



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Welcome back to school!

Welcome back to school! We start the new school year with great excitement! We're delighted to share with you that the children have settled into school brilliantly in their new classes. It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, kindness, and eagerness to learn as they embrace new routines and build new friendships. A huge thank you to our staff for creating such a welcoming and nurturing environment—and to you, our families, for your continued support.

We have a number of children who are starting St Mary's for the first time, and we have loved welcoming them into our school family.



A Warm Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome all of our new children and families to St Mary's. Starting a new school is an exciting milestone, and we look forward to getting to know you and supporting you as you begin your journey with us. At St Mary's, we are proud of our warm and caring community, and we are confident that you will quickly feel a valued part of school life: friendships will soon flourish and familiar faces will become trusted friends. A very warm welcome to St Mary's. We are delighted that you are joining our school community.

At the end of the summer term, we said goodbye to Ms Wright, our School Business Manager. We thank her for all her hard work and dedication to St Mary's and wish her every success and happiness in her new role.

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Nichola Makin will join us as our new School Business Manager on 1st October and will be working from 10:00am to 3:00pm each day.

In the meantime, we are delighted to welcome Tracy Comerford to our school throughout September. Tracy is a highly experienced School Business Manager and will be supporting us on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. We are extremely grateful for her expertise and support during this transition period.

Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



Reading Adventures Across the School!

Continuing our celebration of The Year of Reading, every class will continue to take part in an exciting Reading Challenge designed to spark imagination and a love of books. From magical tales to epic journeys, our pupils will be diving into reading challenges that inspire and entertain. We're starting with some favourites:

Room on the Broom for Class 1

Who can reach Harry Potter's Great Hall in Class 2?

And in Class 3, the challenge is to travel around the four countries of the UK. With every page turned and every book completed, they're getting to know each country.

To help children make the most of our exciting Reading Challenge, we kindly ask families to support their child by hearing them **read every night**. Just a few minutes each evening can make a big difference—building confidence, fluency, and a lifelong love of reading. Thank you for being such an important part of your child's learning journey!



Catholic Life & RE curriculum at St Mary's

The RED Curriculum

This year, we are continuing the new RED (Religious Education Directory) curriculum across the school. This enriching programme is designed to deepen pupils' understanding of the Catholic faith, encourage thoughtful reflection, and support their spiritual growth. Through scripture, prayer, and discussion, children will explore key themes that connect faith to everyday life. The termly RE newsletter will be published next week with further details of the curriculum content for each class.

Half-Termly Mass Celebrations

We are delighted to resume our half-termly Masses, which will be celebrated in church and led by the children. These gatherings are a special opportunity for our community to come together in prayer and thanksgiving. Families are warmly invited to join us for these celebrations—dates will be shared in advance via the newsletter and the school website.

St Elizabeth's has a wonderful tradition of celebrating our farming community at the Harvest Festival mass. The children will decorate the church and take part in the mass, making it a very special occasion. More details of the mass will follow.





St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

West Lancs Sports Partnership

During the Autumn Term, West Lancs Sports Partnership will provide two PE sessions per week for all classes, teaching a range of skills from invasion games, athletics, gymnastics, striking and fielding games, dance and health and fitness. This year we have also invested in 'bolt on' programmes for each of the classes: Mini wheelers (Class 1), Yoga (Classes 1, 2 and 3) and Boxercise (Class 2 and 3).

PE days are **Monday and Friday** for the whole school. The children will continue to come into school in their PE kits on PE days. The school PE kit (t-shirt, shorts and an optional PE hoodie) is available in the Premier Sports store on Aughton Street, Ormskirk or on their website St Marys Catholic Primary School Scarisbrick – Premier Sports And School Wear Ltd



A Double Celebration at St Mary's!

We are thrilled to announce two fantastic achievements that reflect the dedication and excellence of our school community.

Gold Sports Mark Award

Congratulations to our pupils and staff for earning the prestigious Gold Sports Mark! This award recognises our commitment to high-quality physical education, inclusive sporting opportunities, and encouraging active lifestyles across the school. It's a testament to the energy, teamwork, and enthusiasm shown by everyone involved in our PE and sports programmes.

Silver Award for Year 6 Transition

We are also proud to be the very first school to receive the Silver Award for Year 6 Transition, recognising our outstanding efforts in supporting pupils as they move from primary to secondary school. This award celebrates our commitment to ensuring every child feels confident, prepared, and supported during this important stage of their educational journey. These achievements reflect our ongoing dedication to nurturing the whole child—physically, emotionally, and academically. Well done to everyone involved!



**Headsup
Silver Award
Year 6 Transition.**

A big thank you to our PTA!

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our amazing PTA for all their hard work and fundraising efforts last year. Their dedication and generosity have made a real difference. We're so grateful for the continued support of our PTA and the wider school community.

For the year ahead, we will be busy planning some exciting fundraising events. These events are all about creating great memories for the children, as well as raising funds for the lovely 'treats' for the school! But we can't do it alone—we need your support! Whether you can help with organising, volunteering, or simply sharing ideas, your contribution will make a big difference.





St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Looking Ahead to a Wonderful Year

There is so much to look forward to in the new school year! From exciting learning opportunities and creative projects to special events and celebrations, we can't wait to see what the year brings.

Following the fantastic progress we've made in developing our PE provision—culminating in our recent Gold Sports Mark Award—we are now turning our attention to music development across the school. Our aim is to enrich the musical experiences of the pupils, from classroom learning to performance opportunities. We're delighted to welcome Ron Blundell to St Mary's who will be delivering small group guitar and keyboard sessions.



Dates for your diary

Tuesday, 1st Sept	INSET day (staff only)
Wednesday, 2nd Sept	Back to school (8:55am)
W/b 7th September	PE sessions begin (Mondays and Fridays)
Friday, 18th September	Whole School Open Afternoon (2pm)
Friday, 25th September	Macmillan Afternoon Tea (2—3pm)
Tuesday, 29th September	Flu vaccinations (in school)
Thursday, 1st October	Class 1 Reading Café (9am)
Thursday, 8th October	Class 2 Reading Café (9am)
Thursday, 15th October	Class 3 Reading Café (9am)
Friday, 23rd October	Break up for the half term holiday
Monday, 2nd November	INSET day (staff only)
Tuesday, 3rd November	Back to school (8:55am)

Thank you for being such an important part of your child's learning journey ! From Mrs Preston