

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 21st November 2025

School details

Tel: 01772 729881

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'

Another busy week in school, the wintry feel is in the air and the Christmas events are getting closer!!



Next week is Forest School Week for all classes. Please make sure you have lots of warm clothes and layers for the session. We shall enjoy a warm treat around the fire!! Class days are shown below:

Class 1 - Monday

Class 2 - Tuesday

Class 3 - Wednesday

Class 4 - Thursday

Consultation Admissions Policy 27/28

As we have joined a Multi Academy Trust – Mater Ecclesiae we are required to consult on our Admission policy. Full details can be found on our school website.

Parking – Important plea for support !

I am receiving a number of complaints from upset parents and grandparents that some people, who are choosing to still park on Darkinson Lane rather than Westinghouse, are creating a danger to our pupils and families. We really do need your support!

Tonight, after school, I witnessed several near misses. It is a genuine concern when we have pupils as young as 4, crossing as well as families with prams and toddlers.

I ask families to to park and Westinghouse and walk down to school for the safety of all.

I appreciate this is tricky when the weather is poor and when you are juggling young children but parking on the lane is creating a narrowing of the road which is unsafe. It means to vehicles cannot pass and prevents access for emergency vehicles.

I would once more ask for your continued consideration with the Church drive as the Sisters Drive is private and is their home. Please be are mindful of not causing any blockings. The same access for an emergency vehicles is required at all times.

FOSM AGM - updates

A huge thank you to all who attended our AGM meeting on Wednesday. We discussed the importance of reflecting on our Constitution as we are now part of a Multi Academy Trust and this will be completed in due course.

We formally minuted thanks to those who have served the FOSM within the key roles over the past year. We are so grateful for all they have done to support and fundraise for our school. The FOSM team efforts mean we have raised enough to cover the entire cost of the Pantomime visit and we have been lucky enough to have new iPads within classes too! Thank you to.....

Chair: Gillian Holmes

Vice Chair: Miss Calvert

Treasurer: Michelle Williams

Secretary: Victoria Del Greco

A vote followed and the new Committee are as follows:

Co-Chair: Chloe Johnson

Co-Chair: Mrs Sullivan

Treasurer: Michelle Williams

Secretary: Mrs Gibson



Plans/ Fundraising objectives for the year ahead:

Coaches for Pantomime 2026

Leavers Trophies for Year 6

Contributions of £200 per Class for a visit/ visitor – special experiences

A brief discussion was held regarding the Christmas Fayre and an additional planning meeting was set for 26.11.25 at 8.45 – All are welcome.

We formally thank Pine Trees Garage and the Malek family for their incredibly generous support. Pine Trees have funded the entire cost of the 'special gift' each Grotto visitor will receive. This means all monies raised will go directly to the FOSM and therefore back to our pupils!! We are so grateful!

Year of Hope – Jubilee Celebration Day - 21.11.25



On Friday, every class celebrated the journey that we have been on during this Jubilee Year of Hope. Through live lessons and art work we were challenged to consider how we go forth and live out God's hopeful message beyond this special year.

We can spread hope by encouraging others to be their best selves, everyone has a special gift even if sometimes they don't see it. Meeya Patel

We can spread hope by simply smiling to others. Henry Doherty

We can spread hope by sharing small acts of kindness, these small acts contribute to make big changes. Nabila Malek

We can spread hope by choosing to be kind at all times. Isla Pennington



Church Raffle Tickets

Your child will have brought home their annual Christmas Raffle tickets from St. Mary's Parish. We would be so grateful if you feel you can support this raffle. Books are priced at £1.00. Please return any books you do not require. Should you require any additional booklets simply ask at the Office. We are very blessed that each year the Parish generously donate some of the monies raised back to our school.

Bikeability – Year 3 and Year 2 – 21.11.25

It is good I like going around the cones. – Freddie Phoenix

I like it. I want to go faster. – Bradley Brogden

I borrowed a bike, it was nice – Diana Stec





FOSM – Thank you !

A huge thank you for all the bottle donations for the FOSM for our Tombola.

Next week – Friday 28.11.25 – Non Uniform day and bring a Chocolate Item for our Tombola

School Nurse 26.11.25

We are excited to be able to offer a new opportunity, a School Nurse Drop in opportunity for families.

Next Wednesday 26th November, a School Nurse, Yolanda, will be in school for an hour to hold a drop-in session. Whether you have a question about bedtime, bed wetting, head lice – whatever you may need advice come along to informal and invaluable opportunity for a private chat!

No need to make an appointment just turn up between 2.15 and 3.15. Thank you

Santas's Grotto – Book quickly to avoid disappointment – 1.12.25

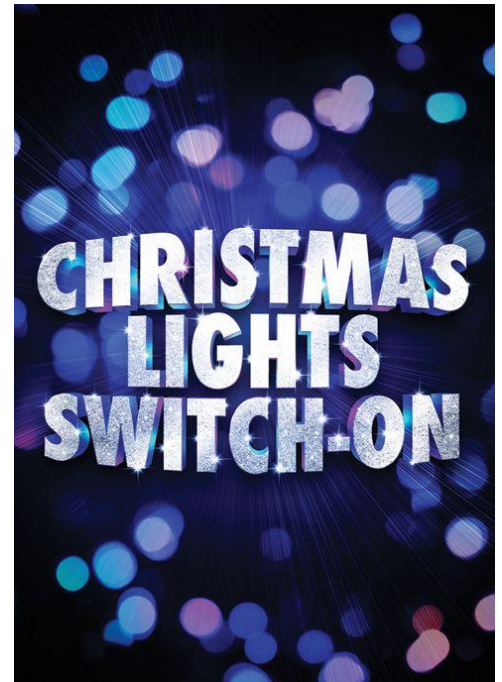


Christmas Fayre and Christmas Light Switch on - 1.12.25



EVERYONE is welcome to our amazing Christmas Fayre and Light Switch on. Feel Christmassy and sing around the tree before joining us for lots of amazing events!

Make Reindeer food, baubles and have a go at lots of Christmas crafts. Have a delicious hotdog, play games and even visit Santa!!!



We have professional stalls and lots of new experiences for the family to enjoy!! See you there!!



FRIENDS OF ST MARYS

CHRISTMAS Fayre

3:15PM - 5:30PM

Join us at 3:15 over at Church for the Christmas Tree Light Switch On then over to School for our Magical Christmas Fayre, there will be lots of Wonderful Stalls, Christmas Crafts, Face Painting, Letters to Santa and even the Big Man Himself! (Grotto to be booked separately)

Come along for a fun evening full of festivities!! We look forward to seeing you there!

Whole Year of Catholicity Events



Whole years list of Catholicity events- 2025-2026

Loved and inspired by Mary... We shine and learn as a family of God.

Celebration	Date
Welcome Mass	9.10.25 at 11.00 AM St Mary's Church.
Feast day of St Matthew	26.9.25 All children to wear yellow for Matthew house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of Matthew and learn about him.
Praying the Rosary- A million children to say the Rosary at the same time	7.10.25 – 9:30 AM
Feast day of St Luke	17.10.25 All children to wear blue for Luke house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of Luke and learn about him.
Harvest/ SVP/Helping hands assembly	10.10.25 at 2.45PM.
Catholicity/ Remembrance Week	10.11.25 - 15.11.25
Remembrance Service	11.11.25 – 9.00am
Christmas tree light switch on and Fayre	1.12.25
KS1 Nativity	9.12.25
Ash Wednesday	Falls during half term. 18.2.26
Lenten Breakfasts- Mass at 8.15AM	19.2.26 (1) Crazy hair day 26.2.26 (2) Reverse Day (children to dress as teachers and teachers to dress as children). 5.3.26 (3) World book day 12.3.26 (4) Colour stalls 19.3.26 (5) Tuck shop stall 26.3.26 (6) Design an Easter Cross
Year 3 & 4 Easter Production	18.3.26
Stations of the Cross in the Hall.	1.4.26
Feast day of St Mark	24.4.26 All children wear red for Mark house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of Mark and learn about him.
Marian week	WB 18.5.26
Crown Mary	21.5.26
KS2 Pilgrimage to Ladyewell	18.5.26 Within this week KS1 to have an experience too (Possibly Metanoia)
World Faith Week	WB 22.6.26
Feast day of St John	24.6.26 All children wear green for John house team. Children will hear from the Gospel of John and learn about him.
Leavers awards and Mass	16.7.25 Mass at 11.00AM

Big School Adventures

Big School Adventures runs every Thursday from 1.15 – 3.00 pm.

For more information or to book on please ask in the School Office or as a member of the Class 1 team.

Christmas Events



We have lots of exciting events at this time of year so here are some key save the dates!!

28.11.25 – Non Uniform day bring a Chocolate item for the Tombola

1.12.25 – Christmas light Switch on and Christmas Fayre

- Elf Behaving badly lunch (Meals must be pre ordered)

5.12.25 – Santa Dash

8.12.25 – Whole School Visit to the Pantomime

9.12.25 – Nativity at 10.00 and 4.00 (Tickets pre sold only)

11.12.25 – Breakfast with Santa from 8.00 am (pre booked only)

15.12.25 – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day (Meals must be pre ordered)

- Maybe a 'Special visitor could arrive ?'

17.12.25 – School Closes for Christmas at 3.15 pm

Santa Dash – 5.12.25

What is the Santa Dash?

This is an amazing fun run at school where pupils get to RUN through school!!! School will be decorated, we have bubble machines, obstacle courses and even snowballs!! It will be Snoooooow much fun!!



Why is there a Minimum Sponsorship amount?

We ask for a minimum sponsorship of £3 to cover the costs of our Santa Hats and medals. Every penny we raise will be used to benefit all our pupils...We really want to develop our outdoor area and plant and grow our own vegetables. We have talked about our own chickens too... so we need some new resources! Please help us raise as much as possible so we can provide new items and experiences for all pupils!

Dates for your diary

w/c 24.11.25 – Forest School Week for ALL classes

24.11.25 – Class 1

25.11.25 – Class 2

26.11.25 – Class 3

27.11.25 – Class 4

1.12.25 – Christmas Light Switch on sand Christmas Fayre from 3.30 pm

5.12.25 – Santa Dash in school

8.12.25 – Whole School Visit to the Pantomime- am

9.12.25 – Key Stage one Nativity at 10.00 am and 4.00 pm

12.12.25 – Class 3 History Workshop

- Church Carol concert from 6.30 pm

17.12.25- School closes for Christmas at 3.15 pm

School times

School Start 08.45 am

School Finish time 15.15 pm



PE Days

Class 1: Tue pm and Wed pm

Class 2: Tue pm and Wed pm

Class 3: Monday pm and Thursday pm

Class 4: Swimming Tuesday pm (commencing 9/9/25) and Thurs pm

Staff Contact details

Office	
Miss Calvert	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
Mrs Moss	Moss@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Haworth	Howarth@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 2	
Mrs Sullivan- Class Teacher	Sullivan@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Collins	Collins@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Strahand	Strahand@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Mrs Gibson	Gibson@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 3	
Mr Catterall - Class Teacher	Catterall@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Hughes	Hughes@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Miss Shaw	Shaw@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Class 4	
Mr Taylor - Class Teacher	Taylor@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Mrs Nayler	Nayler@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk
Breakfast / After School Club Manager	
Miss Harrison	Harrison@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

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	Elma Dickinson	Sadie Lewis	James Sneddon
Class 2	Matilda Beardall	Jude Troup	
Class 3	Eli Heslop	Ella-Grace McLaughlin	Ava Capper
Class 4	Meeya Patel	Max Tidmarsh	

