



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 15th May, 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is telling his Father in heaven that he has now completed what was asked of him. Then, Jesus prays for his friends. This reminds us that Jesus prays for all his friends, which includes you and me too. Friendship is one of life's great blessings. When we have good friendships, we can support each other, have fun together, and share our joys and challenges.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for your friendship and for all our friends.

Help us to choose our friends wisely and to become better friends to them.

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,

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 children for the determination, hard work and resilience they have shown throughout SATs week. They approached each day with a positive attitude, gave their very best effort and supported one another so well. The children showed real maturity and perseverance, rising to the challenge with confidence and calm. They should be extremely proud of themselves – we certainly are. Well done, Year 6!

We are also proud of two of our wonderful pupils who have chosen to raise money for Queenscourt Hospice, a very special charity that has touched the lives of many in our school community. Their kindness and compassion are truly inspiring. If you are able to support their fundraising, we would be very grateful. Donations can be made via their JustGiving page here:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/danielle-shields-2?](https://www.justgiving.com/page/danielle-shields-2?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=EM)

[utm_medium=FA&utm_source=EM](https://www.justgiving.com/page/danielle-shields-2?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=EM)

Thank you for your continued support. Mrs Preston



Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



Class 1 'Shining Stars'

Class 1 have worked extremely hard this week in school. We started the week with excitement! The children arrived at school to find their butterflies had emerged from their chrysalis over the weekend. We discussed everything we have learnt about butterflies and what we would need to feed them before we let them fly away. Class 1 remembered that butterflies like fruit! So, we fed them a juicy orange.

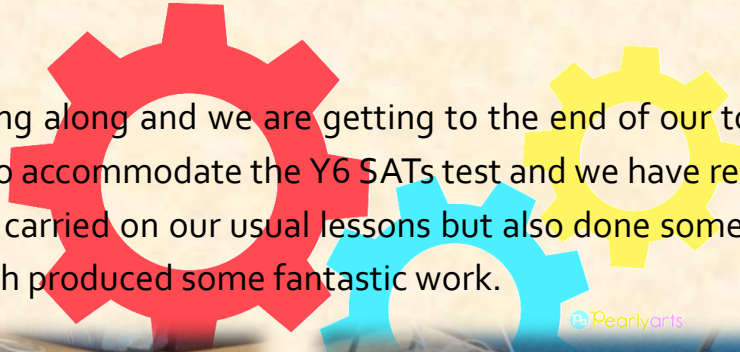
After a few days, we took a trip into the Secret Garden to find a nice, sheltered place to let the butterflies fly away. We opened the net, said goodbye & one even landed on one of our faces!



In Class 1 this week, we have all been exploring length and height. Throughout the week, we have been measuring each other to see who is the tallest, and who is the shortest. We also used cubes to measure how long different objects were in our classroom. Year 1 even used their maths skills further to estimate how many cubes long things would be!



Class 2 'Trailblazers'



Pearlyarts

Well, this half term is racing along and we are getting to the end of our topics. We have had some changes in the mornings to accommodate the Y6 SATs test and we have really enjoyed being as a big group of Y2 – 5. We have carried on our usual lessons but also done some collaborative work based on our reading books which produced some fantastic work.



In Maths we have finished learning about shapes and moved on to measurements. We will be using the rulers to measure in mm, cm and m over the next two weeks.

In History we had a Stone Age Hunter-Gatherer hunt where we had to find the hidden animals we would hunt for meat and also find the plants hidden all around our classroom and read if they were okay to eat or if they were poisonous.

On Tuesday in Science we had paired work to research if animals are carnivores, omnivores or herbivores. Some of them really surprised us!





Class 3 'Bright Sparks'

Class 3 have had another fantastic week, bursting with creativity and imagination. In Art, the children have been working on their final pieces inspired by Yayoi Kusama, exploring her bold patterns, dots, and vibrant style. They have especially enjoyed creating clay models as part of their final artwork.



Year 6 have shown remarkable resilience, confidence, and determination as they completed their SATs this week. Every child approached the challenge with maturity and positivity, and they should feel incredibly proud of themselves. Their hard work throughout the year truly shone through, and the whole school is proud of the effort they have put in.



As part of our English work, we have continued studying the book Wonder. This week, the children have been thinking deeply about what makes a hero, linking the themes of the story to real-life inspirational figures. We explored the lives of George Webster and Ellie Simmonds, discussing their achievements, courage, and the positive impact they have on others. The children then used their research to write biographies, showcasing their growing skills in formal writing, structure, and empathy.



Awards Assembly



	Special Award - For being a	Good Work Award
Class 1	Lyle W	Evelyn D
Class 2	Rafael H	Otto S
Class 3	Ella R	All of Year 6
Headteacher's award	Connie Mc	Penelope P
Mathematician of the week	Reuben W-D	
Presentation award	Libby Mc	
Attendance Award	Class 2 — 98.77%	



Attendance



Attendance for the week ending 15.05.26			
	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	15	86.67%	3
Class 2	19	98.77%	1
Class 3	23	96.62%	2

Important Dates

Monday, 18th May	School photographs (AM)
Wednesday, 20th May	Whole School Sports Day (9.15am)
Friday, 22nd May	PTFA Break the Rules Day
Monday, 25th May— Friday, 5th June	School is closed for the half term break
Monday, 8th June	Back to school for Summer 2

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

St Mary's PTA Presents

BREAK

THE RULES DAY!

Friday 22nd May

RULES THAT CAN BE BROKEN



Wear your own clothes



Have odd socks



Wear your trainers



Take a teddy or small toy to school



Crazy hair – styles/colours/glitter



Treat based snack – but please **NO NUTS**



Squash in water bottles

£1

for each rule
you decide
to break!

OR

£5

for all!



Fines to be paid by cash in **NAMED** envelopes
at school drop off on the day!

Please join in the fun & support our event

Money raised through PTA organised events
contributes towards school trips, equipment
and **future fun** for the children!

UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

MARCH

16TH

'OWN CLOTHES DAY'
for Easter treats donation



MARCH

18TH

'EASTER BINGO'
3:30-4:30pm



APRIL

30TH

'FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT'
3:30-4:30pm



MAY

22ND

'BREAK THE RULES DAY'
£1 per rule or £5 for all!



JUNE

25TH

'OWN CLOTHES DAY'
for donation of teddies
(summer fair tombola)



JULY

3RD

DONATIONS OF BOTTLES
(for tombola) & colour gifts
for **'RAINBOW RAFFLE'**



JULY

4TH

'SUMMER FAIR'
11:30am-2:30pm



JULY

22ND

'ICE CREAM VAN'
for end of term
12:30-1pm



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Money raised through PTA organised events
contributes towards school trips, equipment
and **future fun** for the children!



**£22.50
A DAY**


ENDEAVOUR
COMMUNITY

ORMSKIRK SCHOOL CAMP



- ✔ Sports and craft activities
- ✔ Led by West Lancs Sports Patnrnership specialist coaches
- ✔ Access to multiple sports facilities
- ✔ Open to 5-12 year olds

More Information

 <https://ec.schoolactivity.co.uk>



NEW

SWIM SCHOOL

at Tarleton Academy
starting 1st June 2026

- State of the art facilities
- Group lessons
- 1 to 1 lessons
- Evenings and weekends

4
WEEKS
FREE

for bookings made
before 19th June



Swim England
Learn to Swim
Programme

For more information and to
register email:
swim@endeavourcommunity.org

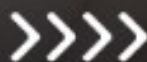


Parents and Carers, tell us about your experience of using childcare in Lancashire



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



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)