



School Newsletter

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

24.06.22

Dear parents and carers,

First Holy Communion - Sunday 19th June and Tea Party Monday 20th June



Congratulations to all the children who received their First Holy Communion last Sunday. Mrs Grzeczynska, the staff and parents have told me that the children had a wonderful day in reaching this important milestone on their faith journey.

On behalf of the whole school community I would like offer our huge thanks to Mrs Grzeczynska for her passion, time and effort in preparing the children so thoroughly this year. They loved working with her.

Thank you Fr Marsden for celebrating the Mass, for coming into school on Monday to bless the children's Communion gifts and for his gift of a special, ornate crucifix for each child together with a beautiful certificate. Thank you to all our staff who helped out last Sunday and thank you to parents, carers and families for your support of the programme this year.

Annual Good Shepherd Mass – St Mary's Church, Leyland

Mrs Banwell, Mrs Root and Mrs McGeown took the Y4 class to the annual Good Shepherd Mass celebrating the success of the fund raising appeal this year.

Archdiocese of Liverpool Pastoral Plan explained

Our very own Mr Hodge did some work for the Archdiocese over the Christmas holidays at the start of the year, which has just been published. He wrote two newsletters: one for children and one for families explaining what the **Archdiocese of Liverpool Pastoral Plan** means in their own language - so to speak. Father Phillip Inch (the person in charge) informed us that the links had gone live. See links below or see documents attached to the newsletter.

<http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/userfiles/files/Pastoral%20Plan%20for%20children.pdf>
<http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/userfiles/files/Pastoral%20Plan%20for%20families.pdf>

Kash, visitor to speak about Sikhism

Kash visited our school on Monday to teach us all about her faith, Sikhism. The children enjoyed her very lively, interactive presentations and learned a lot about her faith in the process. As part of our *Building Bridges* partnership with the Interfaith centre in Burnley, we have several faith visitors to come and visit us throughout the year. This helps support our Come and See, PSHE and Personal Development (including global learning) provision for our children.

Thomas Martland Maths Competition

Mrs Wilson took the Y5 maths team to take part in the Thomas Martland maths competition at Holy Cross Catholic High School, midweek. The team undertook a series of demanding mathematical challenges and questions. Mrs Wilson was amazed by their knowledge, skills, and excellent teamwork. Unfortunately, we did not return with the trophy this time – but congratulations to this year’s winners, St Joseph’s, Chorley. The children were justifiably proud of their efforts – well done team, thank you Mrs Wilson for taking the team and thank you parents/ carers for your support.

PTFA Ladies’ Night



Well done to Mrs Wilson and all the organisers of the PTFA’s Ladies’ Night for preparing last week’s event. And thank you to all those who supported the event. It raised just over £1000. Thank you very much!

Sports News

Thank you to Mrs Southern and Mrs Blackwell for taking the St Mary’s swimming team to All Seasons Leisure Centre last night to take part in the CSSP Swimming Gala. There were some great team and individual performances in the various events. The children had a great time and behaved beautifully. They even joined in with a big sing song with ‘Sweet Caroline’ at the end. And the school enjoyed a notable success in the Aqua Splash event with the St Mary’s competitors coming home with gold medals! Congratulations to the whole team and thanks again Mrs Blackwell and Mrs Southern.

Health Week

Please see below the final timetable (weather permitting!) for spectators to come and watch the sports day events for the various classes this year.

Date	Time	Class
27.06.22	0900 - 1100	Y1 and Y2
27.06.22	1310 - 1515	Y5 and Y6
01.07.22	0900 - 1000	EYFS
01.07.22	1000 - 1155	Y3 and Y4

Alpha Course

All the Catholic Parishes in Chorley are working together to put on an Alpha Series, starting in September. Alpha can best be described as an Introduction to Christianity and tries to give answers to the big questions in – why am I here, is there a God , what has Jesus got to do with it, etc etc? It is suitable for both those with no background in Christianity but are searching and for those with a

background in Christianity but are perhaps looking for a 're-boot'. Follow this link for an explanation of how Alpha works: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/214170130> 'Alpha is Coming [Alpha in a Catholic Context Introductory DVD \(extended version\) - English - YouTube](#)

Can you help? **Open Evening 30th June 7pm-9pm St Gregory's Church House'**

Scandi-inspired 'pop up stay and play' group at St Joseph's Parish Hall Hoghton

Mrs Aldridge, an EYFS teacher from St Joseph's in Withnell is running a Scandi inspired 'pop up stay and play' group at St Joseph's Parish Hall, Hoghton. The stay and play is for children aged 0-5 and their grown-ups.

The sessions have been carefully planned, and will be well resourced with high quality toys, soft play... and delicious coffee/ tea and home baked cakes :-)

The next six-week block is running each Thursday morning from Thursday 9th June- 14th July. The session is limited to 20 families. Pre booking is essential. More information can be found on the following Instagram page:

https://www.instagram.com/p/Cb2WiEwgZpJ/?utm_medium=copy_link

Alternatively you can book by emailing littlefolklancashire@outlook.com

Car Parking – Pick up and Drop off

Can I ask all parents/ carers, when dropping off and picking up:

- Please bear in mind especially, the safety of child pedestrians
- Please do not park across driveways.
- Please do not park in the hammerhead on Warton Place. Signs are now in place there.
- If possible, set off a little earlier, park a little further away and walk the rest of the way. The children get rewarded for a *Park and Stride*.

SHOW YOU CARE, PARK ELSEWHERE!

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

STARS OF THE WEEK w/e 24.06.22

Class	Name	Star of the Week for ...
YN	Rory D	Super phonics and super storytelling with his library book
YR	Lilah	For being a kind and caring friend
Y1	Tommy	Excellent effort in all areas of his work this week.
Y2	CiCi	Excellent effort in all areas of his work this week.
Y3	Patch	For a great effort with his Reasoning Maths Paper.
Y4	Charlie	His wonderful work and impressive knowledge during our Ancient Egypt topic.
Y5	Emilia K	For excellent work during our ancient Greek myths
Y6	Matthew	A great hybrid text about Hothersall Lodge



**Chorley, St Mary's Attendance League
2021/2022 24.06.22**



CURRENT POSITION	CLASS	CURRENT %
1st	YEAR 3	96.02
2nd	YEAR 5	95.74
3rd	YEAR 1	95.71
4th	YEAR 2	95.67
5th	YEAR 4	95.65
6th	RECEPTION	94.73
7th	YEAR 6	93.59

Yarrow Schools Teaching Alliance

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.horne@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk for more information

P Smyth, Headteacher 24.06.22