



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 6th March, 2026

Today we hear Jesus talking to a Samaritan woman at a well. This story reminds us that God loves all people no matter where they are from. God asks us to be like Jesus and to respect and care for all people no matter who they are.

God of peace,

You care for all people in our world. Move us to do the same and to work together to build a better world.

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,

Please can I again 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.

Secondly, thank you to all the families and parishioners who joined with us at St Eliazbeth's church on Wednesday as we marked the beginning of the season of Lent. I was very proud of the children for being so attentive and respectful throughout the mass, and extremely proud of those children who confidently led the readings, the singing, the offertory, as well as welcoming people into church. You were a shining example!

Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



World Book Day 2026!

We had a wonderful day celebrating our love of reading, beginning with the Reading Café. A huge thank you to all the parents who joined us and shared stories with the children—your support helped make the morning truly special.





World Book Day 2026!

Classes 1 and 2 then came on a trip along the reading river, choosing their favourite books by looking carefully at the illustrations and the blurb.



This was followed by a book scavenger hunt to try to find the information books, poetry books and fiction books that were hidden around the classroom and library area. The children had so much fun! With just a little time before lunch, we visited the school book swap event. You can see how delighted the children were with their new books! Thank you so much for the fabulous donations!





World Book Day 2026!



Around the classes there were more celebrations of reading. Class 1 closed the day with a very special mystery reader who also bought a furry friend to help read the wonderful story—'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'.



Class 2 have written the most beautiful descriptions of the scenes from 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book' using all the skills that they have learned during English this term. Well done, Class 2!



Inspired by their favourite books, Class 3 created a story in a shoe box. They used great imagination, skill and team work to make some fantastic scenes.



Class 1 'Shining Stars'

Class 1 have had a wonderful week, enjoying the sunshine. Earlier in the week, we used our acting skills and knowledge of 'Goldilocks & The Three Bears' to act out the story. We took turns being the characters, sequencing the story correctly and using key words from the story.



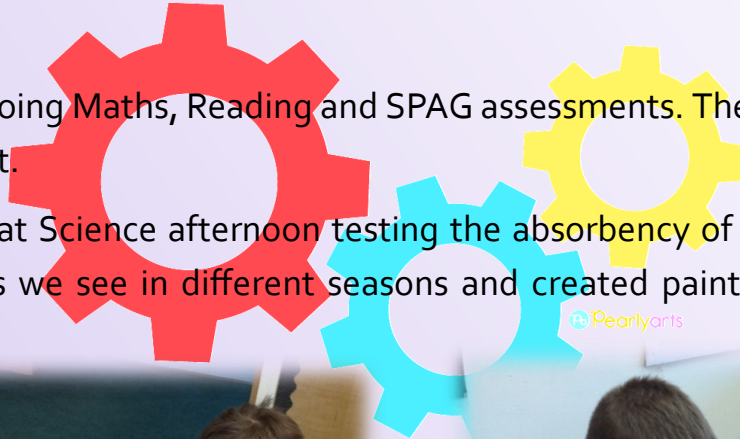
On Thursday we had so much fun celebrating World Book Day. Class 1 loved seeing each other in their favourite costumes and pyjamas and telling each other about their favourite books. We enjoyed lots of different activities in class and around school to celebrate our love of books.

To finish the day, Class 1 had a Mystery Reader! One of our Grandma's came to read us a lovely story. We enjoyed listening to 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and the tiger came along to listen too!



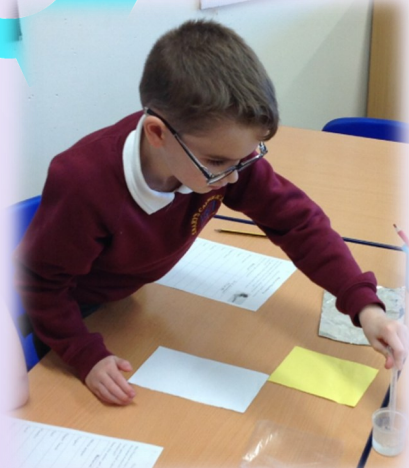
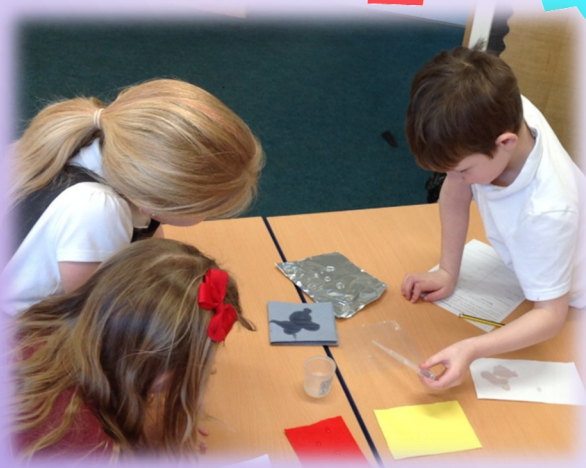


Class 2 'Trailblazers'



This week we have been doing Maths, Reading and SPAG assessments. The children have done really well and tried their hardest.

On Tuesday we had a great Science afternoon testing the absorbency of different materials. Then we looked at the changes we see in different seasons and created paintings of a tree in different seasons.



This was followed by World Book Day on Thursday. We enjoyed sharing books in our reading café to start the day. Later we read 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book' and did some descriptive writing of one of the settings.

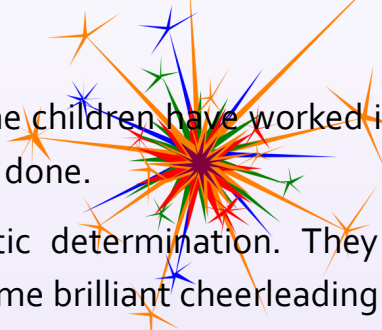
We joined in with the BBC Live Lesson, and in the afternoon we used our art skills to create some of the characters from the book.

This week has continued our fractions topic in Maths. We are getting really good at finding halves and quarters using the counters and Y3 are able to compare and order fractions.





Class 3 'Bright Sparks'



Class 3 have had a fantastic week. The children have worked incredibly hard and shown great focus and enthusiasm in everything they've done.

In PE, the children showed fantastic determination. They worked with Izzy to develop their gymnastics skills and put together some brilliant cheerleading movements. They even learned a few impressive lifts, which they performed with great teamwork and confidence.



World Book Day was a great success in Class 3. We enjoyed spending time in our reading café and taking part in our book swap. During the day, the children read 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book' and used it as inspiration to design their own shoebox scenes based on their favourite stories. Their creativity and enthusiasm made the classroom feel magical.





Attendance



Attendance for the week ending 05.03.26

	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	93.01%	3
Class 2	17	98.69%	1
Class 3	23	94.20%	2



Celebration Assembly



	Special Award - For 'saying yes' to doing the right thing	Good Work Award
Class 1	Isabella E	Heidi M-J
Class 2	Eric H	Trystan Mc
Class 3	Bailey H	Harry R
Headteacher's award	Lila G	Violet P
Mathematician of the week	Oscar S	
Presentation award	Iris D	
Attendance Award	Class 2 — 98.69%	

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
Monday, 16th March	Parents' Evening
Wednesday, 25th March	Class 2 Easter Play (9.30am & 2.30pm)
Thursday, 26th March	End of term celebration assembly
Friday, 27th March	Break up for Easter (2pm)

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

EASTER CAMP

MON 30TH MAR-

THU 2ND APR

TUE 7TH - FRI 10TH APR

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

*Tarleton only



with
WEST LANCASHIRE
SPORT PARTNERSHIP



EASTER

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
holidaycamps@endeavourlearning.org



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

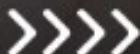


Parents and Carers, tell us about your experience of using childcare in Lancashire



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)