



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Hall Road, Scarisbrick, Lancashire. L40 9QE

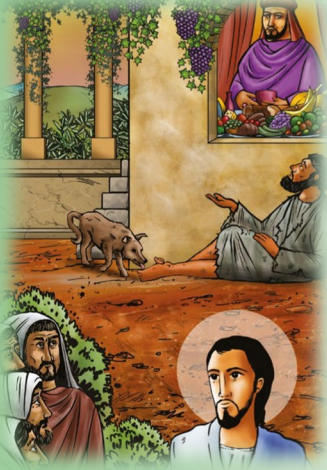
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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 26th September, 2025



In this Sunday's Gospel we read about poor Lazarus, suffering at the rich man's gate – and the rich man does nothing to help him. It's easy for us to become so caught up in the busyness of life that we don't even notice the needs of others or, worse still, ignore them. But Jesus repeatedly teaches us about fairness, sharing and kindness to others, particularly to the poor.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for blessing us with many good things. Please help us to see the needs of others and to share with anyone in need.

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...

Harvest Fever in St Mary's



Harvest Food Collection:

Please can I thank you all for your generous donations. They are beautifully displayed in church before being shared with our local food bank to support those in need.

Mass of Thanksgiving: Every member of our school family is warmly invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving on *Sunday, 28th September at 9am in St Elizabeth's Church* which we will celebrate with Bishop John. The children's artwork has been proudly displayed in the church as part of the celebration. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in faith and gratitude. We look forward to celebrating this season of giving and growth with our whole school community. Thank you for your continued support!

Macmillan Coffee Morning

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon Tea. Your kindness, generosity, and support made the event truly special. Together, we've helped raise vital funds for Macmillan Cancer Support, and your contributions will make a real difference in the lives of those affected by cancer.

We're hosting another cake sale after school on Monday in Mrs McGrath's classroom from last year. All proceeds will be added to our funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



Class 1 'Shining Stars'

Class 1 started this sunny week by going on a leaf hunt around our school grounds. The children looked high and low for leaves of different colours, textures, shapes and sizes. We spent time together observing the leaves and talking about how the leaves were all different. Later in the week, Class 1 were leaf artists! The children used the leaves to make leaf patterns and headbands. They even explored using crayons to create leaf rubbings. The children were fascinated!



Class 1 have enjoyed learning all about Harvest this week. In preparation for our Mass on Sunday, we have been collecting food to take to church and decorating different fruits and vegetables to decorate our Church window with. We are looking forward to seeing it on Sunday morning.



Class 2 'Trailblazers'



This week we have spent some time learning about foods we can harvest and creating some lovely harvest wreaths to decorate our church for the Harvest Festival Mass.



In English we have moved onto non-fiction work and have been learning lots of facts about wolves ready for writing our own fact books.

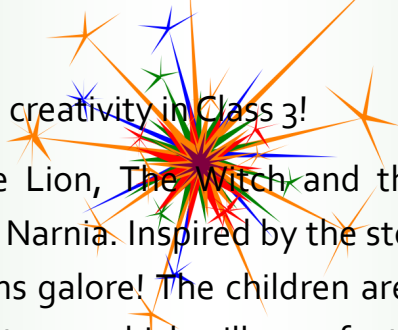
In History we have learnt why Queen Elizabeth II suddenly found out she would be queen one day. Next week we will be learning about her coronation day.

In PE we had a brilliant outdoor athletics session!





Class 3 'Bright Sparks'



What a fantastic week of learning and creativity in Class 3!

We've been diving deeper into 'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe', and the children are absolutely captivated by the world of Narnia. Inspired by the story, we've been researching mythical beasts—unicorns, griffins, and dragons galore! The children are now channelling their imaginations to create their very own mythical creatures, which will soon feature in some exciting writing projects.

Place value has been our focus this week, and the children have been rounding, comparing, ordering, and confidently adding and subtracting numbers. We've also stepped back in time to explore Roman numerals—X marks the spot for some brilliant learning!

Year 4 have been exploring playscripts in guiding reading and brought their alien-themed performances to life with enthusiasm and flair.



Our competitive spirit is shining in PE as we continue our Outdoor and Adventurous Activities. A big well done to the winners of last Friday's challenge—your teamwork and determination were outstanding!



Dates for your diary



Sunday, 28th Sept	Harvest Festival Mass (9am in St Elizabeth's Church)
Monday, 29th Sept	Parents invited to join us at our staff meeting to organise PTA events
Thursday, 2nd October	Flu vaccinations (in school)
Friday, 3rd October	Whole School Mass (9:30am in St Elizabeth's Church)
Monday, 6th October	Launch of Black History Month with school assembly and class based tasks
Thursday, 16th October	Visit from the school library bus
Friday, 17th October	Mufti day for Halloween treats
Wednesday, 22nd October	Spooky Bingo (3:30pm)
Friday, 24th October	Break up for half term (3:20pm)
Monday, 3rd November	Back to school (8:55am)
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 (presented by Class 3) - all parents welcome
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
Tuesday, 16th December	Class 1 Nativity (9:30 and 2:30pm)
Thursday, 18th December	End of term awards assembly (9:15am) - all parents welcome
Friday, 19th December	Break up for Christmas (2pm)

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

WELCOME MASS

(7th September)

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

HARVEST MASS

(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 – 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, 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.

CLASS 1 CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

(16th 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

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



lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County Council



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

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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)