



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Hall Road, Scarisbrick, Lancashire. L40 9QE

Tel: (01704) 880 626

Website: [www.stmaryscps.co.uk](http://www.stmaryscps.co.uk)

Email: [head@st-marys-scarisbrick.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-marys-scarisbrick.lancs.sch.uk)

Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 7th November, 2025

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read how the people had actually lost sight of God by getting caught up in their buying and selling. Jesus' enthusiastic action was a protest that things had gone seriously wrong with how they were relating to God; something needed to change.

*Dear Lord Jesus,*

*Please fill us with enthusiasm to love you, to serve you, and to help others to know you too.*

*Amen.*



The Sunday liturgy is available weekly on the Wednesday Word by following the link on the school website <https://www.stmaryscps.co.uk/wednesday-word/>

## In school this week...

### Open Day Invitation: Come and See Learning in Action!

We're delighted to invite ALL **current and new parents** to our upcoming Open Day; a special opportunity to see your children in action and explore the vibrant learning taking place across the school. You will be able to visit classrooms and experience the wonderful atmosphere that makes our school so special. It's a chance to celebrate the hard work and creativity of our pupils—and to see just how much they're growing and thriving.

We're especially excited to showcase our **brand-new** Class 1 classroom! Come and see how this inspiring environment is helping our youngest learners flourish.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### OPEN DAY

FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025  
2PM

Come and see our fantastic  
**BRAND NEW**  
Early Years classroom!

**About Our School**

- Teacher-Led Early Years Class
- Places available Nursery-Y6
- "Good" judgement from the Catholic Schools Inspectorate

All existing and new families welcome!

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### Welcome back to school!

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school this week. There's been a real buzz of excitement as all classes have launched into their new topics with enthusiasm and curiosity.

To mark the season, the children also celebrated Bonfire Night, taking part in activities that helped them explore the history of the event and learn important messages about staying safe around fireworks and bonfires.

*Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith*

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Hall Road  
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## An Update on Our Magical Journey Through Mathematics at St Mary's



At St Mary's, we believe that mathematics is more than just numbers — it's a gateway to problem-solving, logical thinking, and confidence-building. From Nursery to Year 6, our pupils are encouraged to explore maths in creative and meaningful ways that connect to the world around them.

This term, our journey has taken a particularly exciting turn with the success of Times Tables Rock Stars in Class 3. The children have embraced the challenge with enthusiasm, showing fantastic progress in their recall of multiplication facts — and having a lot of fun along the way! Their energy and achievements have inspired us to roll out the programme to Class 2, where we're already seeing eager learners ready to rock their times tables. Look out for your passwords!



At St Mary's, we're excited to share the launch of a new approach to mathematics in Classes 1 and 2, designed to help every child build a deep, long-term, and adaptable understanding of the subject.

We're introducing an extra, short daily maths mastery lessons, which focus on developing fluency, reasoning, and problem-solving skills. These sessions are carefully structured to ensure that pupils revisit and build on key concepts, helping them to gain confidence and competence in their mathematical thinking.





## Class 1 'Shining Stars'

This week, Class 1 have had the best week in our new classroom! We have spent time exploring all of the different areas and enhancements together, making sure that all of our resources have a home and most importantly, learning, playing and having fun!

In our beautiful new classroom, we have lots of opportunities to develop our maths skills. Take a look at some of the things we can do:

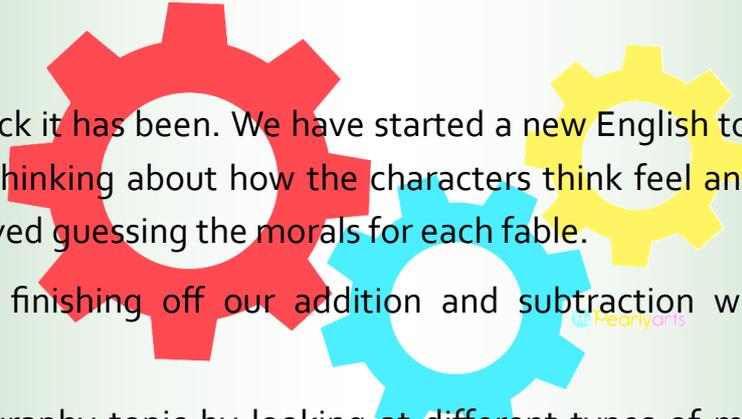
- Sorting objects into groups - by colour, size, shape.
- Counting using natural resources, cars, figures etc.
- Matching numerals to the correct number of objects
- Counting how many craft resources to use
- Finding the correct number of plates, bowls, cups for a tea party
- Building towers of different heights
- Themed maths activities for Halloween, Bonfire Night, Christmas etc.



A huge well done to the first person in Class 1 to complete our 'Room on the Broom' reading challenge! He has had his photograph taken with our very own witch, and chosen a prize from our special prize box!



## Class 2 'Trailblazers'



What a busy first week back it has been. We have started a new English topic on Aesop's fables and have spent a lot of time thinking about how the characters think feel and what they would say to each other. We have enjoyed guessing the morals for each fable.

In Maths we have been finishing off our addition and subtraction work ready to move onto multiplication next week.

We started our new Geography topic by looking at different types of maps and what we already know about them. We are looking forward to making our own maps using symbols and grid references.

In Science we took advantage of a dry afternoon to collect leaves from our school grounds. We then used them to identify the trees that are around our school.



We are so proud of this young lady who has successfully reached the end of the Class 2 Harry Potter reading challenge. It takes hard work and dedication to your reading, so a huge well done!





## Class 3 'Bright Sparks'



Class 3 have made a fantastic start to the half term and have settled in beautifully!

We've begun exploring 'A Christmas Carol' as our new class text. The children are delving into historical literature and will soon be writing their own imaginative chapter to extend the story. We're excited to explore the rich characters and atmospheric settings in more depth.

Our focus this term is multiplication and division. The children have been using practical maths equipment to deepen their understanding, especially around square and cube numbers. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow through hands-on learning.



Our new PE topic is gymnastics, and the children had a brilliant first session with Mr Shingler. They explored different types of movement and showed great enthusiasm and creativity. We're looking forward to building on these skills in the coming weeks.

Next week, Class 3 will lead a heartfelt assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day, honouring the courage and sacrifice of those who served in times of war and conflict. We warmly invite all school parents, carers, and members of our school community to join us for this special occasion on Tuesday, 11th November at 9:15 AM in the School Hall. It's a moment for us all to pause, reflect, and come together in gratitude and respect.

We hope you'll be able to attend and support Class 3 in marking this important day.





## Celebration Assembly



	Special Award - For being a 'cheerleader' by showing faith in others	Good Work Award
Class 1	Lilian O	Thomas H
Class 2	Fia H	Theo P
Class 3	Connie R	Freddie O
Headteacher's award	Alexandra B	Bailey H
Mathematician of the week	Isabella E	
Presentation award	Elliot H	
Attendance Award	Class 98.32%	



## Attendance



### Attendance for the week ending 07.11.25

	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	90.83%	3
Class 2	17	98.32%	1
Class 3	22	96.27%	2



## Dates for your diary

Friday, 7th—14th November	Raffle for Children in Need
Monday, 10th November	Launch of Anti-Bullying Week with school assembly and class based tasks
Monday, 10th November	Odd Socks Day (for Anti-Bullying)
Tuesday, 11th November	Remembrance Assembly (9:15am) Led by Class 3
Wednesday, 12th November	After School KS2 Craft Club begins (for 5 Wednesdays)
Wednesday, 19th November	Parents Evening
Wednesday, 3rd December	Whole School Advent Mass (9:30am in St Elizabeth's Church)
Thursday, 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Breakfast with Santa & Santa Dash

*Have a wonderful weekend! From Mrs Preston & the staff of St Mary's*



# SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY

SOUTH

Do you have a child starting  
primary school in September 2026  
and living in Lancashire?

**Closing date: 15 January 2026**

You **must** apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school,  
or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

Apply for a school place now by scanning  
the QR code or visit [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://lancashire.gov.uk/schools)



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference,  
please check the guidance on our website, or call 01772 532109.

HAVE  
YOUR SAY

*Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with  
you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs.  
To find out more please visit [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces)  
and click 'school admission policies'.*

[lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk)



**Lancashire**  
County  
Council 

# FAMILY HUB SCHOOL DROP IN

Come along and meet your Children & Family Wellbeing Service representative where you can discuss any issues or concerns you have for you and your family.

## **NEXT SESSION**

19th November 2025

St Mary's Catholic  
Primary School

2.30pm - 4.30pm

**FAMILY  
HUB**  
WEST LANCASHIRE

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**AUTUMN TERM 2025**  
**TO KNOW YOU MORE CLEARLY**

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Our classes will be studying the new Religious Education Directory curriculum that covers the themes of 'Creation and Covenant' and 'Prophecy and Promise'.

**CREATION AND COVENANT**

*(3<sup>rd</sup> September – 24<sup>th</sup> October)*

**Class 1 CREATION AND COVENANT**

- the whole of creation shows God love for us.
- we enter God's family, the Church, through baptism.

**Class 2 CREATION AND COVENANT**

- Retell the story of Noah
- The sacrament of baptism is when a person becomes part of the Christian family and promises to love God.

**Class 3 CREATION AND COVENANT**

- The Story of Abraham, Sarah & Isaac
- The virtues of faith, hope and love.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR  
HOME ACTIVITIES**

*Find some of God's creations  
when you are out and about.*

**PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

*(3<sup>rd</sup> November – 19<sup>th</sup> December)*

**Class 1 PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

- Celebrate Advent, it is a time to get ready for Christmas
- Mary was chosen by God to give birth to his son.

**Class 2 PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

- Advent is the season when Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus.
- The stories of the Annunciation, The Visitation & the birth of Jesus

**Class 3 PROPHECY AND PROMISE**

- Advent is a time of preparation for Jesus' incarnation at Christmas.
- The prophets John the Baptist & Elijah.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR  
HOME ACTIVITIES**

*Find out about some  
Christian symbols for  
Advent e.g. Advent  
wreath, calendar, Jesse  
tree.*

*Use the CAFOD or Mission  
websites to get a religious  
Advent calendar.*

# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

*Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith*



## Religious Education Autumn Term Newsletter 2025-26

### **Important dates this term**

#### **WELCOME MASS**

(7<sup>th</sup> September)

St Elizabeth's Church at 9.00am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **HARVEST MASS**

(28<sup>th</sup> September)

St Elizabeth's Church at 9.00am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **WHOLE SCHOOL MASS**

(3<sup>rd</sup> October)

St Elizabeth's Church at 9.30am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **ALL SAINTS**

(1st November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

#### **THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)**

(2nd November)

Today and throughout the rest of November, we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY**

(11th November – 9.15am)

The children of Class 3 will lead a service for Remembrance Day for all school pupils and families at 9.15am.

#### **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING**

(24th November)

#### **ADVENT**

(Begins 1st December)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing.

Whole School Mass – Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December in St Elizabeth's Church at 9.30am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.

#### **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

(8th December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

#### **CLASS 1 CHRISTMAS NATIVITY**

(16<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am & 2.30pm)

The EYFS children will present the story of the first Christmas for families and children from Class 1.

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

(25th December)

# School Parking

## Have you considered:

- Walking or cycling to school instead? This is a great way to contribute to a child's 60 minutes of activity a day and is easy to incorporate into your daily routine. Try it once a week at first and see how easy it can be.
- Parking nearby or getting off the bus two stops earlier and walking the rest of the way. If you live too far away to walk or need your car for your commute to work you can still walk part of the way. Adults in England should aim to take part in at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity each week.
- Car sharing is a great way to reduce congestion and save you pennies. Team up with other parents or carers who live nearby- share the cost and halve the hassle.

If you have a parking concern outside of your school report it to [parking@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:parking@lancashire.gov.uk)

For more information on this leaflet please email the Road Safety Team at [roadsafetyschool@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafetyschool@lancashire.gov.uk)



**Better Health** healthier families

Sign up at [nhs.uk/betterhealth](https://nhs.uk/betterhealth)



SCHOOL



[lancashire.gov.uk](https://lancashire.gov.uk)



## A Guide to Parking Safely at Our Schools

Inconsiderate and dangerous parking around our schools has become a big problem, putting the safety of children and others at risk. We all want to keep our children safe around schools, so here are some top tips on how you can make a difference.

### How can you help?

- ✓ Keep your speed down
- ✓ Turn your engine off - do not idle
- ✓ Leave the middle of the road free, with enough room for other road users to easily pass through
- ✓ Make sure your child leaves and enters your vehicle safely onto the pavement
- ✓ Check for pedestrians and cyclists before opening a car door
- ✓ Leave enough room on pavements for pedestrians, pushchairs & wheelchairs to get past
- ✓ Take care when reversing
- ✓ DO NOT PARK ON ZIG ZAG LINES

Please keep restricted areas clear

- ✓ Zig zags and school entrances
- ✓ Dropped kerbs
- ✓ Resident's driveways
- ✓ Opposite or within 10 metres of a junction- so that children can see cars and cars can see children.

### Your questions answered

What would happen if I did park in a restricted area?

If you park in a restricted area you are putting children's lives in danger and for this reason school parking is regularly monitored and enforced. If you park in a restricted area you could receive a £70 fine.

Am I okay to stop on zig zag markings if I am only there a few minutes?

No, under no circumstances should you stop on zig zag markings at any time, these are there to protect school entrances and leave a clear view of the street for pedestrians.

Please park considerably around our schools and keep our children safe!

Don't forget...

Congestion around schools is one of the main reasons given for dangerous parking and there are other ways you could do the school run...



Never park on zig zags or block school entrances

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

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**St Mary's School Holiday Dates 2025/ 26**

**Autumn Term 2025**

**INSET:** Monday 1 September 2025

**INSET:** Tuesday 2 September 2025

Mid Term Closure: Monday 27 October- Friday 31 October 2025 (inclusive)

Closure after school on: Friday 19 December 2025

Number of openings: **75**

**Spring Term 2026**

Re-open on: Monday 5 January 2026

Mid Term Closure: Monday 16 February - Friday 20 February 2026 (inclusive)

Closure after school on: Friday 27 March 2026

Number of openings: **55**

**Summer Term 2026**

Re-open on: Monday 13 April 2026

May Day Closure: Monday 4 May 2026

Mid Term Closure: Monday 25 May - Friday 5 June 2026

Closure after school on: Monday 27 July 2026

**INSET:** Thursday, 23 July 2026

**INSET:** Friday, 24 July 2026

**INSET:** Monday, 27 July 2026

Number of openings: **65**

**Total number of openings – 195**

**(190 days for pupil + 5 INSET days for staff)**