St. Mary' s Catholic Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Joanne Preston

Friday, 6th November 2026

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us a story about how it is important to be ready and prepared for whatever will happen.



Christ Jesus,

We pray that we may always be ready to help others, to be kind and loving and to follow 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…



It was wonderful to welcome the children back to school after the half-term break. We hope everyone enjoyed the extra day and returned feeling refreshed and ready for an exciting half term ahead.

Our staff spent the additional training day focusing on developing handwriting and spelling, which will be a key priority across the school this term. We know that, with your continued support at home, our children will make great progress in these important skills.

Autumn 2 has already got off to a fantastic start, with Key Stage 2 launching their Rugby Club, Class 3 beginning their swimming lessons, and yoga sessions for all classes starting on Monday. We were also delighted to welcome our Lancashire School Advisors, who were full of praise for the school, particularly the children's excellent behaviour, positive attitudes and strong work ethic. We are very proud of them all

Class 1 'Shining Stars'

Class 1 have had a brilliant first week back for Autumn 2! We have enjoyed beginning our new Geography topic, where we have been using aerial photographs and maps to identify familiar features in our local area. Year 1 even found their own homes.



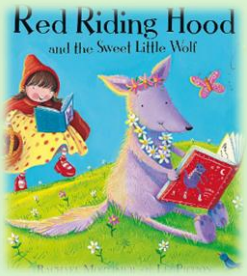
On Thursday, some children told us it was Bonfire Night. We explored ways to keep safe, created beautiful glitter firework paintings and even made our own edible sparklers!



Outside, we investigated a pumpkin, using a variety of tools to carefully cut it open and explore what was inside. We described how it looked, felt and smelt, developing our curiosity and observation skills while having lots of fun.

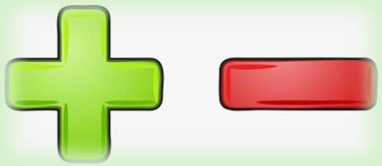
Class 2 'Trailblazers'

It's hard to believe it's our first week back as we have done so much work already.



We have started a new English topic on Traditional Tales with a Twist by comparing the book 'Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf' to a book called 'Little Red Riding Hood and the Sweet, Little Wolf'. We have been comparing the main characters and thinking about how they feel and think in each story.

In Maths we have continued our work on addition and subtraction.



We are now doing Geography instead of History and had a great time learning a song to help us remember the 4 countries of the UK and their capital cities.

On Thursday we started our DT topic on paper planes by seeing if we can make a plane and testing how it flies. We will be making lots of different designs over the next few weeks to find the best one for distance, speed and stunts.



Class 3 'Bright Sparks'

Well done, Class 3, for an amazing start to this half term! The children have worked enthusiastically this week as we have begun our exciting new topics.

In English, we have started our Oliver Twist topic and have been thinking carefully about describing the setting of the story. The children have been exploring how to use expanded noun phrases to create detailed and interesting descriptions.



In Maths, Years 4 and 5 have been using their place value knowledge to develop their understanding of multiplication and division. Meanwhile, Year 6 have been exploring different mathematical operations, including the order in which calculations should be completed using brackets, powers and the four operations.

Last term, we completed our Miranda Lloyd artwork and are very proud to have our finished pieces displayed in the classroom. Please feel free to pop in and have a look at the wonderful work the children have produced.





We are looking forward to another fantastic half term of learning!

St Mary' s Catholic Primary School and Nursery



Attendance



Attendance for the week ending 06.11.26			
	No of pupils	Attendance (%)	Rank
Class 1	14	94.2%	3
Class 2	19	94.4%	2
Class 3	23	96.7%	1



Award winners



	Special Award – For comforting others	Good work award
Class 1	Martha W	Lyle W
Class 2	Ella C-McD	Libby McC
Class 3	Roman W	Theo P
Headteacher' award	Eidie H	Caleb S
Mathematician of the week	Violet P	
Presentation award	Athea H	
Attendance award	Class 3 – 96.7%	



Dates for your diary



Tuesday, 3rd November	Lancashire Rugby Club begins (3.30-5pm) for 7 weeks
Wednesday, 4th November	Class 3 swimming begins (AM) for 6 weeks
Friday, 6th November	Key Stage 2 Friday Fitness (8.15 – 8.55am) every Friday
Monday, 9th November	Children in Need raffle (Tickets on sale all week)
Wednesday, 11th November	Class 3 Remembrance Assembly (all parents invited) – 2.30pm
Friday, 13th November	Children in Need raffle
16th – 18th 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

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

Lancashire County Council

Lancashire Health Visiting and School Nursing

Access School Health in a drop in session

Support for children, young people, parents and carers

HEALTH & WELLBEING SUPPORT

- ✓ Emotional health and wellbeing
- ✓ Healthy lifestyles
- ✓ Sleep concerns
- ✓ Toileting issues
- ✓ Behaviour support
- ✓ Growth and development
- ✓ School-related health concerns
- ✓ General health and wellbeing questions

DROP-IN SESSIONS FOR November

05 November 2026 | 9:30am-12:00pm
The Zone (next to Skelmersdale Library), WN8 6PZ

19 November 2026 09:00-12:00
Inspire Youth Zone PR7 1BS

12 November 2026 2:00-4:00pm
Preston West Family Hub, PR2 1TU

18 November 2026 | 9:30am-11:30am
West Paddock, PR25 1HR

24 November 2026 | 2:00pm-4:00pm
Ribbleton Family Hub, PR2 6EE

ACCESS TO WIDER SUPPORT
Delivered as part of the One Stop Shop in partnership with the Early Help Partnership, helping families access advice, guidance and local services.

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED
Simply come along to a session that suits you.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Invitation to Our PTFA Annual General Meeting

Dear Parents and Carers,

We welcome you to attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Parent, Teacher & Friends Association (PTFA).

Date/Time: Tuesday 10th November 5:30pm

Location: St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Just us for some nibbles as we talk about:

- The achievements and fundraising successes this year
- How funds are being used to benefit our children
- Share ideas for future events
- Welcome any new PTFA members

Your support & input makes a real difference to our school community

Whether you can spare a little time or more, your contribution is valued

We look forward to seeing you there!

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

PTFA Presents...

Remaining Events of 2026

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 10th November • 5:30pm

Meeting at school, come & join us to hear about recent fundraising & upcoming plans for 2026/27!

Christmas Family Quiz Night

Thursday 3rd December • 3:30pm

Join us for some festive fun & refreshments!



Annual Santa Dash

Thursday 10th December • 2:30pm

Get ready to cheer on the children & enjoy some warming treats from the sidelines!

We look forward to seeing you there!