



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – 7th February 2025

[School details](#)

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www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

E-mail head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs. A. Brogden

[Our Parish Links](#)

St. Mary's Lea Town, Darkinson Lane and

St. Andrew and Blessed George Haydock, Hoyles Lane Cottam.

www.standrewscottam.org.uk

'Loved and Inspired by Mary

We shine and learn as a family of God'

This week we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week in school with lots of extra activities and workshops – crafts, mindfulness, incense, PCSO visits and lots more!!

I am sure you will enjoy looking at the pictures and information below.



Parents' Evening – 4.2.25

Thank you to all who attended Parents Evening – It was lovely to be able to celebrate and share progress. Thank you for your continued support.

Mental Health Week

This week we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week with lots of activities throughout the week.....

On Monday Leigh, Our CANW counsellor led workshops across school

For the 1st day of Children's Mental Health Week, I went into each class to talk to the pupils about the importance of mental health.

In Class 1 (Reception) & Class 2 (Yr1 & 2) we looked at the different characters from the films "Inside Out" and how to manage the different emotions.

We spoke about hugs and how hugs can be lovely things, but we only give them to people that we know and love.

The pupils all got to give my giant squishy teddy bear a BIG hug, then everyone chose a sticker!

Class 3 (Yr3 & Yr4) and Class 4 (Yr5 & Yr6) were split into teams, given a character from the film, with a list of directions to find their character hidden somewhere in school!

Once found, they had to return to class with their character, which had a scenario on the back, with multi choice options of how to respond to the scenario in the most positive way.

Everyone did really well & received a scented sticker each as a reward!

In the library I had set out lots of books and resources about looking after our mental health.

Having open and honest discussions with our children about how we feel is massively important if we want them to grow up to be happy, thriving adults!

Leigh Robertson.

Emotional Health & Wellbeing Practitioner.
CANW



Mental Health Week activities

Children's Mental Health Week

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week with the theme 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself.' On Monday, all children completed an activity with Leigh, our school councillor. All the activities were based around the emotions from the film 'Inside Out' and included a fun hunt around the school!

During PSHE lessons children reflected on the theme and completed mindfulness activities. Class One enjoyed a nature walk, Class Two made some super posters, Class Three created their own personality islands and Class Four produced some beautiful 3D personalised, positive affirmation flowers.

All children enjoyed the opportunity to have mindfulness time in the rainbow room with a lovely range of activities such as; chess, colouring, Lego, reading, sand and sensory toys.
Mrs. Sullivan PSHE Lead



PCSO visit- Class 4 – 3.2.25



On Monday the PCSO taught us about E Safety and they told us about ages for things like Instagram and Facebook. They talked to us about what is good and bad.

They told us about the age of Criminal responsibility.

I learnt that you should always talk to an adult if you have any worries. Darcey Chambers

**** NEXT PARENT WORKSHOP IS 12.2.25 FROM 2.45-3.15pm - ALL WELCOME ****

PREVENT Workshop – Class 4 – 6.2.25

Today we have a visitor and we learnt about British values. We learnt about Democracy, the Rule of Law, Tolerance, Respect and Liberty. We learnt what makes us British. Treat people as good as you would like to be treated. Everyone is special – You are special as God chose you to be in our world.

Rome Heaton



Charity Fundraiser- Ella Jackson's Challenge

I am doing 100 squats a day to raise money for Cancer Research. This is a very special Charity because lots of my family have had cancer and I want to be able to help other people. Ella Jackson, Class 4

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/vickys-giving-page-481815>

Class Three - Holy Communion

On Tuesday some of the Pupils in Class 3 will bring their Sacramental preparations for their First Holy Communion. Mrs. Fitzpatrick shares the message below;

We are looking forward to seeing all the pupils who are going to be preparing to make their First Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Communion on Tuesday straight after school. We will collect the children from school and take them over to the annex behind church. We welcome the children with a drink and a biscuit.

Pupils will need to be collected from the Church Annex at 4.20pm and the nominated password is to be given to Mrs. Fitzpatrick

Acadamisation- The Bishop's Vision

As I have shared previously, the Bishop has a vision for all Catholic Schools to become a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) by the end of the Academic Year 2025-2026

At present, 10 Catholic Schools are part of the 'Mater Ecclesiae' MAT and the vision is an additional 7 schools will join in the next wave. I shall keep you updated as soon as we receive any additional information, and of course ensure families are fully informed at all points. I have included the website below should you require any additional information...

<https://mater-ecclesiae-trust.co.uk/>

Online Safety and Parental Guidance

We have had a number of Parents ask for additional guidance around concerns with pupils using phones and gaming.

As we know, technology brings many exciting advances and opportunities but it also creates opportunities for pupils to say things they may not say directly to another person whilst on Messenger/ WhatsApp etc. and/or in Gaming 'parties' or Forums.

As a school we have no control what pupils do/say on such platforms and permissions / consequences remain a Parental decision. Within school PSHE sessions we focus upon providing Pupils with the skills to make sensible and informed choices, reflect on how their actions affect others and to give pupils the skills to know who to talk to when they have worries.

Many of our older pupils may use sites/ apps/ games which have age guidelines which are older than their chronological age .This guide below may be of assistance for families when supporting pupils with any issues.

APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+				16+	
	Facebook		Snapchat	 WhatsApp	
	Instagram		Twitter	17+	
	TikTok		Kik	18+	
	YouNow		Yubo	 Saraha	 MeetMe
	House Party		Monkey	 YOLO	 LiveMe

On our website we have links to a variety of Parent Guides as shown below, and we have printed copies of these available in our entrance Foyer too. Please feel free to have a look, and if we can signpost you further do ask.

The next PCSO session will be 12.2.24 from 2.45 pm

For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Your child is free and can be accessed via connected devices even without logging in. Your child's account. Some content is tagged as 'age-restricted' (meaning it's suitable for 13+), but children can still view and share inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, sexual topics, and more.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos to watch to the user that previously watched. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to inappropriate and even harmful content. Children can connect with strangers, including those who are not known to them.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that is getting the most views, and this can lead to extremist views. This can be true for extremist views, but it can also lead to extremist views. This can be true for extremist views, but it can also lead to extremist views.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other users. Children can connect with strangers, including those who are not known to them. TRENDS AND CHALLENGES YouTube is famous for its trending videos, which are videos that are currently popular. These can be anything from dance videos to challenges, and they can be very popular. SNEAKY SCAMMERS YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other users. Children can connect with strangers, including those who are not known to them.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from recommending inappropriate content. It can be found in the settings menu.

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to identify most inappropriate content and completely remove it from your child's account. This can be done by using the 'Report' button.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, downloading, and sharing. It can be found in the settings menu.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of selecting their privacy settings. This can be found in the settings menu.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online video platform of choice for millions of people, and it's a great way for children to learn and have fun. However, it's important to monitor their engagement.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent movies for a short time, or they can subscribe to YouTube Premium.

Meet Our Expert
Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for The New York Times, The Guardian, The Evening Standard and The New York Times.

WakeUp Wednesday
The National College

[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds)
www.thenationalcollege.com
www.wakeupwednesday.com
www.wakeupweds.com

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 10.01.2023 Last reviewed: 20.02.2024

Lenten Planner

Your Child will have brought home our Lenten Planner and this can also be found on our School website and in our entrance Foyer – Thank you

AFC Fylde – Half Term Activities



If you are in receipt of Free School Meals and are eligible for the HAF funding, please contact Dan Monckton via email [dan.monckton@afcfylde.co.uk] and we can support you to receive a small discount towards some costs.

The website link to book on to our holiday provision is as below:

www.afcfyldefoundation.co.uk/half-term

If you would like any more information regarding our half terms camps, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Staff contacts

Staff Member	Email
Office	
Mrs Dewhurst	Bursar@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Head Teacher	
Mrs Brogden	Head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class One	
Mrs Ellis- Class Teacher	Ellis@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Harrison	Harrison@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Hughes	Hughes@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Mrs Moss	Moss@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 2	
Mrs Sullivan- Class Teacher	Sullivan@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Mrs Nayler	Nayler@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Strahand	Strahand@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 3	
Mr Catterall – Class Teacher	Catterall@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Collins	Collins@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 4	
Mr Taylor – Class Teacher	Taylor@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Calvert	Calvert@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Breakfast / After School Club Manager	
Miss Harrison	Harrison@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

Dates for your diary

10.2.25 – Work Experience pupils from Our Lady's join us
11.2.25 – Class 2 – Group of pupil Mini Skills pm
12.2.25 – PCSO session for Parents 2.45 -3.15 pm
14.2.25- PCSO session for Class 1
14.2.24- School closes for half term at 3.15 pm

Useful Information

School times

School Start 08.45 am
School Finish time 15.15 pm

Forest School – This commenced w/c 09.09.24

Monday: Class 1 Forest School
Wednesday: Class 3 OR class 4 Forest School – Autumn 1 Class 3 Autumn 2 Class 4
Friday: Class 2

PE Days

Class 1: Wed pm and Fri pm

Class 2: Tue pm and Wed pm

Class 3: Monday pm and Thurs pm

Class 4: Tuesday (Swimming) ** and Thursday pm ** Swimming commenced from 10.9.24

Big School Adventures

Big School Adventures takes place every Thursday from 1.15 pm until 3pm

Helping Hands

With the support of St. Mary's Parish, we have created a '*Helping Hands Fund*' – This means we have a stock of tinned food / non-perishable items and toiletries ...So, if you ever need a little '**Helping Hand**' please just ask and we can gladly put a pack together.

Celebration Awards

	Faith in Action Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, Think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Freddie Phoenix	Sadie Lewis	Xavier Qereqeretabua
Class 2	Florrie Abram-Jebb	Bella Melling-Smith	
Class 3	Imaan Khan	Maxwell Houlding	Amelia Patel
Class 4	Edie Robinson	Nabila Malek	

