



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 13th February, 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel (taken from the Sermon on the Mount), Jesus teaches us how important it is to follow God's laws; our Catholic schools and parishes try very hard to do the same.

*Dear Lord Jesus,*

*Please bless all the people in my life who teach me. Thank you for being my friend and teacher. Please help me to learn and grow in your love.*

*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/>

## This week in school...

Safer Internet Day 2026 took place on the 10th of February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. Class 3 presented a wonderful, informative assembly on the impact of AI on all of our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly.

We were so proud of the way the children presented the information and explained the important message of staying safe while on the internet. A huge thanks to all the parents who were able to attend the presentation and workshop.



*Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith*



## Class 1 'Shining Stars'

This week, Class 1 have been tying together their learning from Spring 1. In Art, we have been focusing on collage this half term. The children have worked hard to use all of the skills they have learnt; ripping, scrunching, sticking etc to create their final collages. Some children also used these skills to create collage fish in RE to represent their learning of Jesus feeding the 5000.



Year 1 have been completing their final writing task for 'The Elephant's Umbrella'. They have produced some excellent pieces of writing, using all of the writing skills we have learnt so far. We are very impressed with how well they are doing!



Class 1 have also been talking about all of the people that they love in their lives. We are extremely lucky to have so many different people that we love. We have spent time this week decorating cards, making crafts and decorating biscuits too!



## Class 2 'Trailblazers'

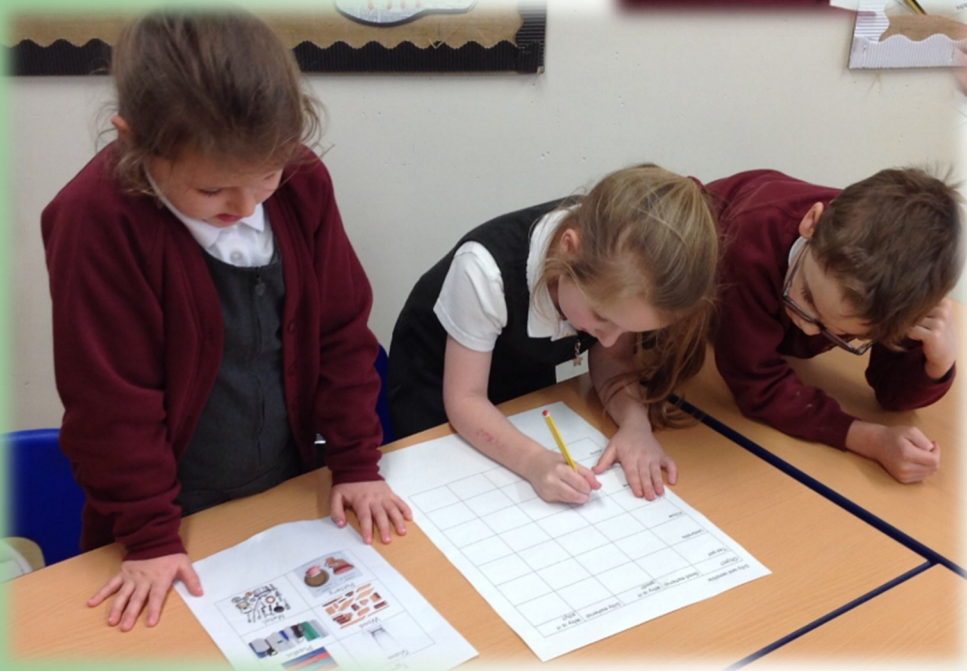
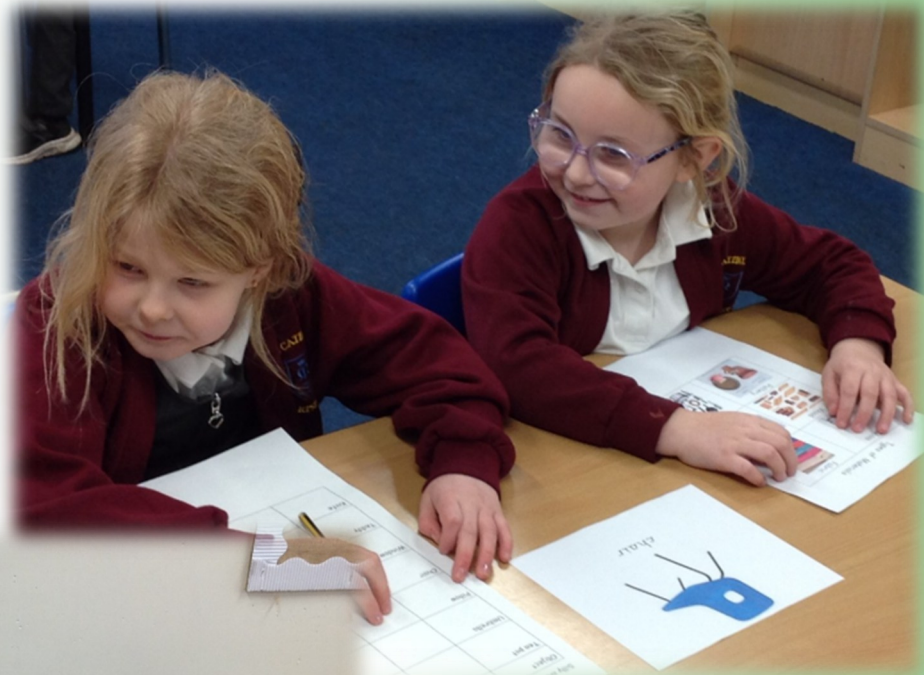


Pearlyarts

This week we have been finishing all of our topics off and completing assessments to see how much we can remember.

In Maths it was the end of our topic on multiplication and division methods and in English we finished with some independent report writing on our History explorers – Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong.

In Science we had a practical lesson looking at silly and sensible material choices. We went around in small groups looking at objects and deciding the most sensible and the silliest material they could be made from with good reasons for each.



We hope that you have a lovely half term holiday but please find time to do your homework and lots of reading too.



## Class 3 'Bright Sparks'

This week, as part of Online Safety Day, our Key Stage 2 children took part in a live BBC computing lesson. They explored how chatbots work and even had a go at designing their own. The class loved thinking about the kinds of questions a chatbot needs to ask and learning the basics behind programming simple AI systems.



In Maths, everyone has continued to work incredibly hard.

- Years 5 and 6 have been tackling fractions—multiplying, adding, dividing, and working confidently with mixed numbers and integers.
- Year 4 has been focusing on rectilinear shapes and calculating their perimeters. All the children have shown great determination and progress.

In both History and English, we've been bringing our learning together to create fantastic information booklets about the Anglo-Saxons. The children have combined their historical knowledge with their writing skills to produce detailed, beautifully presented work—a brilliant way to conclude our topic.

In RE we came to the end of our 'Galilee to Jerusalem' branch by reading Matthew's gospel about Peter's profession of faith. We then recreated Lauren Wright Pittman's artwork 'Peter and Jesus' to explain how Peter answered Jesus' question "who do you say I am?". The children produced some stunning pieces!



We had great fun in Spanish while we were learning commands and instructions that we might use in a PE session— jump, sit, stand, hop, walk, run etc. We also used the phrase "me gusta ..." to describe the movements that we like. Muy bien Clase Tres!



## Attendance

### Attendance for the week ending 13.02.26

	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	92.31%	2
Class 2	17	91.50%	3
Class 3	23	99.03%	1



## Celebration Assembly



	Special Award - For showing resilience	Good Work Award
Class 1	Elsie M	Emma O
Class 2	Fia H	Tommy G
Class 3	Penelope P	Maisy S
Headteacher's award	Jenson L	Kacper L
Mathematician of the week	Emrys Mc	
Presentation award	Evelyn D	
Attendance Award	Class 3 — 99.03 %	

### Important Dates



Friday, 13th February—Monday, 23rd February	Half Term Break
Monday, 16th February –Friday, 6th March	Renovations to the front entrance.
Tuesday, 24th February	First Holy Communion preparation session (in church) 3.20—4pm
Wednesday, 25th February	Easter Craft Club (first of three sessions)
Thursday, 26th February	School nurse drop in session (2.00—4.00pm)
Tuesday, 3rd March	Fencing (first of 5 sessions) - 8.00—8.45am
Wednesday, 4th March	Whole School Lent Mass (in church) 9.30am
Thursday, 5th March	World Book Day (Whole School Reading Café) 9.10am

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

## CAMP VENUES



TARLETON  
ACADEMY



ORMSKIRK  
SCHOOL

ONLY  
**£22.50**  
per day



ENDEAVOUR  
COMMUNITY



ACTIVITY  
CAMP



with  
WEST LANCASHIRE  
SPORT PARTNERSHIP



**FEB HALF TERM**

**MON 16<sup>TH</sup> - FRI 20<sup>TH</sup>**

Arts & Crafts, Athletics,  
Basketball, Dance,  
Dodgeball, Football,  
Invasion and  
Target Games, Swimming\*  
and much more!

\*Tarleton only

Open to  
5 - 12  
year olds

8.30AM  
until  
4.30PM



To book your child's place please visit  
<https://ec.schoolactivity.co.uk>  
and if you have any queries  
please email

# Learn to Ride



The WLSP Learn to Ride and Level 1 programme is a great introduction to cycling for primary aged children.

Available for ages 7+

## ABOUT

Our fully qualified and experienced instructors will aim to improve the participants riding ability and overall confidence.

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Sessions take place on the tennis courts at Burscough Priory Academy. Please access the Main Car Park and make your way to the school's reception where our instructor will be there to greet you.

Please feel free to book multiple sessions and for more practice!

\*\*\* A limited number of helmets can be provided, but we encourage you to bring your own if possible - please contact us first before booking if you require a helmet

\*\*\*

\*\*\* Children must bring their own bike \*\*\*



## LOCATIONS AND DATES

Burscough Priory Academy,  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Learn To Ride, 9am - 12pm (3 x 1 hour sessions)  
Level 1, 1pm - 2.30pm (£7.50)

**£5 PER 1 HOUR SESSION**

To book; <https://ec.schoolactivity.co.uk/>  
For more info call: 01704 377982

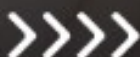


# Parents and Carers, tell us about your experience of using childcare in Lancashire



Scan the QR code to  
access our short survey

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





## St Mary's Catholic Primary School

*Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith*

### **Religious Education Spring Term Newsletter 2026**

#### **Important dates this term**

**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

**1st January**

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

**6th January**

*The Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Three Kings to the infant Jesus.*

*There will be mass on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January St Elizabeth's Church at 9.30am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.*

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**11th January**

*The Baptism of the Lord commemorates Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist.*

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

**2nd February**

*The Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas, commemorates the time when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem 40 days after his birth*

**SHROVE TUESDAY**

**17th February**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**18th February**

*Ash Wednesday is a day of reflection, marking the beginning of Lent and a 40-day period of preparation for Easter*

**ST DAVID**

**2nd March**

**MOTHERING SUNDAY**

**15th March**

**ST PATRICK**

**17th March**

**THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

**25th March**

*The Annunciation of the Lord celebrates the moment when the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would conceive and give birth to Jesus Christ.*

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**29th March**

*Palm Sunday recalls the story of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, where people greeted him by waving palm branches and laying their cloaks in his path*

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**2nd April**

*Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ and the washing of his disciples' feet.*

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**3rd April**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**5th April**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**SPRING TERM 2026**  
**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 'Galilee to Jerusalem' and 'Desert to Garden'.

**GALILEE TO JERUSALEM**  
*(5<sup>TH</sup> January – 13<sup>th</sup> February)*

**Class 1 GALILEE TO JERUSALEM** – The Wise Men visit Jesus. Jesus came to show God's love and welcomes everyone. Jesus takes care of everyone.

**Class 2 GALILEE TO JERUSALEM** – The children will deepen their knowledge about who Jesus is and understand how he teaches about the nature of God through parables and miracles.

**Class 3 GALILEE TO JERUSALEM** - The children will consider Jesus' question to Peter, 'Who do you say I am?' They will also reflect on Jesus as the servant Messiah and how he announces the Kingdom of Heaven to those at the edge of society.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR  
HOME ACTIVITIES**

Read Bible stories  
together or  
encourage children to  
read a  
child's Bible.

**DESERT TO GARDEN**  
*(23<sup>rd</sup> February – 27<sup>th</sup> March)*

**Class 1 DESERT TO GARDEN** – Jesus wants us to care for others in Lent. Jesus died on a cross. Jesus rose and we celebrate.

**Class 2 DESERT TO GARDEN** – The children will revisit scripture from the previous year to consolidate learning about the events of Holy Week. They will also explore how Lent is a time of reconciliation and forgiveness.

**Class 3 DESERT TO GARDEN** - The children will explore Lent's themes of forgiveness and reconciliation and the idea that devotion to God leads a person to do good works. They will also look at Holy Week in St Matthew's gospel.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR  
HOME ACTIVITIES**

As a family talk about  
how you are going to  
practice self-giving for  
the rest of the season of  
Lent. You may decide to  
give up biscuits or cakes  
and donate the money to  
a charity. Ask your  
child/ren what they are  
doing in school to focus  
on Lent and self-giving.

# 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)



[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**

*Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith*



**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)**