



St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CIDARI**

“Do your best, don't give up!”



NEWSLETTER 7 – 12th December 2025

Well, here we are, only a week to go until the end of the Autumn Term and the start of the Christmas holidays. It has been wonderful to see so many of you come along to the various performances this week from Pre-School, Reception and Years 1 & 2 and we really hope you enjoyed them. We have also enjoyed seeing the children enjoy a meal together with the traditional Christmas Crackers and the awful jokes that are to be expected.

We have a wonderful week ahead of us with a mix of parties and fun (as well as learning which does still carry on!) and we look forward to having fun with all the children at this joyous time of year.

Mr Mackley
Headteacher

Christmas Services

You may be aware that St Matthew's Parish has been merged with the Preston Minster parish and we are delighted to share their festive services with you as well as the services available at the St Matthew's Mission Hall on Acregate Lane.

Preston Minster:

Peace Wednesday 17th December · 7pm

Contemporary Carols

A service featuring your favourite carols with a modern twist

Hope Wednesday 24th December · 4pm

City Carols

A classic and beautiful service by candlelight

Joy Sunday 21st December · 11am

Family Carols

A fun, fast paced, family friendly service with lots of surprises!

Light Thursday 25th December · 10am

Christmas Day

A festive celebration for all the family

Mr Mackley will be doing one of the readings at the City Carols Service and Mrs Farnworth will be singing as part of the Church Choir at the same service. A warm welcome is extended to everyone to come along to join in the Christmas celebrations.

St Matthew's Mission Hall:

“Family at four” Every Sunday at 4pm for 2 hours. The main act of worship each Sunday. All are welcome to join us at Family at Four. Our services are a fun and informal cafe style service, followed by a light meal together.

“Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be...”

“Toddler Group” Every Thursday at 9:15 a.m. for 1 hour, 45 mins. Informal group for parents, carers and their pre school children. Term time only

“Work Club” Every First Monday at 12:30 p.m. for 2 hours, 30 mins. An informal drop in offering online access, help and advice to job seekers and others.

Things to do!

This week one of our wonderful Year 5 classes took a walk to the Harris Library in town to use their new library cards and to look at the Wallace and Gromit exhibition. For all fans of Wallace this is a must visit, free entry too. Further details at theharris.org.uk

Brockholes Visitor Centre just by junction 31 of the M6 is a great place to explore just a short drive or slightly longer walk away <https://www.lancswt.org.uk/places-visit/brockholes>

School Admissions

A reminder that Primary School applications **must be completed** by January 15th 2026! Please do tell anyone you know who is looking for a place to consider us, we are more than happy to offer opportunities for people new to the school to come and have a look around. Our Pre-School has an open session on Monday 1st December at 2pm too!

Applications can be made here <https://schooladmissions.lancashire.gov.uk/prefs.php>

Dates for your Diary

Key events next week

- 15th Dec - Years 5 & 6 Christmas Party
 - 16th Dec - Years 1 & 2 Christmas Party
 - 17th Dec - Reception Christmas Party
 - 18th Dec - Years 3 & 4 Christmas Party
 - 19th Dec - school closes at **2pm** for the Christmas holidays
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Reflection & Prayer

This week, I shared the story of King Wenceslas of Bohemia and how legend tells us he took his page (servant) with him to provide food, drink and warmth to a poor man that he saw at Christmas. (You may know the famous about Good King Wenceslas?). The key message of the story is to remember that the real joy of Christmas is to share whatever blessings we have with those around us and to be generous whenever we can.

At this time of Advent, Christians around the world are reminding themselves of this most important part of the Christmas story, that Jesus came to earth to teach us to love and share with one another.

Dear God,

Thank you for the example of King Wenceslas who took what he had and shared it with someone in need. Help us to do what we can to share with others in need so that the peace and love of God can be shared to bring joy to others.



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In Jesus' name,

Amen

All our worships can be viewed online here <https://www.st-matthewscofe.lancs.sch.uk/blog/category/worship>

Google Translate

If you need to translate this newsletter into your own language, please feel free to use [Google Translate](#) . It's not perfect but better than nothing!

Class Dojo only translates into a limited number of languages and we are aware of at least 27 languages other than English which are spoken here at St Matt's!



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