



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 23rd October 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus gives us two commandments for how we should live our lives. Let's think a bit more about them and how we can follow them now.



Merciful and ever-loving God,

Open our hearts to love and serve you in all that we do. Help us to love our neighbours around the world.

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 half term in school...

What a wonderful half term it has been at St Mary's! The children have settled brilliantly into their new classes and there has been so much fantastic learning to celebrate across the school. It has been a joy to see their enthusiasm, confidence and growing independence as the term has progressed.

We were delighted to welcome Ron Blundell into school to teach piano and guitar lessons to our KS2 children. The sessions have been very well received and provide another exciting opportunity for our pupils to develop their musical talents.

This half term also saw our beautiful Harvest Celebration, bringing together our school, parish and wider church community in thanksgiving. We are grateful for the generosity shown by families and now look forward to beginning our Advent preparations as we journey towards Christmas.

Our PTFA has continued to provide wonderful support to the school, with the Halloween Disco proving to be a particular highlight. It was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves and celebrating with their friends.

Friday Fitness continues to flourish and remains a fantastic way for pupils and staff to start the end of the week with energy and enthusiasm.

Looking ahead to next half term, we are excited to welcome Lancashire Rugby, who will be leading an after-school club for our children. Following an excellent taster session, the children are already eager to take part. Please see the registration link elsewhere in the newsletter for details on how to sign up.

[This is a initial register for interest in an after school club at St Marys](#)



Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith



St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Class 1 'Shining Stars'

What a fantastic final week of the Autumn 1 term Class 1 have had! The children have worked incredibly hard as we rounded up all of our learning across the curriculum. We have also enjoyed exploring a range of exciting Autumn and Halloween themed activities around the classroom.



In Literacy, we continued our work on 'Room on the Broom', describing the characters and discussing how each of the animals helped the witch throughout the story.

We finished the week with our exciting Halloween Disco! It was lovely to see the children having so much fun, dancing with their friends and enjoying the celebrations together.

Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith



We hope everyone has a wonderful and restful break, and we look forward to seeing you all in Autumn 21!

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Class 2 'Trailblazers'

Well, it might be the last week of a very long half term but Class 2 have continued working right up to the last day of the week.

We have had a short English topic this week on the poem 'Macavity the Mystery Cat' by T S Eliot. The children have really enjoyed making wanted posters, writing descriptions and playing a game to find the definition of lots of new words. We even watched the performance of the poem on You tube and sang along.

We have finished our topic on Florence Nightingale by making a poster of everything we have learnt. We are now looking forward



to doing a Geography topic next term.



We will miss our Boxercise lessons every Monday morning but we are all looking forward to Yoga starting next half term on the same day.

Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith



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Class 3 'Bright Sparks'

What an amazing half term Class 3 has had! We have continued to work hard right up until the last week, and the children should be very proud of all they have achieved.

In Maths, our Year 4 children have continued to use their place value knowledge and number skills to develop their understanding of addition and subtraction. Year 5 have been exploring multiples and common factors, while Year 6 have been working extremely hard to master both long and short division methods.

During Science lessons, Class 3 have shown great enthusiasm while investigating the human body. They have researched the heart and circulatory system and, this week, explored the effects that different stimulants, such as caffeine, can have on the body. Meanwhile, Year 4 have been learning about the seasons and investigating how and why they change throughout the year.



In Computing, the children have been exploring the topic Technology Around Us, Software and Hardware, learning about different forms of technology, both software and hardware, and how they can benefit us in our everyday lives. The children designed some fantastic posters to showcase their learning, and we are looking forward to displaying them after half term.





Well done, Class 3, for all your hard work this half term. We hope you have a wonderful and well-deserved break!



Attendance for the week ending 23.10.26			
	No of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	14	93.65%	3
Class 2	19	98.83%	1
Class 3	23	94.20%	2

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery



Attendance

	Special Award – For being grateful	Good work award
Class 1	Elouise C	Jack S
Class 2	Fia H	Georgia C
Class 3	James S	Neveah G
2026 Teacher's award	Ashton H	Trystan 2027
Mathematician of the week	Trystan Mc	
Presentation award	Ella R and Xander L	
Attendance award	Class 2 – 98.83%	

Dates for your diary

Monday, 2nd November	INSET day (staff only)
Tuesday, 3rd November	Back to school (8:55am)
Tuesday, 3rd November	Lancashire Rugby Club begins (3.30-5pm)
Wednesday, 4 th November	Class 3 swimming begins (AM) for 6 weeks
Wednesday, 11 th November	Class 3 Remembrance Assembly (all parents invited) – 2.30pm
Friday, 13 th November	Children in Need raffle
16 th – 18 th November	Year 5 Bikeability



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)





New Rugby Programme – Expression of Interest

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to announce the introduction of an exciting new rugby programme at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, giving our pupils the opportunity to learn new skills, build confidence and enjoy rugby in a fun, supportive and structured environment.

The programme will be delivered by **Eselle Sports Rugby**, working in partnership with the local community and Lancashire Rugby to provide high-quality coaching sessions led by experienced and qualified coaches. The coaching team brings an impressive background in the sport, with experience coaching on the player development pathways at Sale Sharks and Lancashire Rugby. They also bring representative playing honours at both county and international level.

The programme will focus on developing essential skills both on and off the pitch, including teamwork, discipline, respect, sportsmanship, resilience and confidence. Alongside improving rugby skills and physical fitness, pupils will have the opportunity to build positive relationships, develop a sense of belonging and experience the many benefits of taking part in school sport.

Further information regarding training days, times, required equipment, safety arrangements and the official start date will be shared with parents and guardians once the programme has been finalised.

If you would like your child to participate, please complete and return the expression-of-interest section below by Friday 16th October

Please use the form below:

[This is a initial register for interest in an after school club at St Marys – Fill in form](#)

Yours sincerely,

James Smith

Eselle Sports

Director



**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





Book now:

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

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