



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 27th February, 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel we hear about something very special that happened to Jesus while he was on a mountain with three of his friends. His appearance changed as his face and clothes shone like the sun. This also changed the lives of his friends as they realised that Jesus was the Son of God.

God of light and power,

You sent your Son Jesus to show us how to live our lives. Help us to recognise him in all people we meet and to take action to change the world for the better.

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...



Dear Parents,

I hope you had a wonderful and restful half term break with your beautiful children. It has been a pleasure to welcome them back for the second half of the spring term, and they have already settled back into school life with great enthusiasm.

Firstly, I would like to extend my sincere thanks for your flexibility and support while the building work is taking place in the reception area. We truly appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate the temporary changes to routine and access. We are extremely grateful to the Archdiocese for funding this important project, which will enhance the safety of our children, parents and staff. Once complete, these improvements will make a meaningful difference to the school environment, and we are delighted to see this investment in our community. Thank you once again for your continued cooperation and partnership.

As you know, community is at the heart of St Mary's, and this week some of our Key Stage 2 children took an exciting first step in their sacramental preparation journey. The group explored the church on a special treasure hunt, discovering important artefacts that helped them learn more about the symbols and traditions of our faith. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm.

Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



Class 1 'Shining Stars'

Kung Hei Fat Choi! Class 1 have celebrated Chinese New Year this week. They have learnt about the different traditions that surround the celebration, shared their experiences of seeing the celebrations in Liverpool and used their new knowledge to share crafts, food and fun in class. The children particularly enjoyed sampling different Chinese foods on Wednesday. Their favourite was definitely the noodles!



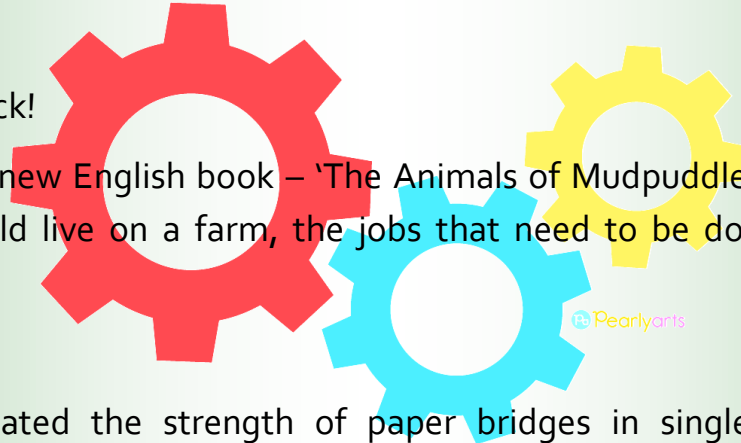
The children have been fantastic at getting stuck into their learning after the half term break. Class 1 found out that their new Literacy text is 'Goldilocks & The Three Bears', we have also started our new learning about weaving and the United Kingdom.

In Maths, Year 1 impressed us this week with their knowledge of counting in 2s!





Class 2 'Trailblazers'



What a busy first week back!

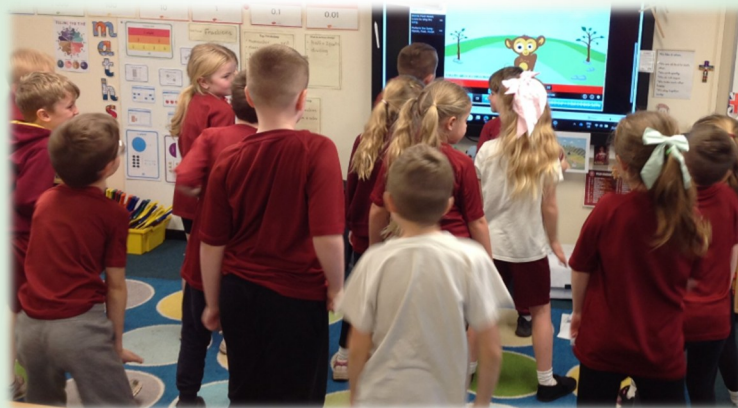
We are straight in with a new English book – 'The Animals of Mudpuddle Farm' and have spent all week exploring who would live on a farm, the jobs that need to be done and describing all the animals.

On Tuesday we investigated the strength of paper bridges in single, double and quadruple thicknesses and then fan folded. We had lots of fun working together, giving predictions and explaining our results.



On Wednesday Molly was back to do fundamental skills in PE and she worked us hard with some ball skills.

This was followed by Music with a chance to learn a new song from South Africa and to move in different ways to the pulse of the music.





Class 3 'Bright Sparks'



Welcome back after half term! The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm, and Class 3 have really enjoyed getting started with our new topics.

Our English topic this term is Inventions and Inventors, and Class 3 have particularly enjoyed beginning their new book, 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret'. This beautifully illustrated graphic novel is full of mystery and atmosphere. The children have been especially engaged in making predictions about what might happen next, using both the images and the text to support their ideas.



In Geography we have been exploring what it is like to live in the Alps. In our first lesson, the children recapped their knowledge of the continents and oceans, using maps and globes to remind themselves of where different parts of the world are located. We then found the Alps on a world map and talked about the countries they stretch across. This led to a discussion about the different climates around the world and how these might affect life in mountainous regions like the Alps.

In Science, Year 4 have continued their work on the water cycle, building on their understanding of evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection. This week, the children created their own mini water cycle experiments, allowing them to observe each of the four stages in action.





Attendance



Attendance for the week ending 27.02.26

	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	97.20%	2
Class 2	17	96.08%	3
Class 3	23	98.55%	1



Celebration Assembly



	Special Award - For being a trusting friend	Good Work Award
Class 1	Elsie G	Reuben W-D
Class 2	James S	Elliot H
Class 3	Kacper L	Iris D
Headteacher's award	Arabella F	Poppy G
Mathematician of the week	Cooper S	
Presentation award	Alexandra B	
Attendance Award	Class 3 — 98.55%	

Important Dates



Monday, 16th February – Friday, 6th March	Renovations to the front entrance.
Wednesday, 25th February	Easter Craft Club (first of three sessions)
Monday, 2nd March	KS2 netball club (first of 4 sessions) - 3.20—4.15pm
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 & Book swap) 9.00am
Monday, 16th March	Parents' Evening
Wednesday, 25th March	Class 2 Easter Play (9.30am & 2.30pm)

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

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 5th March 2026

Dress Up or Pyjamas!

Children can either come to school in their favourite pyjamas, or dressed up as their favourite story character.

Whole School Reading Cafe 9.00-9.30



Join us in the School hall to share some of our favourite stories together!

Book Swap

Do you have any books at home that you no longer read? Please bring them into school by **TUESDAY 3RD MARCH**. All children will be able to donate their book and choose a new one to take home!

Extreme Reading

Think of the most unusual place that you could read a book...

Send a photograph of your child reading in a weird and wonderful place to Miss Wade to:

reception@st-marys-scarisbrick.lancs.sch.uk

by **WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH**.

Upcoming PTA Events

**MARCH
16**
*Own Clothes Day for
Easter treats donation*

**MARCH
18**
3.30 - 4.30PM
"Easter bingo"

**APR
30**
3.30 - 4.30PM
"Family quiz night!"

**MAY
21**
3.30 - 5PM
"Family Fun Festival"

**JUN
22**
Donation of teddies for
the toy tombola

**JULY
03**
Donation of bottles for
the tombola and gifts
for the Rainbow Raffle

**JULY
04**
12.30 - 2.30PM
"Summer Fair"

**JULY
22**
12.30 - 1PM
Ice cream van!

**Thank you for
your support!**

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 20th 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

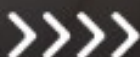


Parents and Carers, tell us about your experience of using childcare in Lancashire



Scan the QR code to
access our short survey

lancashire.gov.uk/childcare





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, 7th 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
(5TH January – 13th 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
(23rd February – 27th 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

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



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)