



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

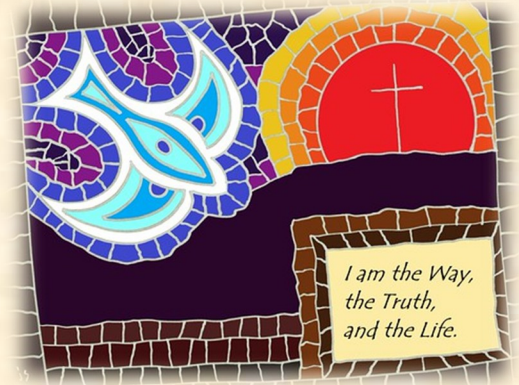
Friday, 1st May, 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus begins to prepare his disciples for his departure from the world. Jesus is returning to his Father and will make a place ready for each of them in heaven. Jesus tells the disciples to trust in him. No amount of worrying will increase their safety or comfort; it's through trusting in Jesus that they will find security and hope.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for teaching us the truth and showing us the way to everlasting life. Please help us always to place our trust in you.

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 and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been in school. Our Year 2 children completed their suite of special quizzes with impressive focus and maturity; we are incredibly proud of the effort they put into every task.

Classes 2 and 3 also had the exciting opportunity to welcome the fire service into school. The visit enriched our Personal Development curriculum beautifully, and the children asked thoughtful, mature questions while learning important lessons about fire safety from real professionals.

A huge thank you to our fantastic PTA for organising such a brilliant family quiz night. It was an evening full of fun, laughter, and delicious treats—what a lovely way to bring our school community together.

A quick reminder for families: the school is serving as a Polling Station on Thursday, so the main entrance will be closed to pupils and parents. Please use the second entrance for breakfast club, after school club, and for passing on any messages to the office.

Enjoy a lovely bank holiday weekend. Mrs Preston



Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



Class 1 'Shining Stars'



Class 1 have had a wonderful week continuing their learning of the butterfly life cycle. The children have been amazed at how their caterpillars have changed over the last week. The caterpillars are already getting ready for their next stage of metamorphosis.

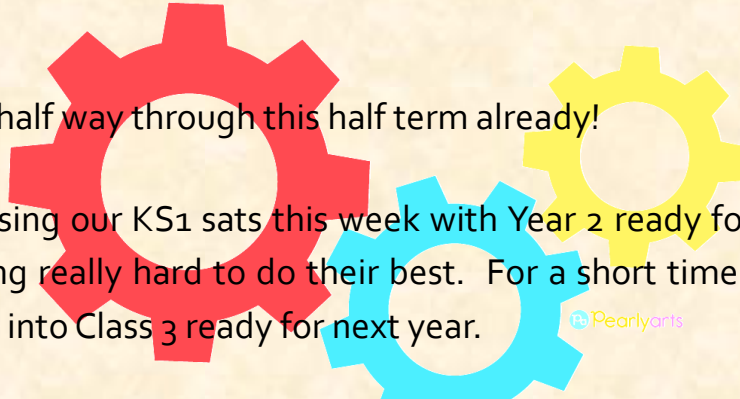
On Tuesday, we were extremely lucky to have a Mystery Reader! The children love guessing who is going to come in the door. This time, Lillian's dad came into school to read Julia Donaldson's 'Paper Dolls' to the class and we enjoyed every second. Thank you!




Whilst Lancashire Fire Service were delivering an important talk to Class 2 and 3 about Fire Safety, Class 1 took the chance to go and see the fire truck outside. Luckily, Fireman Sam spent time talking to the children about the equipment that they carry and the jobs they do.



Class 2 'Trailblazers'



It's hard to believe we are half way through this half term already!

We have been busy practising our KS1 sats this week with Year 2 ready for the end of the year. The children have been working really hard to do their best. For a short time each day, the Y3 children have had some transitions into Class 3 ready for next year. 

In History this week we learnt how Stone Age people made their clothes – we found out that they were really clever using stone tools to cut and sew everything they needed.

In Science we looked at the features of different animals then tried to combine some of these to create fantasy creatures. We had some very imaginative animals being created.

On Tuesday we had a visit from Lancashire fire and Rescue Services who told us all about how to keep safe in our homes

and ways to escape a fire. Fia did a great demonstration on how to Stop, Drop and Roll to put out flames.

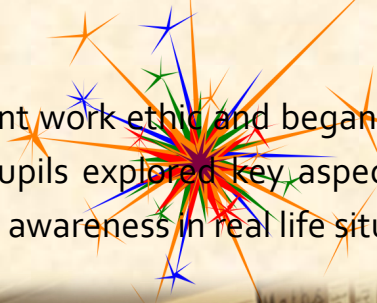


On Thursday we had a lovely yoga session with lots of new stretches and balances and it ended with a lovely relaxation time at the end. We all left feeling very relaxed and ready for the rest of the day.





Class 3 'Bright Sparks'



Class 3 have maintained their excellent work ethic and began the week with an informative session delivered by the local fire service. Pupils explored key aspects of fire safety and personal safety, helping them develop confidence and awareness in real life situations.



We were also delighted to welcome Mrs Molyneux into Class 3 this week. She spoke to the children about our church's ministry, helping us explore the various forms it can take and the important part volunteers play in supporting these ministries. We explored the Spiritual, Outreach and Liturgical ministry of St Elizabeth's and created some wonderful pieces of work based on our investigations.



Class 3 have been working incredibly hard in English this term. We are reading 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio and using the story to explore themes of kindness, courage, and understanding. The children have created some wonderfully imaginative and thoughtful pieces of work inspired by the book, including character reflections, diary entries, and artwork. Their enthusiasm and effort have been fantastic to see.



Awards Assembly



	Special Award - For living life to the full	Good Work Award
Class 1	Emma O	Thomas H
Class 2	Fia H	Trystan Mc
Class 3	Charlie M	Freddie O
Headteacher's award	Athea H	Ronan D
Mathematician of the week	Poppy G	
Presentation award	Isabella E	
Attendance Award	Class 3 — 99.52%	



Attendance



Attendance for the week ending 01.05.26			
	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	16	91.67%	3
Class 2	18	95.06%	2
Class 3	23	99.52%	1

Important Dates

Monday, 4th May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday, 6th May	Whole School Mass for Mary, the Mother of Jesus
Thursday, 7th May	Polling Day (School is fully open)
Monday, 11th May	Key Stage 2 SATs week

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

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



with

WEST LANCASHIRE
SPORT PARTNERSHIP



MAY HALF TERM

TUE 26TH - FRI 29TH

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
holidaycamps@endeavourlearning.org

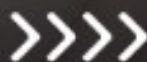


Parents and Carers, tell us about your experience of using childcare in Lancashire



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 Summer Term Newsletter 2026

Important dates this term

The month of May is dedicated to Our Lady.

There will be mass on Wednesday, 6th May St Elizabeth's Church at 9.30am for families and children from Nursery - Y6.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

14th May

After his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples over a period of forty days.

Ascension Day is when we celebrate Jesus' return to his Father in Heaven.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

24th May

This is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church.

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

31st May

Today we celebrate our belief in the Trinity, the three persons of God:

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

7th June

On this feast we give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

12th June

On this day we remember how much Jesus loves us all.

FATHER'S DAY

15th June

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

29th June

We celebrate the lives of these important saints who helped establish the Christian Church

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
SUMMER 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 'To the Ends of the Earth' and 'Dialogue and Encounter'.

'TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH'

(13th April – 22nd May)

Class 1 – The children will retell the story of Pentecost – a special celebration in the Church.

Class 2 - The children will sequence the events from Jesus' Resurrection to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. They will also retell the story of the Conversion of Saul and learn about how the fruits of the Holy Spirit can transform their lives.

Class 3 – The children will study the Resurrection told in St John's gospel and make links with Matthew's account of Peter's declaration of faith. By looking at the Apostles Creed, they will explore their beliefs as Christians. Throughout May they will reflect on Mary being the Mother of the Church.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR
HOME ACTIVITIES**

Talk about good news in your family and how you shared it.

Ask your child to tell you the story of Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit.

'DIALOGUE & ENCOUNTER'

(8th June – 22nd July)

Class 1– The children will learn about the lives of St Peter and St Paul, and how they were friends of Jesus.

They will then explore the music, food, smells, tastes and clothing from the Jewish faith.

Class 2– The children will start by studying the story of the Good Samaritan, thinking about Jesus' question 'Who is my neighbour?'

They will then learn about the traditions of the Jewish laws, beliefs, worship and life.

Class 3– The children will begin the branch by looking at the life and work of St Paul.

Later in the theme, they will learn about the five pillars of Islam and understand how Muslims in Britain today live out their beliefs.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR
HOME ACTIVITIES**

Look at a globe or an atlas. Find a special place and pray for the people of that country.

Discuss how we can look after our world and support our neighbours, near and far.

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



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)