



# Newsletter 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## A warm welcome from your headteacher

I hope you and your family had a wonderful Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Hello – officially! It has only been two weeks, and I feel like I have been ‘home’ longer!

I am delighted to be joining SS Mary & Michael as Headteacher. It is a privilege to work with your wonderful children and to build on the many strengths of the school. I look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure every child feels safe, supported, and inspired to achieve their best. Over the coming weeks, I hope to meet many of you and learn more about what makes our school such a special place.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have already received. I am excited for the journey ahead.

Kind regards,  
Mrs A Dodd  
Headteacher



Admissions – September 2026

Please note that 15th January 2026 is the closing date to apply for a place in Reception for

September 2026 intake. You can find further details at:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/>

## Sports News

**Our football team played a friendly match at GCA yesterday. SSMM won overall and Mr McGown was vey proud of the standard of play and the great sportsmanship. Well done team!**



## Upcoming Events

- 16<sup>th</sup> January – Meet & Greet Headteacher
- 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Poolfoot small school county finals
- 5<sup>th</sup> February – Maths Challenge at OLCHS
- 10<sup>th</sup> February – SATS information evening for parents - 5pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> February – interim reports to parents
- **13<sup>th</sup> February - school closes for HALF TERM**
- 18<sup>th</sup> Feb – 5<sup>th</sup> April - LENT
- **23<sup>rd</sup> February – INSET**
- **24<sup>th</sup> February – School opens**
- 4<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening
- **27<sup>th</sup> March – School Closes for Easter**
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May – SATS Week
- 19<sup>th</sup> May – Sports Day
- **22<sup>nd</sup> May – school closes for HALF TERM**
- **1<sup>st</sup> June – INSET**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> June – School opens**
- Week of 1<sup>st</sup> June – Y4 Multiplication table check
- Week of 8th June – Y2 SATs
- Reports out to Parents
- **17<sup>th</sup> July – School closes for Summer**

### PTA events: (more details to follow about each event)

- 12<sup>th</sup> February – School disco 6-6:45pm KS1 / 7-7:45pm KS2
- 13<sup>th</sup> February – Break the rules day
- 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day – dress up day
- 13<sup>th</sup> March – non uniform day in return for chocolate for the Easter Bingo
- 20<sup>th</sup> March – Easter bingo
- 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Film night in school from 3:30pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> May – Ice cream
- 19<sup>th</sup> May - Colour dash / Sports Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> July – Fun Night

### SS Mary & Michael Parish News

Please click on the link below for the most recent news bulletin

<https://ssmaryandmichaelsgarstang.org.uk/newsletters/>



### AWARD WINNERS:



Weekend ending 9<sup>th</sup> January

Wren:

RS- Albert

BB – Shiloh

Writer – Monty

Owl:

RS – Malachi

BB – Hazel

Writer – Ruby

Woodpecker:

RS – Thea

BB – Daisy

Writer – Lottie

Heron:

RS – Stanley

BB – Lara

Writer - Scarlett



### UNIFORM REMINDER

We kindly remind parents of the importance of ensuring children always wear smart school uniform, as it reflects pride in our school community. Please remember school shoes should be smart, and trainers should only be worn for PE lessons. Tie checks will be happening periodically to ensure we are all meeting the standards. Should anyone have any spare ties at home, I would really appreciate them to use as spares!! Many thanks you for your continued support in maintaining high standards of appearance across our school.

