



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 20th March, 2026

This Sunday we hear about an amazing thing that Jesus does when his friend Lazarus becomes sick and dies.

*God of light and power,*

*We give thanks to you for the gift of life. Help us to do what we can so all people throughout the world can enjoy this gift.*

*Amen.*

The Fifth  
Sunday  
of Lent



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,

We have enjoyed a truly wonderful week in school, filled with a strong sense of community across St Mary's.

On Monday, we were delighted to welcome our families to Parents' Evening to celebrate the children's hard work and achievements. Many thanks to everyone who was able to attend.

On Wednesday, the children in our Sacramental Preparation group made their First Reconciliation. Father Godric was extremely impressed with the maturity and respect they showed throughout this special occasion.

We received a beautiful gift from Eden Play—a fantastic sand tray! Class 1 have had so much fun in it already! Many thanks to Dan and Caitlin!



*Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith*

## A wonderful week in St Mary's!

Hayley, the Community Champion from Burscough Tesco, came to present us with a cheque for £1000 to spend on our new outdoor area! Thank you for supporting our Blue Token campaign!



So much fun at Easter Bingo! Thank you so much to all of the families who donated Easter treats, supported the event and helped with the organisation of the evening. You all contributed to the grand total of £338.97! Amazing!



Our Year 3 and 4 children represented St Mary's at the West Lancs Sports Partnership Football World Cup Tournament alongside other small schools. They competed with fantastic spirit and enthusiasm—Miss Wade and I were so proud of them all.



Today, we were pleased to welcome local MP Ashley Dalton to our school. She enjoyed a tour of our classrooms, followed by a thoughtful question-and-answer session with representatives from Class 3. She was particularly inspired by the great work Mrs Priestner is leading as we continue our journey towards achieving the CAFOD Live Simply Award.



## Class 1 'Shining Stars'

Class 1 have enjoyed their latest Literacy focus this week, all about recounts. We have started by discussing the different celebrations we have all attended, such as birthday parties, weddings and christenings. Then, we sequenced what you would need to do to prepare and host a party too! Next week we will be writing a recount of an event we've been to.

In Geography, Class 1 have been observing weather forecasts and weather patterns in the UK. Luckily, we have had a lovely, sunny week! Year 1 have also been exploring North, East, South and West on a compass.

Class 1 have enjoyed a week spending lots of time outside in the sunshine. They have loved exploring lots of new additions to their outdoor learning environment, such as a wonderful new sand tray!



We also had another Mystery Reader! Athea's dad came in to read one of our favourite stories - The Scarecrow's Wedding. We loved it!



## Class 2 'Trailblazers'



Well, it is nearly the end of this half term and nearly time for our Easter Play. We have been practising hard and look forward to showing all our friends and family next week.

We have been working hard in Geography where we learnt all about Ernest Shackleton ready to track his journey across Antarctica next week.

We have done some independent writing on our farm stories and will be finishing off by making a persuasive poster to encourage people to come and visit our farms.

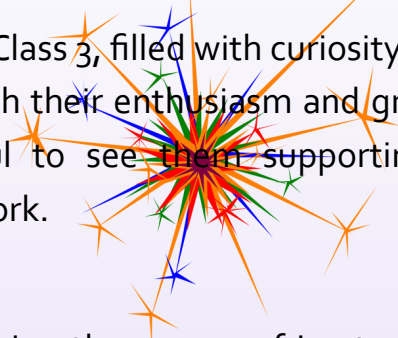
On Tuesday we managed to get outside into the Forest School area and we worked really well in teams to create mini worlds using lots of natural materials.





## Class 3 'Bright Sparks'

We've had another fantastic week in Class 3, filled with curiosity, teamwork, and lots of learning. The children have really impressed us with their enthusiasm and growing confidence across all areas of the curriculum. It's been wonderful to see them supporting one another, asking thoughtful questions, and taking pride in their work.

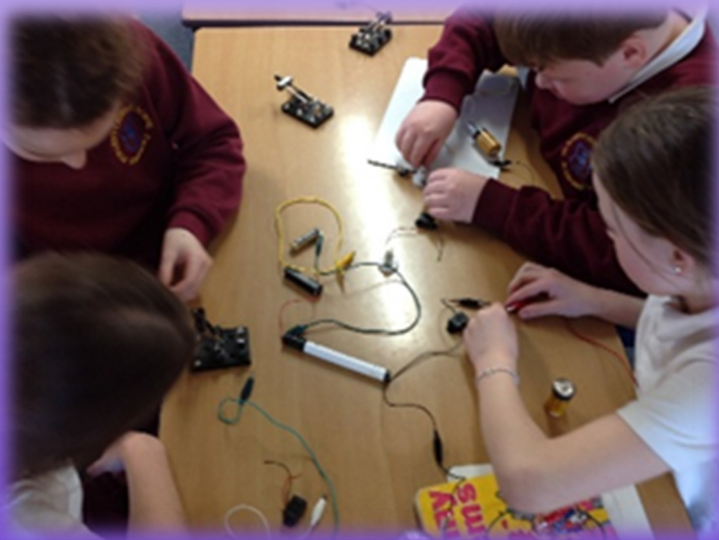


In RE this week, we continued exploring the season of Lent and what it means for us in our daily lives. The children have been thinking deeply about the three key Lenten practices — giving, acting, and praying — and how small, thoughtful choices can make a big difference.

In Design Technology, the children have begun creating their very own tote bags. They started by exploring a range of existing products, looking closely at materials, stitching, fastenings, and decorative features. Using this research, they sketched and planned their own designs, thinking carefully about purpose, style, and how they will join their fabric pieces together. Their creativity and thoughtful decision-making have really shone through as they prepare to start making their bags.



The children have been investigating how electrical circuits work, focusing on what affects the brightness of bulbs and the loudness of buzzers. They experimented with adding and removing components, testing different numbers of batteries, and predicting what might happen before trying it out.





## Attendance



### Attendance for the week ending 20.03.26

	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	93.75%	3
Class 2	17	96.73%	2
Class 3	23	98.55%	1



## Celebration Assembly

	Special Award - For being joyful	Good Work Award
Class 1	Henry M	Winnie W
Class 2	Oscar S	Lila G
Class 3	Poppie H	Roman W
Headteacher's award	Elsie G	Bailey H
Mathematician of the week	Joe R	
Presentation award	Eric H	
Attendance Award	Class 1— 98.55%	

## Important Dates



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, 25th March	Class 2 Easter Play (9.30am & 2.30pm)
Thursday, 26th March	End of term celebration assembly (9.15am)
Thursday, 26th March	Following on from the assembly will be our CAFOD Big Lent Walk
Friday, 27th March	Break up for Easter (2pm)
Monday, 13th April	Return to school for the Summer Term

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

CAFOD Big Lent Walk

Thursday, 26th March at 10am (after the Awards Assembly)

**BIG LENT WALK!**

CAFOD

**CAFOD**

Catholic Agency for Oversea Development

St Mary's Catholic School  
Scarborough

**Bags for SALE!**

They are... £1.00 only

- Reusable
- great for shopping
- fashionable
- blue/purple
- Only £1

CAFOD

Time  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>  
March at 10am

**EVERYBODY IS WELCOME**

CAFOD

Where?  
St Mary's Catholic  
Primary School on our  
Track!

# CAFOD Big Lent Walk

Thursday, 26th March at 10am (after the Awards Assembly)

**CAFOD** is the best!

Thank you soo much!

There will be loads more stalls.

Its going to be FUNN!!!




**BIG**  
Lent   
**WALK**



Re-useable Shopping bags!

CAFOD STANDS FOR:  
Catholic Agency  
For Overseas Development

We are selling Shopping bags  for you in stalls for £1 each!

Come and join us on:  
Thursday the 26th March @ 10 am A wonderful

# 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!**

CAMP VENUES



TARLETON  
ACADEMY



ORMSKIRK  
SCHOOL

ONLY  
**£22.50**  
per day



ENDEAVOUR  
COMMUNITY



**ACTIVITY  
CAMP**

**EASTER CAMP**

**MON 30<sup>TH</sup> MAR-**

**THU 2<sup>ND</sup> APR**

**TUE 7<sup>TH</sup> - FRI 10<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto:holidaycamps@endeavourlearning.org)



# 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)**