

Newsletter March 2024



Dear Families,

Warmest wishes to you as we embark on our Easter break. I hope you find time to rest and be together as a family during this Holy Season. Thank you for all your love and support this term; please remember that we return to a very long summer term indeed, so make sure you get some rest in between.

Attendance

You will be fully aware of the national drive to increase school attendance and ensure all pupils receive their full entitlement to the education available to them. Please find this school year's attendance so far. Please do help us by bringing your child to school every day unless they are unwell and by booking holidays outside of term time.

Current academic year up to Friday 22 March 2024

Number of pupils 126	Overall attendance % 96.4%	Overall absence % 3.6%	Unauthorised absence % 0.5%
Persistently absent Number of persistently absent pupils 8	Percentage of persistently absent pupils 6.3%	Severely absent Number of severely absent pupils 0	Percentage of severely absent pupils 0.0%

Last 5 days (21 March 2024 to 27 March 2024)

Overall attendance % 96.7%	Overall absence % 3.3%	Unauthorised absence % 0.1%
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Head Teacher for September 2024. Mrs Garnett joins our team as an experienced teacher with an excellent leadership profile. We are excited at this new chapter for our school and are very much looking forward to welcoming her into our school family.

During the summer term, I hope to be able to introduce her to you all in preparation of a successful working partnership.

Thank you for your prayers and support offered throughout this process – they are hugely appreciated.

Events at school



Our Easter week reflections have been some of the most beautiful and

thought provoking worships; thank you to all the staff for their careful planning of these special events and a huge well done to the children for their engagement and respect displayed throughout.

New Deputy Head

We are absolutely delighted to announce that the governors and myself have been successful in appointing a new Deputy

Our annual Easter Bonnet Parade is on April 15th at 9am – everyone is welcome to join in including any preschool children joining us in September.

Don't forget, the winners are usually the children who have reused, recycled and reinvented something old to make it something new. Making this together would be a great activity over the holidays.

Let's Go Sing was absolutely magnificent this year – our children were commended as one of the best performing schools, which was no surprise for everyone who was able to attend the event. If you would like to remember some of the magic, it is here for you

<https://youtu.be/cdGMKAYRF-g>



Activity Clubs next half term

Monday 15th April – Cricket with Mrs Noonan (this is now full, thank you for the interest shown, please credit your Scopay account now for the lessons.)

Tuesdays netball Y3/4/5/6 but this starts in the second week of term on 23rd April.

Tuesday mornings – jujitsu from first week back

Wednesdays Team theme as usual, starting the first week back

Thursdays - running club from first week back.

Thursdays – Fizzy Tree from first week back



Fridays – football starting first week back

Sport, as always, is a strength of our school and we thank everyone who have been involved from the training, transporting and

celebrating!

Newhouse After school club

Mrs Downing is thoroughly enjoying running Newhouse club and with her trusty team, is making great things happen for the children. Don't forget, there is a baking club every Monday night and a keep fit club every Wednesday morning. Your children are more than welcome to attend these clubs, please book through Scopay for the sessions you would like them to attend!

More and more families are accessing our online calendar, thanks for doing this; we are updating it every week and hope to text out more regular reminders to you.

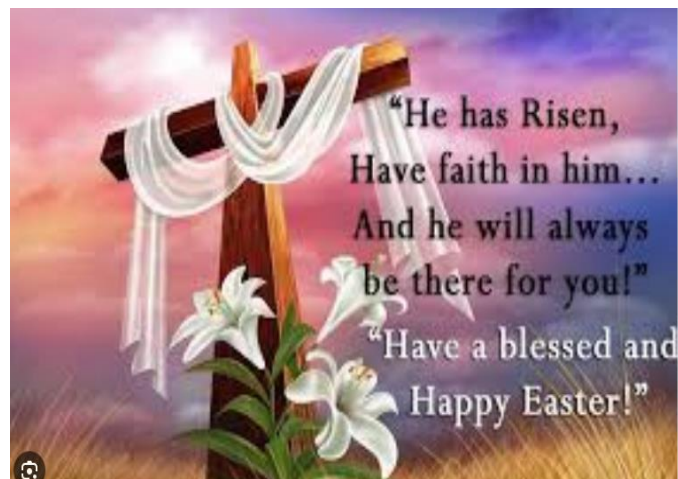
<https://www.st-mary-st-andrews.lancs.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=2,1,3,4&pid=10&viewid=2>

Keeping safe online and offline.

Please find a link to our latest online safety newsletter here and please can I draw your attention to the importance of monitoring your children's devices. There has been reports of fatal activity linked to feeds on TikTok this academic year, we really have to work together to protect our children from the harm that can come from internet use. <https://www.st-mary-standrews.lancs.sch.uk/page/?title=Keeping+Safe+Online&pid=30>

Would you like your children's car seats to be checked by safety experts? The events are all free and trained advisers will be available 10am-3pm. The car seat will be checked to ensure it is legally and safely fitted in the vehicle.

Asda, Fulwood. PR2 9NP	Monday 25 th and Tuesday 26 th March
Smyths Toys, Queens Retail Park. PR1 4HZ	Wednesday 27 th and Thursday 28 th March
Tesco Accrington BB5 1LJ	Tuesday 23 rd , Wednesday 24 th , Thursday 25 th April
Morrisons Bacup OL13 0AR	Tuesday 30 th April and Wednesday 1 st May
Asda Colne BB8 8LU	Tuesday 7 th May
Sainsbury's Burnley BB11 1BS	Thursday 9 th , Friday 10 th May
Morrisons Morecambe LA4 4DA	Monday 10 th and Tuesday 11 th June



Happy Easter Everyone!

Reading over the holidays

Please encourage your child to read every day over the holidays – the impact of this, as they return to the summer term, will be huge!



The **MORE** that you **READ**, the more things you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you **LEARN**, the more places you'll **GO**.
Dr. Seuss