 2023 21.10.22



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1 st	YEAR 4	97.53
2 nd	YEAR 5	97.06
3 rd	YEAR 6	96.96
4 th	YEAR 3	95.83
5 th	RECEPTION	95.65
6 th	YEAR 2	95.64
7 th	YEAR 1	94.26

There were no classes with 100% attendance this week.

STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 21.10.22

	Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
	YN	Ella	trying really hard this week with good listening during carpet times.
	YR	Sophia	beautiful manners and always trying her best.
	Y1	Clara	her excellent attitude to learning.
	Y2	James	having a fabulous first half term in Y2, always trying his best and thinking of others.
	Y3	Evie	being kind and helpful to adults and her peers.
	Y4	Emma B	always working word and trying her best.
	Y5	Eva	always having an excellent attitude towards her learning and setting a good example.
	Y6	Harry W	hard work on short and long division.



Have a good half-term break – best wishes,

P Smyth

21.10.22