



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 25th September, 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel, the father represents God and the sons represent ways that we can respond to God. Initially one son refused his father's request, but then he had a change of heart for the better.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Grant me the courage to change what can be changed, the peace to accept the things that cannot be changed, and the wisdom to know the difference.

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...

A huge thank you to all of our families for their generous support of our Harvest collection. Your donations will look beautiful displayed in church as we gather to give thanks for the many blessings we receive. Following our Harvest celebrations, the donations will be passed on to the local foodbank, where they will help support many families within our community. We are incredibly grateful for your kindness and generosity.

We would also like to warmly invite everyone to join us for our Harvest Mass on **Sunday 25th at 9.00am at St Elizabeth's Church**. Harvest is a tradition that is very close to our hearts. We look forward to celebrating with as many families as possible.



We are also incredibly proud of members of our Year 6 class who recently attended the Maths Reasoning Club alongside pupils from local schools. They represented St Mary's brilliantly, working collaboratively, sharing ideas, and tackling challenging problems with enthusiasm and determination. It was wonderful to see them learning together, and they were a real credit to our school community.

Living and Learning Together - Shining in our Faith



Class 1 'Shining Stars'

What a fantastic week we have had in Class 1. We were very excited to receive the Attendance Award last week with 100% attendance! Well done to all our Class 1 families!

In Art, we have been learning about warm and cold colours and created our own colourful artwork using these different colour palettes. We have also been preparing for our upcoming Harvest Festival by talking about why we celebrate Harvest and making a variety of fruits and vegetables using collage.

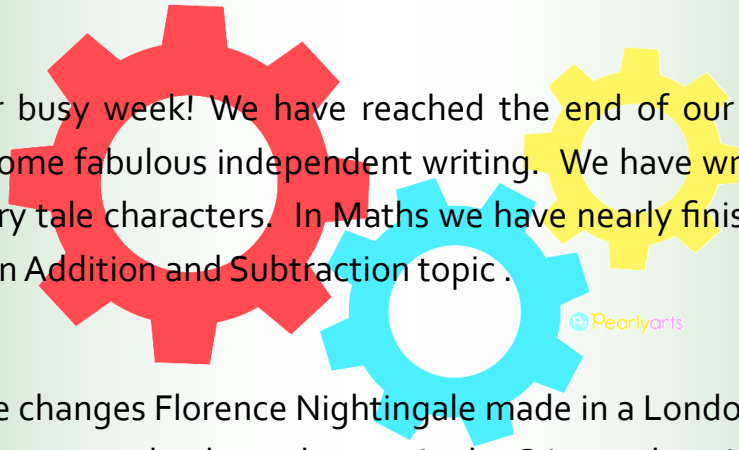
On Tuesday, we went to find our apple tree and collected apples. The children carefully washed and peeled the apples before helping to make a delicious apple crumble. We all agreed it was very yummy!



We are also incredibly proud of our Year 1 children. They have adapted brilliantly to the pace and expectations of Year 1 learning and achieved excellent results in their very first spelling test. Keep up the fantastic work!



Class 2 'Trailblazers'



Well, it has been another busy week! We have reached the end of our English book – The Jolly Postman and have done some fabulous independent writing. We have written either sorry or thank you letters to different fairy tale characters. In Maths we have nearly finished our Place Value topic and will be moving on to an Addition and Subtraction topic.

In History we looked at the changes Florence Nightingale made in a London hospital and we will find out next week if she manages to make these changes in the Crimean hospitals too.

In Science we completed some more work on different habitats and then we went into the secret garden to finish making our bug homes which we then hid for the minibeast to find.



We continued looking at work by our artist Kandinsky in Art and have made a lovely class display of our work on circles.

We finished the week making some harvest and autumn wreaths to decorate the church for our Harvest Festival Mass. A big hank you to everyone who brought in Harvest donations we had bags and bags full of food to display in church.



Class 3 'Bright Sparks'

In Science this week, Year 3 and 4 pupils have been investigating the bones in the human body, developing their understanding of what bones are made of and why they are so important for supporting, protecting and helping our bodies to move.



Meanwhile, Year 5 and 6 pupils have been exploring how blood travels through the circulatory system. As part of their learning, they created some fantastic presentations, demonstrating their knowledge and understanding through informative and engaging work. Well done to everyone for their enthusiasm and effort in Science this term!



In Class 3, pupils have been developing their understanding of place value and number. They have been exploring the value of digits within numbers, comparing and ordering numbers, and using their knowledge to solve a range of mathematical problems. Through practical activities and reasoning tasks, children have strengthened their confidence and fluency when working with numbers.



Attendance



Attendance for the week ending 25.09.26			
	No. of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	14	99.4%	1
Class 2	19	96%	3
Class 3	23	98.9%	2



Weekly Awards



	Special Award - For being generous with time & love	Good Work Award
Class 1	Isabella E	Eidie H
Class 2	Joe R	Ronan D
Class 3	Bailey H	Frankie U
Headteacher's award	Freddie O	Athea H
Mathematician of the week	Eleanor B	
Presentation award	Otto S	
Attendance Award	Class — %	

Important Dates



Friday, 25th September	Friday Fitness begins (8.15 am for Years 3-6)
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)



SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY SOUTH

**Do you have a child starting
primary school in September 2027
and living in Lancashire?**

Closing date: 15 January 2027

You must apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school,
or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

Apply for a school place now by scanning
the QR code or visit [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools)



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference,
please check the guidance on our website, or call 01772 532109.

**Have
your say**

*Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with
you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs.
To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces
and click 'school admission policies'.*

[lancashire.gov.uk](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk)



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



**Scan the QR code or visit:
School Age Childcare Survey**

lancashire.gov.uk/childcare





St Mary's Parents, Teachers & Friends Association



Together
we make a
difference

Hello and a warm welcome from
St Mary's Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

We are a small group of volunteers who come together to create exciting events and bring big smiles to our children's faces.

Each year we hold some fantastic events including:



Bingo



Quiz Nights



Summer Fair



Santa Dash

to name
a few ...

The money raised at each event contributes to school trips, classroom equipment and facilities and the continued development of our outdoor area, including recently installed fitness equipment.

To make sure we can continue with our exciting events and activities, we'd really welcome support from our families.

Whether you can help us with creating ideas and planning events, reaching out to businesses or manning a stall at an event, we'd love to hear from you!

Please get in touch and say hello
to some friendly PTFA faces!



Email:
ptfa.stmarys.scarisbrick@gmail.com



Or scan the QR to contact us
via WhatsApp



We look forward to
welcoming you into
our team!



St Mary's Catholic Primary School PTFA



Parent Webinar's for School Aged Children

Our School Nursing Team is pleased to offer a series of free webinars designed to support parents and carers with some of the most common health and wellbeing challenges faced by children and young people. These sessions provide practical advice, evidence-based information, and helpful strategies that can be used at home.

Who Are These Webinars For?

These sessions are open to parents, carers, and families of school-aged children and young people. Whether you are looking for advice, reassurance, or practical strategies, our webinars aim to provide supportive and accessible information to help your child thrive.

All webinars are free to attend and delivered by members of the Lancashire School Nursing Team.

Sleep: Supporting Healthy Sleep Habits

Getting enough quality sleep is essential for children's physical health, emotional wellbeing, learning, and behaviour. This webinar will help parents understand how much sleep children need at different ages, explore common sleep difficulties, and learn practical strategies to improve sleep routines. The session will also cover the impact of technology, anxiety, and lifestyle factors on sleep.

Topics include:

- Why sleep matters
- Age-appropriate sleep needs
- Creating positive bedtime routines
- Managing sleep difficulties
- Supporting children and young people to develop healthy sleep habit

Continence: Supporting Bladder and Bowel Health

Bladder and bowel issues can affect a child's confidence, wellbeing, and participation in everyday activities. This webinar aims to increase understanding of continence and provide practical advice to help families support healthy bladder and bowel habits. Parents will learn about common causes of difficulties and when additional support may be needed.

Topics include:

- Healthy bladder and bowel function
- Common continence concerns
- Toilet routines and hydration
- Managing constipation

- Accessing further support and advice

* If a child has symptoms such as pain when using the toilet, blood in their urine or poo, repeated infections, unexplained weight loss, severe constipation please seek advice from your GP before joining the webinar.

Healthy Lifestyles: Helping Children Thrive

Small healthy choices can make a big difference to a child's overall wellbeing. This webinar explores the key components of a healthy lifestyle and offers simple, practical ideas that families can incorporate into everyday life. The session will focus on building healthy habits that support long-term physical and emotional health.

Topics include:

- Balanced nutrition and healthy eating
- Physical activity recommendations
- Reducing sedentary behaviour
- Healthy screen use
- Encouraging positive lifestyle habits for the whole family

Behaviour and Emotional Health: Understanding and Supporting Your Child

Children and young people experience a wide range of emotions as they grow and develop. This webinar will help parents understand the links between behaviour, emotions, and wellbeing. The session provides practical strategies to support emotional regulation, build resilience, and strengthen communication within the family.

Topics include:

- Understanding behaviour as communication
- Supporting emotional wellbeing
- Building resilience and confidence
- Managing worries and anxieties
- Knowing when and where to seek additional support

Registration Information

All webinars are free to attend but registration is required. To book a place head over to our website <https://lancschildandfamily.co.uk/> please select your chosen webinar and complete the online registration form. Once registered, you will receive joining instructions and a link to access the session before the webinar takes place

Free Monthly Parent

Webinars from the School Nursing Team

We are pleased to offer a series of **free monthly online webinars** for parents and carers commencing October 26, providing practical advice and support on a range of children's health and wellbeing topics:

🌙 **Sleep** – Tips for establishing healthy sleep routines and managing common sleep difficulties.

👤 **Continence** – Information and support to help children develop healthy bladder and bowel habits. * if a child has symptoms such as pain when using the toilet, blood in their urine or poo, repeated infections, unexplained weight loss, severe constipation please seek advice from your GP before joining the webinar.

🥗 **Healthy Lifestyles** – Advice on nutrition, physical activity, screen time, and building healthy habits for the whole family.

💙 **Behaviour and Emotional Health** – Understanding behaviour, supporting emotional wellbeing, and helping children build resilience.

All webinars are delivered online by members of the School Nursing Team and are free to attend. **No referral is required.** Parents and carers can book directly onto any webinar using the registration links available on our website.

To book a place, visit: <https://lancschildandfamily.co.uk/>

Or Scan the QR Code



“Come and See”

The Catholics of

St. Anne's
Ormskirk



and

St. Elizabeth's
Scarisbrick



invite you to find out more about becoming a
Catholic through a **Journey in Faith**

(following the **Rite of Christian Initiation of
Adults**, a worldwide rite through which adults
are received into the Catholic Church)

People sometimes say ...

I was baptised
a Catholic but
never brought
up in the
Catholic faith

Some members of
my family are
Catholics, but I
feel awkward
asking them to talk
about their faith

I am married to a
Catholic and
would like to
know more about
what Catholics
believe

I've never thought of
myself as religious
but sometimes
wonder what
Catholicism is all
about

I've often
wondered what
happens in
Church and why
the Mass is so
important

I work in a
Catholic school
and would like to
find out about
Catholicism

My children are
Catholics and I
would like to be
able to support
them better in their
Catholic education

I am looking for
something of
greater depth to
give meaning to
my life

“Come and See”

To begin this journey, do come along to
St. Anne's Pastoral Centre on Prescott Road, Ormskirk,
next to the church, for a meeting on:
Tuesday 22nd September.
Refreshments from 6.45pm,
with the session beginning at 7pm.

There will be time to:

- * hear about the content and timing of sessions
- * ask any questions you might have at this stage
- * meet the team and other potential group members
- * decide if this is what you are seeking.

What is planned after the “Come and See”?

On most Tuesday evenings from **29th September 2026** up to Easter 2027, there will be a series of connected meetings, exploring aspects of the Catholic Faith.

Will I have to speak out in front of others? There will be no pressure on you at all. We shall share, ask questions and discuss, sometimes in small groups.

Do I have to have any qualifications to come? No. Your interest will be far better than any qualification.

Are these sessions for children? No. There are other sacramental programmes for children, including for those who don't go to catholic schools.

How much does it cost? Nothing, except your time.

So what do I do next?

- Come along to St Anne's Pastoral Centre at **6.45pm on Tuesday 22nd September.**
- You are welcome to come by yourself or, if you wish, come along with a friend for this introductory session.
- The session will last about one hour.

Previous participants have said they valued:

“Looking at and discussing the Gospel and then using the different accounts for prayer”.

“Taking time to look around St Anne's church and so understand it's importance in community worship”.

“The significance of the Sacraments”.

“Why Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is important and has been venerated from the time of the early Church”.

“Discussing and hearing how others see things”.

If you have any questions at this early stage or are interested but unable to “Come and See” on **22nd September**, please contact:

Colette
in the Parish Office, St Anne's Priory

23 Prescott Road, Ormskirk L39 4TG

01695 572168

paxorm@rcaol.org.uk

Otherwise, we look forward to meeting you soon.

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 roadsafetyeducation@lancashire.gov.uk



Better Health healthier families

Sign up at nhs.uk/betterhealth

School Parking



School

SCHOOL



lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County Council



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

