



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 12th September, 2025

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read that God loves us so much that he gave his only Son for us. Jesus' great act of love, of self-giving, on the cross, has paved the way for people to share in the true richness of God's joy and love.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for giving your life for us, and for all the kind people in our community who show us your way of love and self-giving. 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...

Curriculum Open Evening—Monday, 15th September

We warmly invite all parents and carers to our Curriculum Evening on Monday 15th September, with two sessions available at 3:30pm and 4:00pm to accommodate families with more than one child in the school. The presentations will take place in classrooms. This is a fantastic opportunity to hear about the exciting developments taking place across our classrooms this year, including:

- Our new curriculum and how it supports deeper learning and creativity
- Reading challenges designed to inspire a lifelong love of books
- Updates on homework expectations and how you can support at home
- Our new Science curriculum, sparking curiosity and hands-on discovery
- PE opportunities to promote health, teamwork, and fun
- Introduction of new weekly awards to celebrate hard work, attendance and presentation



We look forward to sharing our vision for the year ahead and answering any questions you may have. Your partnership is key to your child's success—and we're excited to continue that journey together.

Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



Class 1 'Shining Stars'

Class 1 have had a wonderful first full week back to school. We have spent time getting settled into school routines again and catching up with our friends after a long summer break. To start our 'All About Me' topic, we have been looking carefully at each other's features and discussing what is similar or different about each of us and then painted a self portrait.

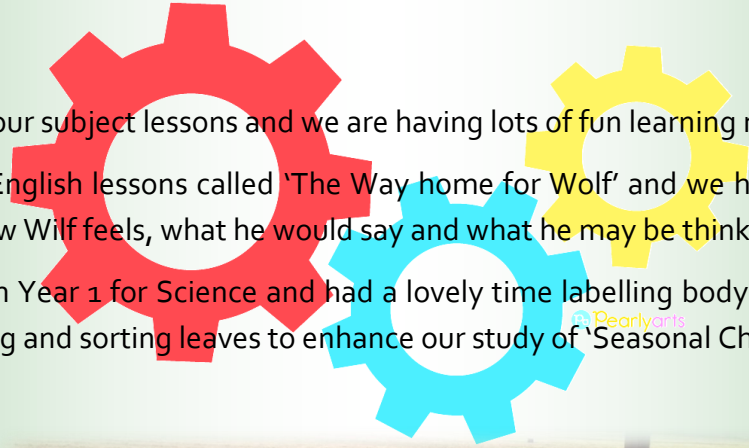
Class 1 have been listening to stories to recognise how God made our beautiful world and everything in it. We used our Golden Box to retell the story together in class.★

Earlier in the week, we found a tiny door in our classroom. The next day a little mouse called Harry appeared with a new book called 'Harry the Happy Mouse'! We have started to discuss what Harry might do in the story and can't wait to read it!





Class 2 'Trailblazers'



This week we have started all our subject lessons and we are having lots of fun learning new things.

We have a new book for our English lessons called 'The Way home for Wolf' and we have spent a lot of time acting out the story and exploring how Wilf feels, what he would say and what he may be thinking.

On Tuesday Year 2 joined with Year 1 for Science and had a lovely time labelling body parts followed by an outdoor Forest School session collecting and sorting leaves to enhance our study of 'Seasonal Changes.'



On Wednesday our new Lancs PE teacher came in to start our Athletics topic and we all had a great time practising our jumping skills.





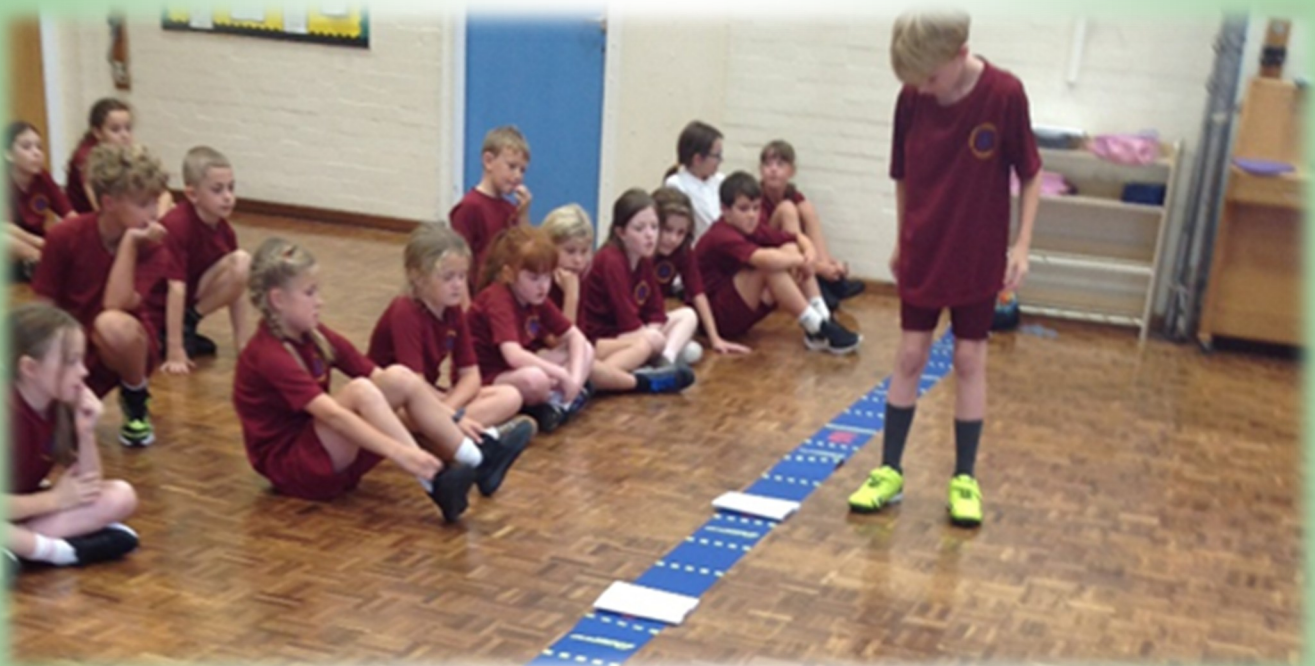
Class 3 'Bright Sparks'

Wow what a fantastic start to our Autumn term, well done Class 3! The children have settled into school as enthusiastic learners and we are excited to be beginning our new curriculum.

In English we have started our class text, *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* and we are looking forward to reading and learning more about this fantastic story. We used art to explore the setting of the story and we explored how it would have felt to have been an evacuee.



Our first athletics session with Mr. Frawley was a fantastic success. This week the children developed their jumping skills, practicing long jump. We have amazing athletes in Class 3! Keep up the excellent work, Class 3!





Celebration Assembly

	Special Award - For being ready, responsible & respectful	Good Work Award
Class 1	Lyle W	Clay W
Class 2	Connie Mc	Emily H
Class 3	Charlie M	Roman W
Headteacher's award	Xander L	Emrys Mc
Mathematician of the week	Cooper G	
Presentation award	Lila G	
Attendance Award	Class 3 - 99.10%	



Attendance



Attendance for the week ending 12.09.25

	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	88.05%	3rd
Class 2	17	98.82%	2nd
Class 3	22	99.10%	1st



Dates for your diary

Monday, 15th Sept	Curriculum meetings (Two meeting times to help parents with 2 children in the school—3:30pm and/ or 4pm)
Friday, 26th Sept	Macmillan Afternoon Tea (3:30-4:15pm)
Sunday, 28th Sept	Harvest Festival Mass (9am in St Elizabeth's Church) - Harvest donations will be collected throughout the week beginning 22nd Sept
Monday, 29th Sept	Parents invited to join us at our staff meeting to organise PTA events
Thursday, 2nd October	Flu vaccinations (in school)
W/ B 6th October	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday, 17th October	Mufti day for Halloween treats
Wednesday, 22nd October	Spooky Bingo (3:30pm)

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



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
and click 'school admission policies'.*

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County
Council 

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

(3rd September – 24th 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

(3rd November – 19th 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

HARVEST MASS

(Sunday 28th September)

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

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

(3rd 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)

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

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING

(23rd November)

ADVENT

(Begins 30th November)

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 –

Friday, 3rd 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.

EYFS CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

(16th December – 9.30am & 2.30pm)

The EYFS children will present the story of the first Christmas for families and children from Nursery & Reception.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(25th December)

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

(30th 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

For more information on this leaflet please email the Road Safety Team at roadsafetyschool@lancashire.gov.uk



Better Health healthier families

Sign up at nhs.uk/betterhealth



SCHOOL

SCHOOL



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...



SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR



Never park on zig zags or block school entrances

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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)